

Example answers and examiner commentaries: Paper 2

This resource comprises an essay on each of three prescribed works for A-level German, Paper 2 (7662). Each essay is accompanied by the relevant mark scheme extract and by a commentary to explain the marks awarded. This resource aims to exemplify to teachers the way the mark scheme is applied to students' essays.

The works covered are Lola rennt, Goodbye Lenin! and Heinrich Heine Gedichte.

Further marked exemplar essays can be found in Secure Key Materials on e-AQA.

Assessment criteria

	A03		
17-20	The language produced is mainly accurate with only occasional minor errors. The student shows a consistently secure grasp of grammar and is able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a wide range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.		
13-16	The language produced is generally accurate, but there are some minor errors. The student shows a generally good grasp of grammar and is often able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a good range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.		
9-12	The language produced is reasonably accurate, but there are a few serious errors. The student shows a reasonable grasp of grammar and is sometimes able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a reasonable range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.		
5-8	The language produced contains many errors. The student shows some grasp of grammar and is occasionally able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a limited range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.		
1-4	The language produced contains many errors of a basic nature. The student shows little grasp of grammar and is rarely able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a very limited range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.		
0	The student produces nothing worthy of credit.		

Minor errors are defined as those which do not affect communication.

Serious errors are defined as those which adversely affect communication.

Minor errors include:

- incorrect spellings (unless the meaning is changed)
- misuse of lower case and capital letters
- incorrect gender (unless the meaning is changed)
- incorrect adjectival endings.

Serious errors include:

- incorrect verb forms
- incorrect case endings, including pronouns
- incorrect word order in main and subordinate clauses.

Complex language includes:

- subordinate and relative clauses
- conditional clauses
- infinitive clauses with zu

- subjunctive of indirect speech
- prepositions with a non-literal meaning, eg sich interessieren für
- object pronouns
- complex adjectival phrases, eg die in Hamburg veröffentlichte Studie
- adjectival and masculine weak nouns.

	A04		
	Excellent critical and analytical response to the question set		
17-20	Knowledge of the text or film is consistently accurate and detailed. Opinions, views and conclusions are consistently supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates excellent evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.		
	Good critical and analytical response to the question set		
13-16	Knowledge of the text or film is usually accurate and detailed. Opinions, views and conclusions are usually supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates good evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.		
	Reasonable critical and analytical response to the question set		
9-12	Knowledge of the text or film is sometimes accurate and detailed. Opinions, views and conclusions are sometimes supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates reasonable evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.		
	Limited critical and analytical response to the question set		
5-8	Some knowledge of the text or film is demonstrated. Opinions, views and conclusions are occasionally supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates limited evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.		
	Very limited critical and analytical response to the question set		
1-4	A little knowledge of the text or film is demonstrated. Opinions, views and conclusions are rarely supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates very limited evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.		
0	The student produces nothing worthy of credit in response to the question.		

Inviewet speck das Element Zeik eine bedeutende Rolle in dem Film Die Bedeutung von die Zeit im Zein "hola renne" ist sehr wichtig. Dom Dytwer, den Filmmacher ist ochr interessiert in Jeit als ein frundkhener des Films. Man team san Anguarge des tiens, als die Uhr schlägte und vergrossere wird, dess soport seten Der Erzähler stellt auch viele philosophische dragen und man muso sich daßei Gragen, ob das Leben auch nicht von der Zeit abhängig ist? "Was ist der Mensch?" Wahrend man lebt laught die Zeit einfrach Vorwarts ober is den Film ich Udie Zeit Norwärts ober is arm manipoliert. Lola rent dreinal gür zwanzig realistische Zeit. die large in Kreisen wie in einem Spiel und holu darge dreimed insgesent gegen des Achickouls und des zugealls rennen. Die muss des Jeben von Manni gather and sie bekonnt Verschiedene Versuche, um ergolgreich zu nein. The eastern Versuche scheiten und die Zeit rennt weg. Eventuell entwickelt sie eine gewisse von Delbstentocheidung gegen das Achichool und ich bin der Meinung, dasso man dieses mit einem gesibten Spiel vergleichen kann. Setzlich is tola erpolyreich and an Ende des Films iot die Wahrochen lichkeit eine glückliche Zukunge gir hola und Manni zupammen Das Renner in Film, die Dechao-Husik die tickende Uhren und das schnelle Dempo

gehören zum Dhema Zeit. Ich denke, dass als Zuschauer man ziemlich nervös wird. Das Dempo unterstützt wie wichtig die Zeit ist. Die Uhren tichen weiter und den Miktag kommt heran. Im Vergleich sot die Jukungt als Rückblende gezeigt und die Vegangenheit am Angrang des Bilm; auch. Tytwer spart Zeit und will den Hintergrund der Geschichte nicht in eine traditionelle Weise erzählen. Bilder and Fotos and Cenatate, um die whomat den verschiedenen Charaktern darzootellen. Wie in Fernyeten geteilte Szenen Jeigen was Mann und hola gleichzeitig unternehmen. Zeichentrick films egwenzen and benutzt um den Angrange des Rennens zu zugen und den Kreis des Kennens zu legerchnen-Las Denpo der Jeichentrickfilmsequenzen wo hola die Droppe terunter rend, gibt den Eindruck von "Eile. Achlies lich ginde ich die Nolle die Film , hola gent " von sehr grasse Berleutung. Der Film ist spannend und dus Dempo schnell wegen die Präsentation die Zeit und die Vergilmung. Man kann nur gür holn und Manai mithoffen. Der Film Evringt auch sehr viele wichtige Jebensgroßen mit sich. Tykwer pelber feochseibt die Zeit als ,, ... eine brotale Konstante in unserem leben."

Extract from mark scheme

Tom Tykwer: Lola rennt

Inwieweit spielt das Element Zeit eine bedeutende Rolle in dem Film?

[40 marks]

Possible content

Time plays an important role in both the content and structure of this film.

Two quotes from Tykwer himself are illuminating: "Bestimmte Elemente, die mich interessieren, tauchen immer wieder auf. Zeit zum Beispiel und die Manipulation von Zeit."

"In allen meinen Filmen spielt die Zeit eine große Rolle, weil es eine brutale Konstante in unserem Leben ist."

The narrator's question: "Was ist der Mensch?" initiates Tykwer's pre-occupation with living through time, the possibilities that life offers and the consequences of our actions, often dependent on small, chance events.

In life, time and experience are linear but here they are circular. Lola makes three different attempts or 'runs' to rescue Manni and after each we go back to the beginning and experience a different outcome.

The 'runs' cover the same physical locations, (a pastiche of Berlin), the chance happenings in them are similar but not identical, and are strictly limited to 20 minutes.

Two of the outcomes are catastrophic, with the apparent 'death' of each of the protagonists, but the third is a 'happy end' reminiscent of a 'Märchen'.

The emphasis on time is both visual and auditory. There are innumerable examples: the various clocks moving inexorably towards mid-day when Manni must hand over the money; Lola's asking the same woman, at first young but then old, for the time; the constant ticking in the background, the tempo of Tykwer's own techno-music, the English song "What a difference a day makes ..."

In many conventional films 'Erzählungszeit' and 'Erzählte Zeit' are different - one can cover a period of years in, say, an hour. Here they are identical - each 'run' of twenty minutes covers twenty minutes of 'real time' filming, which increases tension and expectation.

Other techniques: slow motion; black and white episodes showing the past and contextualising the 'runs' (eg Manni and Lola in bed); flash forwards to show the possibilities of the future, for the cyclist, the 'Penner' and the woman in the bank.

Cartoon animation, which surprises and amuses, is anti-realism and speeds up in a stylized fashion, a simple action, like Lola running downstairs.

Polaroid stills: used as single 'mug shots' to identify characters, or in series to show different possibilities: e.g. poverty, riches, and religion, in the life of the woman with the pram.

Split screen presents events happening simultaneously in different locations, eg Lola and Manni doing things each unbeknown to the other.

Commentary on Lola rennt essay

Inwieweit spielt das Element Zeit eine bedeutende Rolle in dem Film?

A03

The language produced is generally accurate. There are a few serious errors with case endings such as *von die Zeit* and several missed genitives. The word order is secure and verb formation is generally accurate. The student shows some ability to manipulate complex language, including subordinate clauses, the passive voice (*vergrössert wird*) and *um ... zu*, although many sentences are relatively simple. The student uses a good range of appropriate vocabulary such as *Schicksal*, *Zufall* and *Selbstentscheidung*, but there are a few errors such as the misuse of *eventuell*.

Mark for A03: 13 /20

A04

The student shows generally accurate knowledge of the film through the various examples given, such as the ticking clocks and the cartoon animation. Views, opinions and conclusions are sometimes supported with evidence from the film. The essay displays some ability to evaluate, such as the reference to *einem geübten Spiel* in the first paragraph, and the final quotation from Tykwer is helpful. The student could have gained a higher mark by developing the analysis further, eg by explaining the significance of the song 'What a difference a day makes...' or how the use of 'real time' filming – ie, 20 minutes of film covers 20 minutes of action – heightens the tension and expectation.

Mark for A04:14/20

Total mark for the essay: 27/40

Goodbye Lenin! - example essay

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Answer

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Extract from mark scheme

Good Bye Lenin!

Inwieweit sind die politischen und gesellschaftlichen Verhältnisse in der DDR zur Zeit der Wende von Bedeutung im Film?

[40 marks]

Possible content

The political regime in the GDR was an all-powerful instrument to control the people.

Mistrust was common; anyone could be a spy, even members of the same family.

No mention is made of Stasi brutal methods of questioning, torture and harassment.

Christiane Kerner becomes a loyal member of the SED.

Alex represents the young people who are dissatisfied with life in the GDR.

He is politically active against the regime, even taking part in protests against it.

Anti-government protests focus mainly on the freedom of speech, the freedom of the press, and the freedom of travel outside the Eastern bloc.

Some stability: a house with low rent, a job, low levels of crime, cheap basic foods, eg bread, milk.

The young people aspired to the capitalism of the west.

After eight months in a coma, Christiane could suffer another, fatal heart attack.

So begins the ridiculous plight to keep the GDR alive within the four walls of the apartment.

Evokes "Ostalgie", for the things which have now disappeared, eg Mokka-Fix, Spreewald Gurken.

Not everything in the new Germany is beneficial to the former East Germans.

Ariane gives up her college course in favour of a job with Burger King.

Commentary on Goodbye Lenin! essay

Inwieweit sind die politischen und gesellschaftlichen Verhältnisse in der DDR zur Zeit der Wende von Bedeutung im Film?

A03

The student's German is mainly accurate, showing a secure grasp of word order, verb formation and case usage. Where errors occur, they are occasionally serious such as *in dem Westen* instead of *in den Westen* and the singular verb after *Lebensmittel*. The spelling is consistently good. The student manipulates complex language confidently, including a good variety of constructions such as the various subordinate clauses in the fourth paragraph. The vocabulary is wide-ranging and appropriate to the context and task: for example the student uses *Verzweiflung*, *Redefreiheit*, *vorspielen*, *Nachbarschaft* and *Erpressung*.

Mark for A03: 18/20

A04

This is an excellent critical and analytical response which clearly merits a mark in the top band. The student answers the question convincingly and uses specific evidence from the film to support the evaluation, such as the references to the ex-Pioniere and Nachbarschaft in the fourth paragraph. The use of quotations in the second paragraph – although not essential in an 'A' level essay – helps to strengthen the analysis and evaluation. The student shows a thorough understanding of the cultural and social context of the film, eg through the references to social and political change in the first paragraph.

Mark for A04: 18/20

Total mark for the essay: 36/40

Gedichte – example essay

inside st line

Vergleichen Sie und kommentieren Sie zwei von Heines Gedichten.

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, Der Traurige" ist in den früheren Wn Heine zu finder. Das Gedicht ist typisch in Still und Forn von seinen volzeitigen Leiken. Das Reitschena ist regularissig und die Verse sind in Vierzeilen, Wie man hit sehen kann. " Allen hot es neh in Herren, Die den bleithen Knasen sehn, Der die Leiden, den die Schrieken, Aufs assicht geschrieben stehn. Der Maunge unfast unermidente oder Verlacene Liebe und ist typisch vontleines lynischen Gedichte in Konanzen, Brohl das biographische Elenant west enfemt bleist. Heine ist 20 dieser Zeit Imp und in einer kyline verliebt aber ohne Erfolg. hem er schreit, wint er eine beutinnte Distanz als Dichler von Leiner Poesie. Offen Sund seine romantische Gedichte geistreich nd Zeijen eine selbstknihische Ibnie. Als der knabe den hald nåhert, die Voisel Singer night rehr and der hald ist arel Moung. Die Itinning wind durkel und die Heliphank ubertrießen. Han versteht ober, dan Tleme in der Liebe und inden Zeiter sehr undirklich har , Ars den wilden Lorn der Stadter hill der knase in der Mahr, Flishen Die Mordree Stellt die Nahr da und Zeigt Heines Mühelose Fähigkeit der Ausdrucksfirm. Die Darstellung hier ist gehoben und elegant

und die Poesie zeigt die Unberechenbarkeit des Meeres. In Geolich, "Sturn" ist die Persontikation erhennsar, , ... witet der Shirm ... peitscht die hellen. " Durch die Oranatopoie und Worter Wie, braust. pfeift, prasself und heult" wind der Sturn lebensecht. Dre Grotion ist auch zu versteben und interpretieren. "O neer!.. Mutter der Schönneit, ... Großnutter der Liebe! Schone meiner!" und ... Sehnsuchts hilden Gesang, Seelenschmelzend und Seelenzeneißend " Am Ende des hedichts sieht man eine Fantasic ode vielleicht auch einen Märchen aber der Symbol der "Kranke Fran" untershitzt die traininge und verweifik Stimming des Dichters. Heinrich Heine ist ab voranhicher Dichler des 19. Jahrhunderts sehr berührt. Seine Gedichte in Buch der Lieder" haben viele Theners un unerwiderter Liebe zu tantasien, Märchen, die Nahr und Geschichte Seine grosse & Stylistische Varience seigt seine Fährsteit des genöhnliche in Worken in einem lynschen Gedicht urzuhandeler.

Extract from mark scheme

Heinrich Heine Gedichte

Vergleichen Sie und kommentieren Sie zwei von Heines Gedichten.

[40 marks]

Possible content

Wide themes: dreams, fantasies, lost or impossible love, legends, nature, historical events, fairy stories, geographical locations and philosophical questions.

Wide variety of form: many poems strictly metrical, in quatrains, with regular rhyme scheme, like *Du bist wie eine Blume*.

Ballads, like *Die Grenadiere* and *Belsatzar*, tell a story, the latter, unusually, in rhyming couplets.

Less successful fourteen-line sonnets, with more or less regular rhymes, like *An meine Mutter*.

Die Nordsee: impressive use of free verse forms in poems of varying length, like Die Götter Griechenlands (100+ lines) or Fragen (18 lines), depending for their power on brilliant use of imagery.

Language and style: many early poems in the collection have lyrical and musical qualities of folk songs. There is also use of striking compound adjectives.

Heine presents a seemingly effortless spontaneity of expression.

He is capable of using the language of everyday life and turning it into poetic diction.

He is equally at home with more learned, sophisticated vocabulary, full of classical or religious allusion, eg *Die Götter Griechenlands*.

Colour and rich natural imagery, for example in *Die Nordsee*, offer some of the strongest seapoems in the language. Many examples of linguistic devices like alliteration, repetition, onomatopoeia, personification and metaphor can be quoted.

Comparisons are entirely the choice of the candidates, but it is to be hoped that they will select poems which show significant differences in many of the areas mentioned above. 'Lost love' poems, ballads or the freer verse of *Die Nordsee* are all possibilities.

Heine's most obvious intention, especially in the earlier poems, was to write lyrical romantic poetry, dealing principally with love – gained, unrequited or impossible.

The original feature of his poetry is the distance he puts between himself, the poet, and the poem. Many of the final lines are ironic, witty, self-deprecating or self-critical, so that he can be seen almost to be debunking the very style of poetry that he is writing. There are plenty of examples of this ambivalence.

Towards the end of the collection he begins to move away from romanticism, which he felt was inadequate to cope with the stresses and upheavals of the early 19th century.

Commentary on Heinrich Heine Gedichte essay

Vergleichen Sie und kommentieren Sie zwei von Heines Gedichten.

A03

The language is generally accurate. Where errors occur they are generally minor, such as the wrong gender of *Märchen* and *Symbol* and the wrong adjective ending in *seine romantische Gedichte*. The student uses a fairly good range of complex structures including subordinate clauses, the genitive, infinitive clauses with *zu*, although there is only just enough variety for a mark in the top band. The range of vocabulary is very good and includes appropriate terms such as *Reimschema*, *geistreich*, *lebensecht* and *umwandeln*.

Mark for A03: 17/20

A04

The student shows a thorough and accurate knowledge of the two chosen poems. The essay is packed with appropriate detail and the use of quotations is effective. The commentary shows good evaluation of the chosen poems. The opinions expressed are well supported and justified. However, insufficient attention is paid to the first part of the question which asks for a comparison between the poems. In order to score a higher mark for AO4 the student would need to make explicit comparisons and evaluate the similarities and/or differences.

Mark for A04: 14/20

Total mark for the essay: 31/40