Meet the Assessors Notes 2013

Advice to students

- Expect to see and display knowledge of grammar
- Know parts of speech
- Know different *types* of word classes
- Choose what is relevant, do not throw everything at the page

Section A

- Students should be confident in their understanding of grammar (q.3)
- Qs 5&6 require students to identify linguistic features using metalanguage
- Former understanding of features of formal language required
- Students struggled to write about formal texts
- Write about what is in the text
- Make sure to establish context of the text, as language features can be relevant to both formal and informal texts
- What, why, how
- Assessors look for the use of metalanguage
- Use line numbers and quotes/examples, and be accurate when doing so

Section B

- Remember that this is an analysis, it is not a description of what is happening.
- Connect language features to analysis, do not list them.
- This is a skill that needs practice
- Don't skip over the obvious
- Sub-headings are permissible, yet they are limiting. They might restrict the extension/flow of ideas yet they can be helpful to get things moving.
- A conclusion is not necessary, as it is not an essay per se.
- An introduction may be helpful. It sets the text in context. Purpose, audience, mode etc. it gives a benchmark to refer back to.
- Do not analyse line by line, look at the text as a whole, and then find examples.
- Most students did 3 pages (600-800 words)
- Look at ALL parts of the text
- Don't try to make things up or draw long conclusions from the text.
- No value judgments or opinion

Section C

- Structure was particularly important here
- Contemporary examples need to be from both the media and linguistic texts and writings
- Use of CURRENT examples is important.

- Don't engage in simplistic ideas/arguments, look at a variety (q.9)
- If you are expected to explain attitudes, ensure that you explain attitudes
- Use more than the stimulus material to support your arguments
- Make sure you have enough examples for your topic (q.10)
- Do not attempt an essay unless you have written it before