

Anita and Me
Foundation Tier

The purpose of this pack is to provide centres with the question paper, mark scheme and a set of exemplar materials with commentaries.

The individual documents can be found on our website at www.edexcel.com

Included in this pack:

- Question and extract from Summer 2012 Paper
- Marked scripts with the mark and band
- Examiner commentary and mark scheme

Anita and Me

Extract taken from Chapter 8.

Still, that evening our house seemed to vibrate with goodwill and hope, the air felt heady and rare, the food seemed mountainous and never ending, even Sunil giggled and chirruped his way through dinner from his usual position on mama's hip, trying to form passing adult words like some drunk parrot. It was such an unseasonably warm evening that every possible window was flung open as the house became more crowded and noisy, until suddenly, the front door was ajar and our guests began spilling out into the garden, still clutching their drinks and balancing plates of food. This threw me into a minor panic; Tollington front gardens were purely for display purposes, everybody knew that. And here were all my relatives using our scrubby patch of lawn like a marquee, laughing and joking and generally behaving as if they were still within the security of four soundproofed walls.

It felt so strange to hear Punjabi under the stars. It was an indoor language to me, an almost guilty secret which the Elders would only share away from prying English eyes and ears. On the street, in shops, on buses, in parks, I noticed how the volume would go up when they spoke English, telling us kids to not wander off, asking the price of something; and yet when they wanted to say something intimate, personal, about feelings as opposed to acquisitions, they switched to Punjabi and the volume became a conspiratorial whisper. 'That woman over there, her hat looks like a dead dog... The bastard is asking too much, let's go... Do you think if I burped here, anyone would hear it?'

I stood uncertainly on the front porch and watched helplessly as the Aunties and Uncles began reclaiming the Tollington night in big Indian portions, guffawing Punjabi over fences and hedges, wafting curried vegetable smells through tight-mouthed letterboxes, sprinkling notes from old Hindi movie songs over jagged rooftops, challenging the single street light on the crossroads with their twinkling jewels and brazen silks. Usually, mama and papa were the most polite and careful neighbours, always shushing me if I made too much noise down the entries, always careful to keep all windows closed during papa's musical evenings. But tonight, I noted disapprovingly, they were as noisy and hysterical as everyone else. I had never seen the Elders so expansive and unconcerned, and knew that this somehow had something to do with Nanima.

I hesitated on the porch step, unsure whether to flee indoors, dreading what the reactions of any passers-by might be, but also strangely drawn to this unfamiliar scene where my two worlds had collided and mingled so easily. There was a whiff of defiance in the air and it smelled as sweet and as hopeful as freshly-mown grass.

Anita and Me – Foundation Tier – part (a) (i)

2 Answer all parts of the following question.

(a) (i) Give **three** examples of the writer's use of language in the extract.

Identify the language feature for each example chosen.

An example has been given to help you.

Example: *like some drunk parrot*

Feature: *This is a simile.*

(3)

Script 1 response to part a)

2 marks

Example 1: Her hat looks like a dead dog

Feature: Simile

Example 2: Curried vegetable smells

Feature: adjective

Example 3: Do you think if I burped here, anyone would hear it?

Feature: Rhetorical question

Examiner summary:

The candidate successfully identifies two language features and uses examples from the extract.

Anita and Me – Foundation Tier – part (a) (ii)

- (ii) Explain how the language in the extract influences your view of the Punjabi culture in Tollington.

In your answer, you **must** give examples of the language the writer uses.

You may include the examples you have used in your answer to 2(a)(i).

(13)

Script 1 response to part (a) (ii)

Band 2 – 5 marks

The Language in The extract influences me to think that the Punjabi culture in Tollington is unusual and is normally only spoken in the house or in whispers in the street and in shops. "It felt so strange to hear Punjabi under the stars. It was an indoor language to me, an almost guilty secret which the elders would only share away from prying English eyes and ears." This shows that Meena was shocked to hear

her family speak Punjabi outside
of the house as ~~it~~ it is unusual
for people to speak Punjabi in
Tollington as everyone else is English.

Examiner summary:

The candidate shows limited understanding of the writer's use of language; the reference to the extract is an overlong quotation rather than a focused selection of relevant parts.

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited understanding of the text• Limited understanding of the writer's ideas• Limited understanding of how the writer uses language• Limited relevant reference to the extract to support response.
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To move up to the next band: This response needs to refer more closely to the extract and use more relevant and brief quotations to support point made about the writer's use of language.

Anita and Me – Foundation Tier – part (b)

(b) In this extract, Meena tells us about Punjabi culture.

Describe how Meena comments on Punjabi culture in **one other** part of the novel.

In your answer, you **must** give examples of the language the writer uses.

You may wish to consider how the writer:

- describes a time when Punjabi culture is important in Meena's family
- shows Meena's thoughts and feelings about her family
- shows Meena's attitudes to Punjabi culture.

(24)

Script 1 response to part (b)

Band 3– 11 marks

In this extract, Meena tells us about Punjabi culture and how people ~~have~~ treat her differently because of her race. In a section of the book where Meena and her mother are going to The Gurdwara, they get stuck in a traffic jam and her mother's car begins rolling down the hill. Meena is asked to go and ask the other drivers to go back. ~~Stupid wog~~ "Bloody stupid wog. Stupid woggy wog" This shows that some people treat her differently because of the colour of her skin, and by name calling may make Meena feel uncomfortable. ~~But the other threat~~ This is hard for Meena as Punjabi culture is important in her family, and we know this as the elders speak Punjabi and Nanima does too.

"When Papa finally returned with his precious cargo from the airport, he drove up to the house tooting his horn furiously." This shows that they are excited for Nanima's arrival and may indicate that they are looking forward to a lot more Punjabi. Meena doesn't like the fact her family are the only Punjabi in Tolington and gets fed up of being treated differently. ~~Her response~~
~~shows~~

Examiner summary:

The candidate chooses a relevant 'other part of the novel' - the car in the traffic jam incident - to show some understanding of the writer's ideas and use of language. Another extract from the novel is then referred to - Nanima's arrival - which would not be fully credited. The response concludes with a generally valid response to the third bullet.

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

3	10-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some understanding of the text • Some understanding of the writer's ideas • Some understanding of how the writer uses language • Occasional relevant reference to the extract to support response.
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To move up the band: This response needs to build on the points made about Punjabi Culture by referring more closely to the chosen other part of the novel and support the points made with relevant reference to the chosen extract.