

Rani and Sukh
Higher 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

Rani and Sukh

Extract taken from the section after the fight.

'Does it hurt?'

Sukh shook his head and tried to smile. The effort made him wince and I could tell that he wasn't telling the truth. It had to hurt. It was horrible.

'I'm sorry,' I said.

'Sorry for *what*? Ain't your fault.'

'It was *my* brother...'

'Yeah – well you ain't your brother and anyway I didn't have to get involved.'

I leaned across Parvy's sofa and touched his other cheek softly. I thought he would pull away, tell me to stop. We'd met at the flat the morning after, and hadn't kissed each other or anything. There was something between us, like a kind of invisible wall holding us back. The wall was my brother. Or so I thought. But Sukh didn't flinch or move away so I felt secure enough to move across to him and kiss him where I had just touched him. He turned his head towards mine and kissed me back and then he said sorry.

'It's not your fault, either,' I told him.

'I didn't even see it coming. Just turned my head –'

'And it was Divy...'

'Dunno. He started the whole thing but I didn't see who –'

'No – it *was* Divy. I heard him tell my dad about it.'

'Whatever – it was stupid.'

I took my hand and touched his wounded cheek this time, stroking him gently. I had been sick again that morning and still felt nauseous. I wanted to tell him, to find out what he would say. What he would think about it. But then again, he was a boy and what would he know about it? My mind started wandering through a minefield of different thoughts – different reasons for my feeling sick all the time, not once letting me settle on what might well be the real reason. That I was pregnant. I shivered.

'What's up, babe?' asked Sukh, feeling me tremble.

'It's nothing – just been a bit sick, that's all.'

'Maybe you've got a bug coming on or something...'

Maybe I'm just not going to come on, I thought to myself.

'Yeah, maybe,' I replied, closing my eyes as I pulled up against him.

'So – what we gonna do?' he asked, stroking my hair.

'There's nothing we can do,' I said, feeling a little calmer. Not for long though.

'We could just tell them,' suggested Sukh.

I pulled away and looked at him. '*Tell them?*' I asked, astonished.

'Yeah... maybe get them all together and –'

'Sukh, have you gone *mad?*'

I couldn't believe what he was saying. There we were, together, when our families hated each other and fought all the time, with me possibly pregnant, and he was talking about telling them.

Rani and Sukh – Higher Tier – part (a)

6 Answer all parts of the following question.

- (a) Explore how the language in the extract influences your view of the relationship between Rani and Sukh.

You **must** include examples of language features in your answer.

(16)

Script 1 response to part (a)

Band 3 – 7 marks

a) In this extract, Rai uses language to show that Rani and Sukh look after each other. Questions are asked by them like 'Does it hurt?' to show Rani cares about Sukh and wants to help him. It also shows her as a motherly figure because she wants to look after him. Sukh also asks Rani 'what's up, babe?' showing he also looks after Rani and ~~also~~ cares for her. Short sentences are used to show Rani doesn't like to see Sukh in pain. 'It had too hurt. It was horrible' shows that because she cares for him she hates to see him hurt. Furthermore the short sentences show her shock at his pain and the reflects the pain she feels because he is hurt.

It is also shown in this extract that Rani has secrets from Sukh. Rai uses repetition 'I' in 'That I was pregnant. I shivered' showing that these secrets of her possible pregnancy only affect Rani because

she hasn't told Sukh. Also it suggests that she is only thinking about herself rather than anyone else and therefore she is keeping it to herself. The verb 'shivered' shows she is scared about Sukh finding out. This implies that she doesn't totally trust him with her secrets and that she is worried about how Sukh would react. A lot of punctuation is used to break up the sentences, for example, 'There we were, together, when our families hated each other and fought all the time, with me possibly pregnant,'. This shows Rani's broken mind as she is torn between telling Sukh or keeping it to herself, which she feels safer because the broken sentences ~~show~~ reflect her worry and concern about trusting Sukh.

Examiner summary:

The points made are clear and apt, with some thorough understanding. There is a focus on language, and the candidate comments on individual examples of the writer's techniques. There is just enough here to move the response into Band 3.

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

3	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough understanding of the text • Thorough understanding of the writer's ideas • Thorough understanding of how the writer uses language • Sustained reference to the extract to support response.
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To move up to the next band: This response needs show a more thorough understanding of the text and the writer's ideas with sustained reference to the extract to support the response.

Script 2 response to part (a)

Band 5 – 16 marks

a) Firstly, a lot of words that connote 'pain' are used at the start, to describe how Sikh is feeling. For example 'wince' and 'hurt', which shows the obstacles he has to face. It could symbolise the emotional pain he's going through, due to having to hide the relationship. Still, words that connote 'effort' being made, for instance 'tried' and 'effort' show that for Rani's sake, he tries to show he is strong as he doesn't want to worry or upset her. Likewise, Rani also feels this worry and she's concerned about Sikh. This is shown by short sentences, 'It had to hurt. It was horrible', and the starkness of these sentences convey that it's a straight forward truth, which Rani can see; there's enough understanding between the two, and so it's difficult to hide things from each other. This Bali Rai makes the reader ~~that~~ understand how much they care for each other, and so we respect their relationship.

Also, they do speak in slang, for example, 'Ain't var fault', which conveys that they are normal teenagers and their relationship is also like others, they are acting naturally around each other and they don't feel as though they have to speak differently.

The adverb 'softly' in 'touched his cheek softly' portrays how their relationship is tender and they show their love to each other, and support each other. 'Softly' could also symbolise that their relationship is fragile and they feel they have to maintain it with hard work, as it's so special and because of the obstacles, such as Rani's brother. From this, Rai makes the reader sympathise with Rani and Sikh, as we clearly see they're very supportive and will do a lot for their relationship.

The extract is written from the Narrative perspective of Rani, in first person which makes the reader feel that they can relate to her more as it's personal. It also

about the relationship, 'There was something between us, and she's married. This makes the reader understand that Sikh is all she thinks about, and thus the relationship is very significant and meaningful to her.

The simile 'like a kind of invisible wall holding us back' signifies that there are problems in this relationship, just like in any other. The simile makes it clear how aggravating it is as 'a invisible wall' is something that you can't overcome, and it shows how parted she feels from him, despite being together. Still, we can interpret this as her feeling overly-concerned and paranoid, as this means so much to her and the problem may actually simply be 'invisible' and not there. Two short sentences follow this 'The wall was my brother. Or so I thought-' and these sentences are in between two complex sentences; because of how short they are, it could denote how the problem seems to be quite significant to her, as the short sentences are read with more attention and slower, though there are the only two short sentences in this paragraph showing that there may be secluded thoughts that she doesn't like dwelling on, hence, not much is said.

Hyphens are used in the dialogue, frequently, 'So-what we gonna do?' and incomplete sentences by Sikh, which shows that he feels that he ~~has to~~ sometimes hesitates and that Kani is more dominant, yet these hyphens, ~~and~~ that symbolise Sikh being wary of causing trouble, show that this is how Kani and Sikh remain linked.

Examiner summary:

The candidate shows perceptive understanding of the extract and makes discriminating reference to the extract to support the points made. There is also a perceptive understanding of how the writer uses language to influence the view of Rani and Sukh's relationship.

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

5	14-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perceptive understanding of the text• Perceptive understanding of the writer's ideas• Perceptive understanding of how the writer uses language• Discriminating reference to the extract to support response.
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This response receives full marks.

Rani and Sukh– Higher Tier – part (b)

(b) In this extract, we see the close relationship between Rani and Sukh.

Explore the relationship between Rani and Sukh in **one other** part of the novel.

You **must** use examples of the language the writer uses to support your ideas.

(24)

Script 1 response to part (b)

Band 3– 13 marks

b) Pages 237 from 'I looked down at the floor' to Page 239 ~~which stopped back~~ 'He swallowed hard.'

In this extract, Rani tells Sukh and Parv that she is pregnant.

Rani uses language to show Sukh is concerned for Rani. Questions like 'Did you go to the doctor's?' and 'Sorry for what, beautiful?' show Sukh is worried about what Rani is about to tell them. It implies he is looking for reassurance from Rani to know that everything is ok. Furthermore it shows the doubt in his mind as he starts to panic, worrying about Rani. The statement 'You haven't done anything wrong.' spoken by Sukh shows him reassuring himself and her. He is worried about Rani so he tells himself that everything is alright to try and calm himself. In addition, it also implies that whatever Rani is about to say, Sukh will support her and look after her because he is worried about why she is upset.

The extract also shows that Sukh is supportive of Rani. 'Sukh came over and sat down' next to Rani after she had told them she was ~~the~~ pregnant, showing that he cares for her and will support her. It also implies that he will always stay by her side, no matter what happens. By Sukh 'putting his arms around' Rani, we can see that he is protecting her and looking after her by creating a barrier between her and the rest of the world. Furthermore, it ~~can~~ connotes that Sukh is holding Rani up and supporting her when she needs it. However, Sukh 'tried to smile but failed,' showing that although he is trying to support Rani and help her, it has also affected him and he cannot hide it. The short sentence also shows his broken mind as he tries to support Rani as well as come to terms with the news himself.

It is also shown that Sukh stands up against Parv to defend Rani. The verb 'snapped' shows Sukh is angry at Parv for accusing Rani and he defends Rani and 'snapped back' at his sister. Italics are also used to stress words as Sukh replies to Parv, 'We *did*' ~~we~~ emphasises 'did' showing that Sukh is sure and he won't let

Raviy accuse either of them for things they didn't do.
This shows that Sukh cares about Rani because he
is willing to stand up against his sister to defend
her.

Examiner summary:

The candidate chooses an appropriate 'other part of the novel', where Rani announces her pregnancy to Sukh. There is thorough understanding of the writer's ideas and use of language in the chosen extract.

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

3	10-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thorough understanding of the text• Thorough understanding of the writer's ideas• Thorough understanding of how the writer uses language• Sustained 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 text and use reference to their chosen part of the novel to show a thorough understanding of how the writer uses language to explore the relationship between Rani and Sukh.

Script 2 response to part (b)

Band 5– 24 marks

(Section A continued)

b) Page 243 – 244

In this extract, the narrative perspective is from Rani's point of view where she talks about Sikh supporting her when she finds out she's pregnant. It's in first person, which makes the reader feel it's more personal and it gives an insight of Rani's true feelings.

In this extract, the personal pronoun 'I' is used very often 'but I told him...', 'what I wanted to do...', and this shows the reader that Sikh has given her the confidence to value her own opinion, and that she is independent, yet Sikh is there for support. After this, the pronoun 'He' is used often too, 'He was wonderful about it', 'He didn't get upset', which further shows that his view matters a lot too, even if it's his own opinion that she's practising.

Furthermore, here, hyphens are used often. This is particularly significant because it shows that Rani feels that she has to keep adding in more complements for Sikh, and that what she says isn't enough to portray his goodness 'He kept on saying that we would be fine - that we'd cope with whatever happened'; also the hyphens could also show that there is a natural link between the two. It's further more important, as this is his private

thoughts, yet she feels that she needs to remind and keep telling herself how grateful she is to have Sikh in her life as she can't stop thinking about him.

Furthermore, Rai uses words to describe the average teen boy and then surprises us by how different Sikh is to these boys.

Juxtaposition is used, as the other boys or Rani's pre-conception is that he could be 'uncaring', yet in reality, he 'comforted' and Rai shows how Rani feels that he 'gave me all the love and support I needed'. Even though Rani's misconception may highlight a lack of trust, the reader understands she's very scared and this feeling of fear is repeated a lot 'he was really scared too', 'I had been so scared', and thus we understand that she

has 'irrational' feelings. Still Rai shows Rani's previous view, as opposed to reality further shows how loving and supportive the relationship is.

The short sentence 'But none of that happened' shows how thankful and surprised she is, the ^{simplicity} ~~simplicity~~ of the sentence may even show that ~~because~~ as if she viewed the situation in a more straightforward view, she'd have been ~~quite~~ right as it was already evident that Sikh is a supportive partner. The words

that connote all his goodnesses are used extensively to show how Rami's opinion of him is very high, 'he gave me all the love', 'listened to me' etc.

When Rami describes Sikh's goodnesses she uses quite unconventional descriptions that maybe another teenage girl wouldn't use to describe her boyfriend. 'mature and open and honest', but still this shows that she loves him for his personality and who he is rather than superficial qualities. This makes the reader respect the two more and thus, their relationship too. The conjunction 'and' is used a lot, which shows that Rami intends to stop after a few compliments, yet values him so much that she feels she has to portray her opinion of him, and she can't stop herself.

Moreover, we see how Sikh's existence in Rami's

life has completely changed her perspective of life as she'd 'never believed in salomates until she met Sikh. Furthermore, the words she uses to describe his role as a 'salomate' and 'angel' shows that she feels the relationship is sacred and God has intervened, showing the full significance of it. 'Angel' is more often used to describe a girl rather than a boy, making the description unconventional yet she may feel that he is so unique and special, that

this social role doesn't apply to him. However, it could also be foreshadowing his death; ~~although~~ it could show that she believes he'll always be there no matter what, even his death wouldn't stop them being together as he is an 'angel'. It shows how special the relationship is, as nothing can break it, it's invincible.

Examiner summary:

The candidate chooses a relevant other part of the novel and displays perceptive understanding of the writer's ideas and use of language as seen in the chosen extract. There are discriminating references in support of the response.

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

5	20-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perceptive understanding of the text• Perceptive understanding of the writer's ideas• Perceptive understanding of how the writer uses language• Discriminating reference to the extract to support response.
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This response receives full marks.