

Felicia's Journey  
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](http://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

## ***Felicia's Journey***

### **Extract taken from Chapter 4.**

'It was great running into you, Felicia.' Under the table one of his knees brushed hers when he moved. 'I'm glad you weren't the bride, Felicia.'

Carmel said you never knew why a fellow fancied you, why a fellow picked you out. You could be driven to distraction by fat arms or a flat chest, and then you'd discover that it was that very thing that drew a fellow on. Connie Jo used to say the same. Rose said you could never understand the male mind.

'It would be great if you came,' Johnny Lysaght said. 'Really great.'

He says it in a dream, when Felicia sleeps again. For four hours they danced at the Friday disco, neither of them dancing with anyone else, twice getting a pass and going to Sheehy's. When he took her hand, walking together through the silent streets at two o'clock in the morning, she wanted to tell him she loved him. She wanted to tell him a boy never kissed her before. In her dream he helps her through the barbed wire and his arms are around her in the field next to the old gasworks, hugging her to him, loving her, he says. There's the fragrance of his aftershave and he opens a button of his shirt, guiding her hand on to his warm flesh; everything about him is gentle. 'You're beautiful,' he whispers. 'You're great, Felicia.' His lips are moist when he kisses her again, and he closes his eyes when she does, in just the same moment, as if they are one person.

Then her dream is different. Her father says it's the way the country's going, brass plates unpolished, a holy show to the world. Her brothers eat without speaking. 'What's Lysaght *like*, though?' Rose asks, and Carmel giggles.

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## Felicia's Journey – Higher Tier – part a)

(a) From the extract, what do you discover about the character of Johnny?

Use **evidence** from the extract to support your answer.

(8)

### Script 1 response to part a)

Band 3 – 8 marks

a) From this extract, we learn Johnny is a romantic person. He ~~is said~~ says, "It was great running into you Felicia" proving his joy at being in the company of Felicia. We also learn he is not afraid of physical contact to express his love; "his knee brushed hers" and he is, "guiding her hand on to his warm flesh" proving he is eager to involve himself physically with Felicia. We also begin to appreciate that Johnny is a charmer. His overly romantic turn of phrase, "I'm glad you weren't the bride" emphasises how his love may be just a show and not genuine. A sense of a dominating character also comes across in the extract. He, even in Felicia's dream, "took her hand" to imply that he is the one that is controlling the relationship and not her.

The candidate makes perceptive observations about the character of Johnny and supports the answer with textual references from the extract.

### Examiner summary:

*The candidate shows a perceptive understanding of the character of Johnny and uses a variety of discriminating evidence from the extract to back up their points.*

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perceptive understanding of the character.</li><li>• Uses a variety of discriminating evidence from the extract to demonstrate knowledge about the character.</li></ul>
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This response receives full marks.

## Felicia's Journey – Higher Tier – part b)

(b) Comment on how language is used to present the character of Felicia in the extract.

Use examples of the writer's language from the extract.

(10)

### Script 1 response to part b)

Band 5 – 10 marks

b) Firstly, we get a strong portrayal of Felicia as ~~self-conscious~~ lacking self assurance. She repeats remembering Johnny say she is, "great" to emphasise how she lacks confidence in thinking she is great herself. Her lack of self confidence is then further emphasised by the emotive phrase, "driven to distraction by flat arcs or a flat chest." This excessive worrying that Felicia experiences portrays her as very naïve and unconfident.

Felicia also is very romantic in the extract. A long image is created in her dream which expresses her inner and true desires even if she is too shy to express them when awake. She ~~was~~ experiences dancing for, "four hours" at the Friday Night Disco. This use of an excessive time period by Trevor emphasises Felicia's overflowing of emotion at her romance with Johnny.

The candidate shows perceptive understanding of how the writer uses language to present the character of Felicia.

Felicia, even in her dream is somewhat withdrawn and shy. She twice expresses ~~withheld~~ withheld desires, "she wanted to tell him she loved him. She wanted to tell him a boy had never kissed her before". This repetition of, "wanted" ~~and~~ highlights her own lack of confidence when in the presence of Johnny who she deeply loves.

In her dream, Felicia expresses sensual desires. She smells his "fragrance" and touches his, "warm flesh" emphasising her desire for intimate romantic contact with Johnny. The use of the present tense, "helps her through the barbed wire fence further the strength of Felicia's love."

The candidate uses short, perceptive examples from the extract.

### Examiner summary:

*The candidate shows a perceptive understanding of how the writer uses language to present the character of Felicia by using relevant examples from the extract.*

### Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

5	9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Convincing reference to how the writer achieves effects.</li><li>• Perceptive understanding of linguistic, grammatical, structural and presentational features of language.</li><li>• Perceptive use of relevant examples from the extract.</li></ul>
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This response receives full marks.

## Felicia's Journey – Higher Tier – part c)

(c) Explore the significance of relationships in the extract.

Use **evidence** from the extract to support your answer.

(10)

### Script 1 response to part c)

#### Band 5 – 10 marks

c) The main significance of the relationship between Johnny and Felicia in the extract is that it makes Felicia feel happy. She feels that it is a personal relationship and that Johnny had, "picked you (her) out". This way that Felicia believes the relationship to be personal and special leads her to dream about it, emphasising the joy she finds in it.

However, through the romantic perspective of Felicia we begin to see the significance of the relationship for Johnny. Her childish glee where he stereotypically, "helps her through a barbed wire fence" leads the reader into thinking that Johnny may be prying on the naivety of Felicia. This is somewhat proven by his overly romantic language, "I'm glad you weren't the bride" which gives a sense that maybe his side of the relationship is not solely for romantic love.

Also, along with the joy that Felicia feels in the relationship, we get a sense of Felicia's desire to progress the relationship. She dreams of intimate contact where their bodies become, "one person". This expresses Felicia's wild and extravagant plans for their romantic relationship. The contrast of this romantic language as an overflowing of emotion

The candidate shows a perceptive understanding of the significance of the relationship between Felicia and Johnny in the extract.



~~contrast~~ with Johnny's cony, "babe glad you weren't the bride" line, implies to the reader that there is a mismatch of personalities in the relationship and that it may be doomed to failure.

(Section A continued)

terms of  
 Lastly, the relationship is significant in Felicia's background. She references twice her sisters, "Rose" and "Carol" who she may be trying to impress with the relationship. ~~as~~ She also is ~~very~~ thinking of her father wanting her to pick, "brass plates". This mundane domestic life contrasted with the extravagant romance shows <sup>why</sup> ~~how~~ Felicia is willing to persevere her relationship with Johnny.

The candidate shows a perceptive understanding of the significance of the relationship between Felicia and Johnny in the extract.

### Examiner summary:

The candidate focuses solely on the relationship between Felicia and Johnny in the extract and gives a perceptive explanation of the significance of this relationship with convincing reference to the extract throughout.

### Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

5	9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convincing reference to extract supported by sustained relevant textual reference.</li> <li>Explanation of significance of theme in the extract shows perceptive understanding.</li> </ul>
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This response receives full marks.

## Felicia's Journey – Higher Tier – part d)

(d) Explore the significance of relationships in **one other** part of the novel.

Use examples of the writer's language to support your answer.

(12)

### Script 1 response to part d)

Band 5 – 12 marks

d) Passage 136 – 7.

This passage describes Mr. Hilditch's views on his relationship with Felicia after the abortion.

The passage begins with Mr Hilditch ~~has~~ having a great "excitement" at killing Felicia's child. This shows his desire to be controlling over Felicia to the point where he has killed her child.

The excitement Mr. Hilditch gets ~~is~~ from the killing of the baby is not only ~~the~~ because of using his relationship with ~~her~~ <sup>Felicia</sup> to influence her, but also ~~because~~ because he has used the relationship to influence ~~the people in the waiting room~~ others. He believes ~~they~~ <sup>the people in the waiting room</sup> must think, "a relationship has occurred, no way you can gain say it". The way Mr. Hilditch takes joy in deception gives us an insight into the dark and evil nature of his character.

The relationship between Felicia and Hilditch is also significant as he can fantasise that he is the paternal figure through it. He believes ~~he~~ <sup>the people in the waiting room</sup> has successfully influenced ~~the~~ <sup>into thinking he is,</sup> "the father of an unborn child". His excitement he gets from being a paternal figure tells us two things. Firstly that he is controlling as a father is in a relationship and secondly that he is misguided in his values. This is because the main role of a father is to care for his child yet he has taken joy in killing his.

The candidate shows a perceptive understanding of the theme, and uses examples of the writer's use of language to support their response.



In this passage we also get a sense of his mother's <sup>bad relationship</sup> ~~rejection~~ being a source of his desire to affiliate himself with these girls. He uses dark humour to say, "punny if she came back from the dead" to express how affected he has been by his mother that he does not mind joking about her death. This hatred for his mother highlights the scare she has left on him and the seed he then possesses to inflict pain on others as she did to him.

The relationship between Felicia and Mr. Hilditch is also important as it shows his loneliness. Mr. Hilditch wants her to be, "whispering to him; she wants ~~to~~ to be with him forever." ~~So~~ This ~~part~~ is a key explanation for why he wants to spend time with the girls he befriends.

The relationship described in this extract is not sexual and is underwritten throughout. He describes all intimate acts as, "indiscretions" and as an "episode". This underwriting proves that Mr. Hilditch and Felicia's ~~to~~ relationship is ~~as~~ not for love or sexual desires but for control.

\* The end of the extract describes Mr. Hilditch experiencing a "tremor". The tremor is said to, "afflict him" showing he has no control over it. This is particularly significant as control is ~~something~~ something that is vital to him in his relationship with Felicia. ~~These~~ beginnings of a lack of control in himself foreshadow a tragic conclusion where he loses control of Felicia.

The candidate shows a perceptive understanding of the theme, and uses examples of the writer's use of language to support their response.

The conclusion shows a perceptive understanding of the relationship between Mr Hilditch and Felicia.

### Examiner summary:

*This is a focused response on the relevant 'other part of the novel' with comments showing a perceptive understanding of the writer's presentation of the theme; a convincing selection of appropriate close detail is offered in support.*

### Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

5	11-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perceptive use of relevant examples from the text to demonstrate knowledge about theme/character.</li><li>• Perceptive understanding of linguistic, grammatical, structural and presentational features of language.</li><li>• Convincing selection of textual detail to support interpretation.</li></ul>
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This response receives full marks.