

Written Task 1- Rationale

In paragraph one of your rationale, include:

- ☐ The part of the course your task relates to. In our case: Part I- Language in the Cultural Context.
- ☐ The text(s)/author your task relates to.
- ☐ Briefly (1-2 sentences) describe your written task including its text type and purpose.
- ☐ An explanation of how your written task demonstrates what you learned about the text(s) and/or topic(s) related to the text (2-3 sentences).
 - ☐ For example, your written task might demonstrate your knowledge of specific literary devices, elements, themes, or patterns. Your written task might demonstrate your ability to critically analyze texts and draw inferences from textual evidence.

In paragraph two of your rationale, include:

- ☐ An explanation of why you chose the the text type you did. How does this specific text type demonstrate your knowledge of the text and related topics? (1-2 sentences).
- ☐ A description of the conventions (style, structure, language techniques) of the text type you chose and how they relate to the aims/goals/purposes of your task. (2-3 sentences)
- ☐ Some context for your written task. (2-4 sentences)
 - ☐ Who is the narrator/speaker/author?
 - ☐ Who is the intended audience?
 - ☐ Where/when is the task shared?
 - ☐ Give background info that your audience will need to fully understand the purpose of the task.

Checklist:

- ☐ 200-300 words with a maximum of 300 words (IB examiners recommend getting close to 300 words).
- ☐ At least two paragraphs.
- ☐ Words are well chosen and rationale is clear and concise.

Student Exemplar Rationales:

Example 1:

This written task relates to Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, one of the texts we read in Part IV - Literature: A Critical Study. My written task is an interview with Offred, the protagonist in *The Handmaid's Tale*. I imagined the interview would be published in a women's magazine. In the task, my aim was to show the conventions of a women's magazine interview while incorporating Atwood's literary devices to mimic Offred's voice in *The Handmaid's Tale*.

The content of the interview is based off of the novel's events and the future I created for Offred from the point that the book left off. I chose to do an interview because I thought it would give me the chance to both make the task more personal to Offred and allow me to use the similar devices as Atwood.

I tailored the task to reflect a magazine interview; I included a few introductory paragraphs to give context to how the interview happened and the person being interviewed. Then, the interview follows the traditional question and answer format. Written with the female audience in mind, the reporter's questions are based on what the specific magazine audience wants to hear. When writing Offred's responses, I followed the conventions Atwood used. In *The Handmaid's Tale*, Offred is the first person narrator. She is long winded with her ideas, has a jumpy stream of consciousness, and uses short sentences as her mind works. I translated these same devices into the interview so the reader would get the real voice of Offred.

Example 2

This written task relates to *Hamlet*, a play we read during Part IV- Literature: A Critical Study. I chose to write a speech from the perspective of Horatio, Hamlet's close friend. My task demonstrates my ability to interpret and analyze several themes in *Hamlet*, including revenge, grief, confusion, and sneakiness.

I chose to write a speech because I thought it would be a challenge. I am not naturally talented and creative in the area of writing anything other than straightforward essays. I took the opportunity to write something out of my comfort zone.

The speaker of my written task is Horatio, Hamlet's close friend. He is speaking to a public crowd in Elsinore, at the Festival of Harvest, after Hamlet's death. Horatio is explaining to the public about the moment when Hamlet saw the Ghost and the events that followed after it. In his speech, Horatio reveals that Hamlet acted crazy to distract people that he was plotting revenge against King Claudius.

In Horatio's speech, I incorporated ethos and pathos in order to engage the citizens of Elsinore. I used many allusions referring back to what Hamlet said to Horatio about the ghost. I used varied sentence lengths to help the public understand what Hamlet was feeling at the time. I also used anaphora to make sure that Horatio got his point across to the public.