

Descriptive writing

Question 3 The view from the top

Script D

The response is clear in the effect it is aiming for –the decimated city, awe inspiring and yet terrifying viewed from above. There is a sense of both the panoramic here and the immediate as the lifeless landscape is described from the narrator’s lofty vantage point. Avoiding the temptation to explain the narrative leading up to this point, the focus is on creating the scene for the reader. The writer knows what they want to achieve and has shaped the piece deliberately to create that.

Punctuation of sentences does suffer occasionally through ambition - checking back to edit and correct might well have secured a mark in band 6 . There is though evidence of deliberate variation in sentences used for effect , as well as variety of focus , contributing to the overall structure of the piece.

Effective style contributes to a convincing sense of the place as some precise use of vocabulary evokes a reaction in the reader . The strength of the stench in the searing heat of the day is emphasised by it reaching the narrator’s vantage point, the hint of chemicals and the mechanical beast seen in the distance suggests the terror of what had already happened here as well as what was to come. The content is complex and engaging with its constituent parts well balanced and managed for deliberate effect.

Band 6 content and structure

Band 5 style and accuracy