YEAR 7 | MYP-INSPIRED DIAGNOSTIC

English Reading Comprehension

Name: _____ Date: _____

Suggested time: 50 minutes | Focus: Language and literature A Analysing; B Organizing; D Using language (with written response)

Instructions: Answer independently. Explain your thinking, refer to evidence and show working where appropriate. This is an unofficial diagnostic, not an IB examination.

Original reading passage

Read the passage carefully before answering. The Last Lantern

Every evening, a lantern glowed in the window of the old railway station, although the last train had left the town decades earlier. Most residents called it a forgotten habit. Mira was not so sure. One stormy Thursday, she noticed the lantern flicker three times, pause, then flicker twice. The following evening, it did the same.

Mira visited the station caretaker, Mr Vale, who smiled when she mentioned the pattern. “People notice the light,” he said, “but not what it points towards.” He offered no further explanation. Mira stepped outside and followed the lantern’s beam across the platform. It fell on a faded map fixed behind cracked glass. At the map’s edge, five small circles marked the route of a footpath that had vanished beneath new buildings.

The next morning, Mira searched the town archive. An old photograph showed residents carrying books along that path after a flood had damaged the library. The lantern had once guided volunteers through the dark. Mira returned to the station, expecting to uncover a secret message. Instead, she found a reminder that ordinary people had helped their neighbours when the town needed them most.

That evening, she watched the light again. It no longer seemed mysterious; it seemed important.

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Analysis and interpretation

1. What makes Mira suspicious of the lantern? Support your answer with a detail from the text.

2. Explain the effect of the phrase “faded map fixed behind cracked glass.”

3. What does Mr Vale mean by “not what it points towards”? Give both a literal and a deeper interpretation.

4. How does Mira’s attitude change between the beginning and end? Use two details.

5. Identify a possible theme and explain how two events develop it.

6. Write a 70-100 word paragraph explaining whether the ending is satisfying. Use a clear claim and evidence.

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PARENT / TUTOR GUIDE

Use this guide after the student has completed the assessment. Credit sound reasoning and justified alternative responses. These are formative observations, not official MYP criterion levels.

Assessment lens

Language and literature A Analysing; B Organizing; D Using language (with written response)

Suggested interpretations

1: Repeated flicker pattern and the abandoned station. 2: Age, neglect and atmosphere. 3: Literal beam towards map; symbolic attention to community history. 4: Suspicion and curiosity become respect for collective kindness. 5: Memory, community or service, supported by archive and lantern.

Extended response

6: Accept any defensible interpretation with a clear claim, two relevant details and logical explanation. Do not require one predetermined viewpoint.

Look for

Precise evidence, distinction between inference and fact, paragraph structure, and discussion of writer choices rather than plot retelling.

Observation checklist

Does the student explain reasoning clearly? Can they select relevant evidence, revise a first idea and communicate a conclusion? Note specific examples rather than assigning an unsupported IB grade.

Next steps

Choose one strength and one priority for the next lesson. Ask the student to explain how they reached their answer before providing corrections.

Curriculum note

The MYP uses subject-specific criteria A-D. This independent diagnostic samples related skills; it does not fully assess all strands or replace school assessment. Year 7 is commonly MYP Year 1, but school year naming varies.

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