



Yr 12 English

Module C

The Craft of Writing

Book 3: Further Imaginatives + Reflections

PROFECTUS

Feedback

Complete the following table as a self-assessment of your imaginative that you prepared for homework from last week:

Component	Comments
Clear inspiration from a prescribed text.	
Theme/Concept from prescribed text used.	
Similar language features and conventions to prescribed texts.	
Student 'shows' rather than 'tells'.	
Main character is in depth and well developed.	
Setting feels authentic and real.	
Purpose is established in reflection.	
Construction of stylistic features and language techniques are evaluated.	
References prescribed texts as inspiration in the construction of their text.	

Trade your imaginative with another student and do an assessment of their imaginative, completing the same table.

Component	Comments
Clear inspiration from a prescribed text.	
Theme/Concept from prescribed text used.	
Similar language features and conventions to prescribed texts.	
Student 'shows' rather than 'tells'.	
Main character is in depth and well developed.	
Setting feels authentic and real.	
Purpose is established in reflection.	
Construction of stylistic features and language techniques are evaluated.	
References prescribed texts as inspiration in the construction of their text.	

Plot Structures

The imaginatives you will be writing for the HSC have to be very short and will probably be around 500-700 words. This means there is not a lot of room for you to create a full-length story with an introduction, sequences of events, climax and resolution. The stories you are to write are not really stories; they are small snippets/insights into a character's life that provides a deep complex commentary about some aspect of humanity/society.

The following table has various complex concepts and how you could portray them through simple plot structures. Finish the table off:

Complex Concept	Plot Structure
Oppression of innocent minorities can cause alienation.	Interactions between young boy at school with his friends who he has to hide his identity from in fear of alienation.
The confronting experience of mortality and its inevitability.	An elderly woman's walk through her nursing home reminiscing on aspects of her life and focusing on aspects of the nursing home.
The horrors of war and its catastrophic impact on the human psyche.	An old war veteran's grand daughter coming to visit him. The contrast between the two characters explores the devastating impact of war on individuals.
Social inequalities and its negative impact on various groups.	
Lust for power corrupts the innocence of the human soul.	

Inner turmoil and struggle of being the hero.	
Dissatisfaction in enacting revenge.	

You can see that no matter how complex the idea is, there is always a simple way of representing that idea in a plot structure that is concise yet has great depth.

Think about a text you have studied or read recently. What are some of the complex concepts in that text? Could you think of a way to explore one of those concepts in a simple short event?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Reducing the number of events allows you to focus on the detail of one single event to depict the concept or ideas rather more thoroughly than jumping from different scenes without any depth.

Read your imaginative again. Have you been able to take a concept and represent it in a short event? If so, how have you done this. If not, how can you change it?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Key Components of Every Reflection

Establishing Purpose

Make it explicitly clear to the marker what your exact purpose was in constructing your creative. The marker will judge you on how well you have fulfilled your stated purpose and proven that you have been successful. This should be your first, if not, one of the first sentences in your reflection and is a perfect way to start it off:

"In my imaginative '[Title]' my purpose was to represent and how it can lead to"

Demonstrating Inspiration

Your reflection should clarify how exactly you've been informed by the module in the construction of your text i.e. how has The Craft of Writing unit helped you create your text. This is where you reference your prescribed texts and/or other texts you may have used as inspiration. Examples include:

"The use of [language feature] was inspired by [composer] in their text [title], which allowed me to create a deeper engagement with"

"I found [composer's] exploration of [concept] intriguing when studying [text's title] and took inspiration from it when constructing [certain aspects] within my story."

"The effective use of [stylistic feature] was derived from [text] where I learnt from [author] how it can create [effect] on readers."

Analysing your own techniques.

Deconstructing your own quotes and analysing your own techniques may seem the same as analysing another composer's text; however, the slight difference is that you make clear what your *intended* purpose/effect was of each quote/technique and then evaluate if it was successful. Examples include:

"I used [technique] in "[quote]" to try and deepen the reader's awareness of the devastating nature of [concept]. I believe it was effective in demonstrating [effect]."

"The careful characterisation in "[quote]" coupled with [technique] provides a deeper insight into the complexities and paradoxes that drive [character] and their motives."

Final Evaluation

Finally, you have to evaluate your own work holistically. Were you successful in achieving your intended purpose? (Should always be yes). Example:

"Thus, I believe my story was effective in creating a complex commentary of the struggles associated with [concept] and ultimately fulfilling my intended purpose."

"The story is ultimately successful in illustrating [purpose] through the unique combination of [language features] and [stylistic features]"

"Ultimately, my aim was to craft a [text type/style] that explored the notions of [concept] to reflect the deeper realities associated with [further concept]"

Reflection Example

Within my imaginative piece 'Home', my purpose was to craft how a character would respond to a setting that was unfamiliar yet was immensely significant to their past experiences and struggles. Using third-person omniscient narration coupled with free indirect discourse enabled me to truly capture the inner thoughts and psychological reaction Najya had when encountering the unfamiliar Mosque. It allowed me to portray how she progresses through her memories of loss in connecting with the memory of her father.

The name 'Najya' was chosen as it means 'freedom' in Arabic, which she is finally able to achieve by the end of the story. This is further symbolised within the simile where the "shine across her face" is compared to the "previous night's new crescent moon;" the new moon is symbolic of both the end but also the start of a new lunar cycle. The thematic use of 'light' also helps establish the movement away from the darkness of the past, foreshadowing the closure of her character arc where she is reunited with her home.

The mosque itself is symbolic of home because it brings back memories of her father which is integral in the experience she has when encountering it for the first time. This brings her back to her old home but in a state of destruction as an unfamiliar setting that draws her inner memories. The tricolon was used in "back to that home. Back to Kabul. Back to the war" to intensify her past experiences in her life and signify how it remains a traumatic memory that has robbed her of her feeling a sense of home in her life. Yet, amidst the chaos, Najya is positioned to remember detailed memories of her father which serve to purify the trauma.

The long sentences were inspired by Kafka's style of writing, where there is an accumulation of thoughts coupled with the free indirect discourse to show the fast-paced thinking that was enhanced with polysyndeton. I intended to put a double meaning in "she was disappointed she couldn't complete the journey herself," to signify her physical and psychological journey for the past five years to find home and achieve freedom. The excitement she feels was constructed to be incongruent with that which a normal human would feel at that moment, reinforcing how these simple experiences can often be taken for granted and neglected by humanity.

At the end of the story, Najya is reunited with her home, her father in the form of memories, and the past struggles now cleansed by this experience. Ultimately, I believe the story is crafted to effectively depict how setting can create such an immense cathartic reaction from individuals based on their past experiences, shaping who they are and who they become.



Building Your Reflection

Reflection Components	Imaginative
Purpose	
Inspiration	
Evidence 1 (Stylistic)	
Evidence 2 (Stylistic OR Language)	
Evidence 3 (Language)	
Evidence 4 (Language)	
Evaluation	



Homework:

Complete a reflection for your imaginative that you have written. Ensure you cover all key components.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



