Candidate Script Diagnostic & Examiner Evaluation

Grade 9 (88 / 100)

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) English Language B • Paper 1 (4EB1/01R)
Theme: Rehabilitation of Orphaned Wildlife • **Candidate ID:** ENG-2024-8842

Senior Examiner Diagnostic Overview:
This candidate demonstrates exceptional engagement across both unseen source texts. In Question 7, comparative analysis is perceptive and balanced, highlighting nuanced differences in scale while synthesizing shared emotional vulnerabilities. In Question 8 (Directed Talk), the candidate sustains an authentic, persuasive oratorical register with varied syntax and zero comma splices.

Question 7 Candidate Response (Comparative Analysis • 10 Marks)

Both writers poignantly capture how sudden parental bereavement leaves infant animals in profound vulnerability. [✓ AO3 L4: Clear comparative conceptual premise] In *My Goose, Willy*, the goose is reduced to a "damp smudge of grey down," an evocative metaphor conveying fragility and physical insignificance against the elements. Conversely, in *Rescuing the Gentle Giants*, the scale is colossal yet the emotional devastation is identical: elephant calves face "a race against despair" and can succumb to "broken hearts." [✓ AO3 L5: Perceptive cross-textual synthesis of metaphor]

Where the accounts diverge fascinatingly is in the structural apparatus of human care. The narrator of Text One adopts an intimate, domestic routine—nursing Willy beside the scullery stove like a surrogate mother. [✓ AO1 L4: Accurate textual retrieval] In contrast, Tsavo represents an institutionalized, round-the-clock conservation apparatus, where keepers maintain vigilant 24-hour watches in sleeping bunks. [✓ AO3 L5: Sharp contrast of domestic vs institutional scale]

Ultimately, both carers share the bittersweet paradox of rehabilitation. While Text One describes an "agonizing" release that ends in "profound, exhausting privilege," Text Two celebrates the "triumphant testament to patience" as the calf walks into the savannah. Both authors understand that genuine compassion requires relinquishing control to restore wild autonomy. [✓ AO3 L5: Sophisticated conceptual conclusion: 9/10]

Question 8 Candidate Response (Directed Writing Talk • 30 Marks)

Good morning teachers and fellow students. **[✓ AO4 L4: Established peer register]**

Have you ever held a living creature whose heartbeat felt like a tiny, fragile clock ticking against your palm? Many of us view wild animals as remote inhabitants of nature documentaries; yet, every single day, infant geese and colossal elephants alike are stripped of their mothers by human encroachment, severe droughts, and ruthless poachers. **[✓ AO4 L5: Sophisticated rhetorical hook and global synthesis]**

How do we step into that void? As both Morpurgo's domestic sanctuary and Kenya's Tsavo nursery prove, rescue is not an act of casual petting—it is an exhausting, round-the-clock marathon. When Willy the gosling arrived cold by a muddy pond, he required hourly feedings of warm mash by a kitchen stove. In Tsavo, keepers sleep in blankets right beside elephant calves, waking every three hours to bottle-feed them specialised milk. **[✓ AO1 L5: Seamless integration of facts from both texts]**

Yet the psychological rehabilitation is far more demanding than the physical nourishment. Elephants possess emotional depth remarkably akin to our own; without consistent touch and reassuring companionship, orphaned calves will perish from loneliness. By stepping in as surrogate guardians, human carers do not merely save biological specimens—they restore broken spirits. **[✓ AO4 L5: Powerful oratorical ethos & emotive impact]**

Of course, the supreme test of wildlife rehabilitation is letting go. It would be easy to turn these animals into domestic pets. But true respect demands that we guide them back to independence: teaching the goose to trust its wings, and helping the elephant join a wild herd. When you see that wild spirit finally take flight, the sleepless nights and emotional heartache dissolve into pure privilege. Let us support these conservation efforts, not merely out of pity, but out of our shared responsibility to the living world. Thank you. **[✓ AO4 L5: 20/20 • AO5 SPaG: 9/10 • Total: 29/30]**

Senior Examiner Mark Breakdown Table

Section / Question	Max Marks	Awarded Marks	Assigned Level	Examiner Rationale
Q1–Q3: Text One Reading	15	14	Level 5	Accurate retrieval; Q3 language analysis explores oxymorons and sensory motifs with precise quotations.
Q4–Q6: Text Two Reading	15	13	Level 4+	Thorough identification of emotional trauma; perceptive explanation of keeper night routines.

Q7: Comparative Analysis	10	9	Level 5	Sustained, discriminating comparison of both texts. Explores stylistic contrasts with high precision.
Q8: Directed Talk (AO1/AO4)	30	27	Level 5	Flawless speech register; seamless synthesis of both source texts; compelling rhetorical climax.
Section C: Continuous Writing	30	25	Level 5	Sophisticated structure, varied punctuation (colons, dashes, semi-colons), mature vocabulary.
TOTAL SCORE	**100**	**88 / 100**	**Grade 9 (Mastery)**	Candidate comfortably surpasses Grade 9 boundary (approx 78/100). Ready for A-Level English.