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Grade 9 English HL · Language Practice · Paper 1 — Marking Memorandum

MARKING GUIDELINES · NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION TO LEARNERS

Total Marks: 46

Grade: 9 Subject: english · Language Practice

These marking guidelines are prepared for teacher/examiner use only.

Credit valid alternative responses where meaning is correct.

Q	Answer / Marking Points	Marks
1	✓ Plastic waste was collected from the Sea Point beach by Priya and Aryan.	(2)
2	✓ Type 3 conditional (also: past conditional / mixed conditional / unreal past conditional).	(1)
3	✓ If Nomsa had understood (understand) the impact of microplastics, she would have volunteered (volunteer) at the Khayelitsha marine project.	(2)
4	✓ Tricolon (or: rule of three / series of three). The three parallel phrases create rhythm, emphasis, and persuasive force, building intensity around the theme of environmental commitment.	(3)
5	✓ Dangling participle: "Having researched..." does not clearly attach to the subject performing the action. The sentence suggests the documentary conducted research, not a person. Correction: "Having researched plastic pollution extensively, the documentary team created a compelling film about South African coastal ecosystems" or "After researching plastic pollution extensively, Murendeni and his colleagues found the coastal documentary compelling."	(3)
6	✓ Device: Anaphora (repetition of "Plastic" at the beginning of successive clauses). Effect: Creates rhythmic momentum, builds emotional intensity, and emphasises the pervasive nature of the problem. The repetition makes the danger feel inescapable and urgent.	(3)

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7	✓ The beaches of the Western Cape face severe plastic pollution from both land and sea sources, despite their popularity with tourists. OR: Tourist destinations along the Western Cape coast are increasingly threatened by plastic pollution from multiple sources. (Accept any version that eliminates the relative clause tangle and improves flow.)	**(3)**
8	✓ participate (subjunctive mood requires base form without -s; used after "It is essential that...")	**(1)**
9	✓ Device: Rhetorical question. It persuades by forcing the reader to confront an uncomfortable truth without offering an easy answer. It implies that denial or apathy is inexcusable if we truly grasped the crisis's severity.	**(3)**
10	✓ Microplastics have been discovered to have contaminated 87% of South African marine species by scientists. OR: It has been discovered that microplastics have contaminated 87% of South African marine species. (Accept any grammatically sound complex passive + perfect construction.)	**(4)**
11	✓ "Chokes" is a powerful verb that personifies the ocean and conveys suffocation, desperation, and death--more visceral and emotional than "affects." It creates a visceral, urgent tone that makes the reader feel the crisis is urgent and life-threatening, rather than abstract.	**(4)**
12	✓ Errors: (1) "effect" should be "affect" (verb); (2) dangling participle ("Having conducted..."); (3) subject-verb disagreement ("was" should be "were" with plural subject); (4) "should of" is non-standard (should be "should have").■Corrected paragraph: Johannesburg is far from the ocean, but plastic pollution still affects inland water systems. After conducting research on this issue, Kagiso and Tinyiko realised the problem's severity. They were shocked by what they learned and decided they should have taken action sooner.	**(5)**
13	✓ Antithesis: The contrast between "wealthy coastal towns building barriers" and "township communities bearing invisible burdens." The author argues that environmental injustice is real--those with resources protect themselves while marginalised communities absorb hidden costs of pollution. The structure highlights inequality in who suffers from environmental damage.	**(5)**

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14	✓ Liezel's report on plastic pollution in Chatsworth was well-researched, comprehensive, and critically sophisticated. OR: Liezel's report on plastic pollution in Chatsworth demonstrated solid research, comprehensive analysis, and critical thinking. (Accept any version that makes all three elements grammatically parallel.)	**(3)**
15	✓ Example: "If the Free State had enforced stricter industrial waste regulations in the 1990s, the province would not have suffered decades of water contamination." The Type 3 conditional (if + past perfect + would have + past participle) allows writers to express hypothetical regret about the past and critique decisions that cannot be undone. It creates space for moral judgment and implies "we should have known better."	**(5)**

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