

PART B: POETRY
High School Senior
(page 1 in the **Readings Booklet**)

INSTRUCTIONS: In paragraph form and in approximately **125 to 150 words**, answer question 1 in the space provided. Write in **ink**. The mark for your answer will be based on the appropriateness of the example(s) you use as well as the adequacy of your explanation and the quality of your written expression.

1. In paragraph form and with reference to the poem, discuss the feelings the speaker experiences **and** the realizations she reaches. **(12 marks)**

Suggestions Regarding Response:

Feelings

- **nostalgia about her daughter’s birth (ll. 5–8)**
- **fear she may lose her daughter (ll. 11–12)**
- **sadness and poignancy (ll. 13–16, 20–23)**
- **pride in, wonder at, appreciation of her daughter (ll. 14–17)**
- **wistful at the quick passage of time (ll. 18–23)**
- **uncertain about her future as a mother (ll. 20–21)**
- **love for her daughter (ll. 26–30)**

Realizations

- **she sees the irony of being a parent (ll. 11–18, 20–21)**
- **she was fortunate to have her daughter for the 17 years (ll. 24–26)**
- **she appreciates the natural process of life (ll. 24–27)**
- **she appreciates the relationship they have and will have (ll. 26–30)**
- **she sees their relationship will continue (ll. 27–30)**
- **she realizes her love is constant no matter where her daughter is (ll. 27–30)**

This list is not exhaustive.

The exemplars will provide sample responses.

Marks will be awarded for content and written expression.
Refer to the Holistic Scale on pages 3 and 4 of this key.

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This is a first-draft response and should be assessed as such. The use of paragraph structure is assessed holistically with reference to the clarity of expression and organization.

6

The six response is **superior** and may draw upon any number of factors, such as an appreciation of the poem and an insightful discussion of the topic. The writing style is effective and demonstrates a sophisticated use of language. Despite its clarity and precision, the response need not be error-free.

5

The five response is **proficient** and reflects a strong grasp of the topic and the poem. The references to the poem may be explicit or implicit and convincingly support the discussion. The writing is well organized and reflects a strong command of the conventions of language. Errors may be present, but are not distracting.

4

The four response is **competent**. Understanding of the poem tends to be literal but rather superficial. The response may rely heavily on paraphrasing of the poem. References are present and appropriate, but may be limited to only part of the poem. The writing is organized and straightforward. Conventions of language are usually followed, but some errors are evident.

3

The three response is **barely adequate**. Understanding of the poem may be partially flawed or incomplete. Support may consist of long references to the poem which are not clearly connected to a central idea or may be meagre or repetitive. The response may show some sense of purpose, but errors may impede meaning.

2

The two response is **inadequate**. While there is an attempt to address the topic, understanding of the poem or the task may be seriously flawed. Errors are recurring, distracting, and impede meaning.

1

The one response is **unacceptable**. The response does not meet the purpose of the task or may be too brief to address the topic. There is a serious lack of control in the writing.

0

The zero response reflects a complete misunderstanding of the poem and/or the task, is written in verse, is off-topic, or is a restatement of the question.

*Any zero paper must be cleared by the section leader.

NR

A blank paper with no response given.