

Cover sheet



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International Baccalaureate

Diploma Programme

ENGLISH A1

**Candidate session
number:**

D-2203

**HL
PAPER ONE**

Glenforest Secondary School

02 May 2012 (morning)

Invigilator only: Candidate absent (insert X if applicable)

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- Check the details in the box above. If any detail is incorrect, inform the invigilator of the examination.
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Example

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ANSWER SHEET
FEUILLE DE RÉPONSES
HOJA DE RESPUESTAS

Please complete the boxes/Veuillez remplir les cases/Llene los recuadros

Question Question Pregunta	in the poem, "Birth of the Owl Butterflies" by Ruth Sharman, the transformation of from a chrysalid to an owl butterfly, of a species called Caligo is followed. The poem starts of from the chrysalid state all the way until the death of the butterfly. This poem aims to communicate to us that humans, our greed for money and power makes us overlook and ignore the simple, yet dramatic, beauty of nature and natural processes. This message is communicated to readers through the use of various stylistic elements.	Examiner Examinateur Examinador
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The basic situation of this poem is the transformation of a chrysalid to a butterfly, of the species called Caligo, from Central America. The first two stanzas comment on the chrysalids and the growth of them. The next three stanzas focus on the cracking of the chrysalids, and the emergence of the butterflies with very large wings. The final stanza talks
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about the rapid death of those butterflies, as they were quickly killed by the father of the narrator.

In the first stanza, the audience is first introduced to the fact that the narrator has chrysalids growing in their kitchen. However, in the first six lines of stanza 1, it is unclear what the narrator is referring to, as she refers to them as "they", and never directly identifies them.

At first, there is a very dark and negative connotation associated with these objects hanging in the kitchen. The diction used in lines 2-3 such as "brain", "no light", "dark" and "darkened" all contribute to the ~~dark~~ mysterious and dark mood perceived by the audience.

The narrator seems to have a sudden change in tone however, as the word "ripening" is introduced in line 6. This word is associated with fruitful imagery, and contrasts the dark mood set up in the first 3 lines. This adds to the mystery of the objects and makes the ~~the~~ audience uncertain of the narrator's opinions towards these objects. It is then clearly stated the identity of the objects, and it is stated that they are not in their natural surroundings. Stanza 1 does not give us straight-forward information;

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Question Question Pregunta	<p>rather, it adds suspense and uncertainty in the audience.</p>	Examiner Examinateur Examinador
	<p>In Stanza 2 however, more detail is given into the exact origin of these chrysalids. The narrator indicates that they have been taken towards brought by her father. In line 11, the narrator lists 4 verbs which seem to be planned route for the chrysalids: "hatch, set, identify, and display" (line 11). The verbs "hatch", "set"; and "identify" are all clear messages to the audience; the father wants to witness the hatching of these chrysalids and perhaps comment on their appearance to identify them.</p>	
	<p>However, the word "display" he could have could have different meanings. It could either mean to display alive in a museum or some sort, or to display for beauty, without being alive.</p>	?
	<p>The mysterious further. The mysterious mood of the narrator is further developed with the use of this</p>	

particular words as the intentions of the father are unclear. This also foreshadows the possibility of death of this species. In Lines 12-16, this possibility of death seems to be reduced, as the narrator begins to associate the chrysalids with nature and beauty, giving them a positive connotation. ^{and phrase} the narration using ~~birth~~ words such as "leaves", "silver spuit", "drop of dew", and "perfect."

It is also interesting to note that Nature, is capitalized, glorifying it's abilities and ~~knowing~~ personifying it by ~~knowing~~ giving it the ability to create and perfect the chrysalids.

Stanza 2 ends off very positively, and it appears that the focus of the poem is going to be documenting the beauty and perfection of metamorphosis.

In Stanza 3, the hatching of the chrysalids is described. ~~At~~ Right before hatching, the narrator refers to the chrysalids as "fruit", continuing the positive connotation from the end of stanza 2, by giving it a raw and down-to-earth image associated with nature. The description of the hatching of the chrysalids is ~~the~~ powerfully described. It indicates a passion ~~labeled~~ on behalf of the narrator of the moving and natural process of birth or transformation.



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Question Question Pregunta	<p>The hatching is first described by using the word "exploded", which starts off the image of a powerful birth. The phrase after "crackling in the quiet kitchen" (line 19), further emphasizes the power as the words that emerges "crackling" and "quiet" contrast each other, and show how ^{that emerges} The butterfly is referred to as than a "fury missile" (line 20) again indicating a strong and powerful present birth. However, this strong image from the beginning of stanza 3 is contradicted in lines 22-24, as the newborn is given a naïve, and childish image, through anthromorphism anthromorphism. The use of the words and phrases "awkward legs", "frilly party dress" and "soft wings" all develop a weak weak and almost girlish image of those newborn butterflies. The irony in here is found in the fact that such such a powerful hatching creates such delicate creatures.</p>	Examiner Examinateur Examinador
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Stanza 4 gives a further description of the newborn butterflies, and now changes the description of them to a more physical description and even a bit scientific with the use of the word "striations", instead of stripes. This indicates that the narrator's father is perhaps a sort of scientist studying animals, and has perhaps witnessed this before.

O. [unclear]
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In Stanza 5, the butterflies are still described weakly, trying to gain strength. One interesting point to note is that in Line 38, the narrator used the word "clashed" to describe the butterflies bumping into each other, instead of using "crashed". Furthermore, it is interesting to note that only one butterfly fell when both of them collided into each other, displaying a theme of dominance on one side. This may represent humans, as "clashing" views may result in war or conflict where only one is dominant, and one falls in failure. This also foreshadows the outcome of the poem and life of the butterflies in Stanza 6.

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Question Question Pregunta	In the final stanza, the death of the creatures is described. It is interesting to note that this is the first time the narrator uses the word "I", and states his/her personal opinion, which is quite negative and expecting the worst. The narrator also talks about how her father killed the newborns; he allowed some moments as a new creature but then swiftly killed them. However, the death is not described harshly or cruelly, but rather majestically and gracefully through the use of the words "swooped" and "gentle-fingered" in Line 45. This shows how the narrator had no emotional attachment to the butterflies. Although she/he witnessed the powerful transformation from the fierce hatching, to the child-like struggles, the lack of emotion indicates that this killing of the butterflies, or of other species. The final lines (lines 47-48), show the struggle to keep alive for the butterflies.	Examiner Examinateur Examinador
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However, despite their efforts, the final outcome was that they lay "still"; their final state.

The main idea of this poem ~~was~~ is that our greed, ~~much~~ as humans, for money and power may make us overlook the beauty of nature and natural processes. Despite having described the beautiful transformation of the chrysalis to the butterfly, the one line of ~~the~~ the killing of the creatures eliminates all the beauty, and contradicts ~~what~~ all the beautiful and powerful descriptions written ~~back~~ before that.

Furthermore, death was described gracefully, when usually, it is described cruelly and harshly. This shows how the cruel act can be overlooked as long as it satisfies the temptations of the narrator's father.

This poem was essential in subtly identifying a common fault of human nature: greed.

~~The ethical implications of~~ capturing the creatures and ~~telling~~ then killing them seemed to be justified by the fact ~~in~~ that the father was able to display his work or sell them. Here, we can see an issue with the human race: our greed.