**Question 2**

• Synthesis is defined as the combination of ideas and evidence from different texts. Candidates are encouraged to synthesise both ideas and textual details from both texts.

**• The key skills for this question are to identify the similarities or differences and to make inferences and it is evidence of these skills which will determine the level.**

• Remember to apply the rule for candidates using only one text: If the quality of the response is Level 1 but the candidate has only dealt with one text, the mark must be 1 not 2. If the quality of the response is Level 2 but the candidate has only dealt with one text, the mark must be 3 not 4. A candidate has to deal with both texts to achieve L3 or above.

• **Levels 3 and 4 specifically require the response to be relevant to the focus of the question**. Candidates who summarise or interpret details that are not relevant to the focus of the question will not be awarded higher than Level 2 for those comments as this is only an ‘attempt’ to comment. However, they may make more relevant and focussed comments elsewhere in their response which should be rewarded appropriately.

Question 3:

 **• Language is defined broadly as: words, phrases, language features and techniques and sentence forms. Any or all of these are appropriate for candidates to comment on in Q3.**

• **The key skill for this question is to comment on the effects of language**. References to subject terms and the selection of appropriate textual details enhance the response but do not determine the level.

• Candidates of very different ability may choose the same selection of language examples from the text, but it is the quality of their comment on the effect of the language selected which should determine their mark.

 • If a candidate selects examples of language from the wrong part of the text (ie not the lines indicated in the task), or from the wrong source then the response should be placed in the appropriate level according to the quality of what is written but at the bottom of the level.

• Levels 3 and 4 specifically require the response to be relevant to the focus of the question. Candidates who comment on examples of language that are not relevant to the focus of the question should not be awarded higher than Level 2 for those comments as this is only an ‘attempt’ to comment. However, they may make comments elsewhere in their response which should be rewarded appropriately