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### **Summary**

This document contains one sample response for VCE Area of Study Unit 2: Creating and presenting based on the text, *A Streetcar Named Desire*. One of the responses is written in an expository form, the other in a persuasive form. Alongside each response is a series of notes containing a summary of the key elements that make each response strong which may be emulated by students.

### **In general this document may be useful for,**

Students wishing to see a model response and to gain advice on how best to structure a response to a prompt and incorporate ideas of context and text.

- Subjective reality, which is the way in which humanity views the world, is influenced by the myriad factors which form a person:
  - life experiences
  - beliefs
  - values
  - memories
  - personality
  - psychological state
- Whilst reality itself is always objective, it is the way in which humanity perceives it that is subjective.
- It is impossible for humanity to see objectively, as it is impossible to perceive the world without being influenced by the above factors; we are unable to put aside the influence these factors have on our perception (or bias). This is simply human nature.
- Humanity constantly subconsciously passes judgement on what they perceive.
- No two people can have the same reality, no matter how similar their lives may have been. As it is impossible for two people to be the same, it is impossible for two people to share the same perception. That said, the way two people perceive the same event may be similar, yet, its also possible for them to see what occurred in a very different light.
- The senses:
  - While the senses play an important role in forming an individual's understanding of the world in which they reside, one cannot rely upon them to gain a complete understanding of reality.
  - Vision, hearing, smell, taste and touch do not always provide us with the truth of reality.
  - Furthermore, one cannot base their understanding of reality only on that which they detect through their senses - there are many metaphysical concepts that are real, such as love, hatred and shame, which cannot be physically identified.

## THE PAST

- Past experiences strongly influence an individual's perception of reality.
- The importance of childhood:
  - Factors within ones childhood are particularly prone to influencing the subjectivity of an individual.
  - Children have an egocentric nature; the way in which they view the world is in light of themselves.
  - This in turn influences their perception, as they may not have the "full picture"—elements of their lives may simply not form a part of their reality.
  - A child's limited maturity and understanding of the world may also influence the way they perceive it.
  - Children live in a world dominated by adults, their limited ability to comprehend many elements of their reality may lead them to use their own creativity and understanding to enable them to create a complete picture of their lives.
  - Upon reaching adulthood, one's childhood memories, while giving an indication of one's past, cannot be accepted as the truth; they are influenced by ones limited understanding and creativity.
- Negative past experiences may compel an individual to turn their back on reality, they create a reality for themselves that shuts out all the pain and suffering to which they were subjected.
- The past may also be an influential factor in forming relationships or shaping the interactions between two people, thereby influencing their reality.