

7.13 Developing commentary

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS sophisticated commentary 更高层次的评述

Objective

Build the skills to write **sophisticated commentary** 更高层次的评述.

You must be able to:

- state the three things sophisticated arguments may do
- explain what discussing an alternative interpretation achieves
- explain what a relevant analogy achieves
- distinguish sophistication from complication

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Three moves

More sophisticated literary arguments may explain the significance or relevance of an interpretation within a broader context, discuss alternative interpretations of a text, or use relevant analogies to help an audience better understand an interpretation.

■ Alternatives

Naming a rival reading and saying why yours accounts for more of the text shows you have tested your claim rather than merely asserted it.

■ Analogies

An analogy makes an unfamiliar interpretation graspable. The CED says **relevant** — an analogy that needs its own explanation has cost more than it gave.

■ Not complication

Sophistication is not longer sentences or more terms. All three moves make the argument clearer to a reader, which is the opposite of complication.

2 Practice

2.1 State the three things sophisticated arguments may do. [3]

2.2 Explain what discussing an alternative interpretation achieves. [2]

2.3 Sophistication is not complication.

(a) Explain the difference. [2]

(b) State the force of “relevant” analogies. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Sophisticated arguments may explain an interpretation’s significance within [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** a broader context
B the title
C the margin
D a footnote

3.2 An analogy that needs its own explanation [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** has cost more than it gave
B is ideal
C is required
D replaces evidence

3.3 An essay names a rival reading and explains why its own accounts for more.

(a) State which move this is. [1]

(b) Explain what it shows about the writer. [2]
