

Marks and Comments for written assignments

1. Kadare's choice to construct "emotional electricity" between Diana and Gjorg in *Broken April*

Attentive reading of the text as well as sharp focus on the prompt for supervised writing has led to an essay that addresses both text and topic quite effectively. The use of the opening quotation offers a provocative invitation to consider the nature of the interaction between Diana and Gjorg. The writer shows how this relationship comes to dominate the novel, reduce Bessian's role and as the writer says, in a fairly good estimate of the writer's use of the interaction, "connects us to life on the High Plateau" of Albania. The writer's choice are addressed implicitly throughout the essay, but made explicit in the final pages. The candidate offers ample detail to support interpretation and sometimes the interpretation is quite sophisticated. The candidate makes an argument for a position and sustains it fairly well.

However, both organization and expression falter. Repetition of ideas occurs sometimes without clear function, although it must be acknowledged that repeating and deepening of the observations is often characteristic of the Eastern tradition of essay writing from which the student comes. Expression is not always precise and sentences sometimes wander; assertions like "Diana is epic" need clarification.

Overall, the essay displays a good address of the topic, with a good degree of sensing and expressing the nature and effect of the "emotional electricity." While a reader can appreciate the range of observations and assessments, clarity in the line of argument and more careful use of the language would improve the impact of this essay

B Knowledge and understanding are strong 5

C. Appreciation of the writers choices are addressed effectively 5

D. Organization is fairly easy to follow, though not as clearly linear as some would prefer 4

E. Language could have used more attention, editing and precision in word choice. 3