Stage 1 English as an Additional Language

Assessment Type 1: Responding to Texts (literary texts)

Task 1

Shaun Tan is an Australian artist and writer, well known for his illustrated books that deal with social, political and historical subjects through surreal imagery. His books are enjoyed by readers of all ages and have been widely translated. He won an [Academy Award](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award) for [*The Lost Thing*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Lost_Thing), a 2011 animated film adaptation of his picture book. For his career contribution to literature Tan won the [Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astrid_Lindgren_Memorial_Award) from the Swedish Arts Council, the biggest prize in children's literature.

Choose one of the following graphic novels/picture books by Shaun Tan.

* *The Arrival* (about migration)
* *The Rabbits*(about colonisation)
* *The Lost Thing* (about a creature lost in a strange city)
* *Tales from Outer Suburbia.*

**Activity**

1. Read your selected novel or text from above.
2. Retell or transform the graphic novel/picture book or a section of the book into a written story. Use an appropriate narrative structure that does not rely on visual images to make the meaning clear.

Your written response should be a maximum of 600 words.

In this task you should:

* demonstrate comprehension and interpretation of the information, ideas and opinions in the text you have chosen (Cp1)
* include ideas gained from the visual images (showing your visual literacy) as well ideas expressed by the words in the text (if it has any)
* make it clear *what* is happening in the story
* incorporate *the main idea or opinion* that is being presented into the story (e.g. the feeling of being alone or displaced in a foreign place)
* use language features and conventions appropriate to narrative writing (Ap1)
* include a description of the setting of the story (where it takes place)
* develop the characters
* order the story or extract from the story so there is a clear beginning, middle and end
* produce clear and coherent writing, using appropriate vocabulary (C1)
* write in clear paragraphs
* use interesting and diverse words
* demonstrate grammatical control and complexity (C2)
* use a variety of different sentence structures to keep the writing interesting.