

Media and Non-fiction  
Trailfinders – AQA A 1H 2006

1a) What reasons are put forward for visiting Antarctica with Trailfinders? (6 marks)

Trailfinders suggests that we visit Antarctica with them because they have "over 30 years' experience" in the field. This, and the fact that they "offer a trip to suit every budget" suggests that they will be able to accommodate your every need. They are "a one-stop travel shop" which will make the arrangements easy and straightforward, and the fact that they will "guarantee this year's price" makes them seem like a company that you can trust to do the right thing. They say that they use a company "with a reputation as the very best" to run their trips so we feel that booking with them is safe. Their customer service from "travel consultants [who are] familiar" with the trips makes us feel confident that we can book a trip that we will enjoy.

Comment [AJS1]: Read the question with care – it doesn't ask why visit, it asks why visit WITH THEM.

Comment [AJS2]: ü

Comment [AJS3]: ü

Comment [AJS4]: ü

Comment [AJS5]: ü

Comment [AJS6]: ü

Comment [AJS7]: ü

Marks are NOT awarded for the number of ticks. However, this would get 6/6 because:

- It shows a full understanding both of the question and of the text.
- The material has been absorbed and shaped – it's not just a list of quotations; they are there to support the points that the candidate has made.
- The quotations are integrated, rather than just tacked on.

1b) How does Scott's use of fact and opinion help us in our understanding of his experiences? (8 marks)

When Scott says that "the temperature has fallen to -48", this fact makes us realise that it is more cold than we could ever imagine, which is shocking. It is so cold that he tells us that "the sleeping bag...crackles" with frost and that their pipes will be found "choked with ice." The starkness of these facts, and that he lives through these conditions, shows just how extraordinary things were.

When the hoosh boils, he shares his opinion that it "was a moment to be lived for"; this makes us see just how bad things were – an opinion like that is unusual and suggests that everything else must be appalling for that to be worthy of a mention in his diary. The cocoa is "equally delightful" and pipes are "the only attractive part of this programme". This implies that things are so awful that he has to take pleasure in the very smallest things. Sharing his opinions with us makes it feel more personal and we feel like we are there with him feeling the "very irritating" drop of water and the "laborious" process that going to bed is.

The facts combined with the opinions especially that "flesh and blood cannot stand this" makes us realise just how brutal this experience must have been.

Comment [AJS8]: Must deal with both and needs to flag them up clearly to show you know the difference

Comment [AJS9]: ü

Comment [AJS10]: Explains effect on the reader

Comment [AJS11]: ü

Comment [AJS12]: ü

Comment [AJS13]: Explains effect on the reader

Comment [AJS14]: ü

Comment [AJS15]: Explains effect on the reader

Comment [AJS16]: ü

Comment [AJS17]: Explains effect on the reader

Comment [AJS18]: Effect...

Comment [AJS19]: ü

Comment [AJS20]: ü

Comment [AJS21]: Draws it all together, and refers again to effect on the reader.

8/8

- Shows a full understanding of the text and the task.
- The quotations are integrated into the answer.
- Deals with facts and opinions and shows an understanding of the differences between them.
- Always refers to the effects.
- Plenty of examples.