

EXAM-STYLE QUESTION

A02

SKILLS

CRITICAL THINKING,
ANALYSIS, ADAPTIVE
LEARNING, CREATIVITY

How does the writer use language and structure to explore identity?

You should support your answer with close reference to the passage, including **brief** quotations.

(12 marks)

EXPLORING LANGUAGE

SUBJECT VOCABULARY

anecdotal consisting of short stories based on someone's personal experience**persuasive** able to make other people believe something or do what you ask

The language of this passage is **anecdotal** and **persuasive**: it is evident that the writer is trying hard to communicate some linked experiences that were important to her in making her examine the way that people form prejudiced views of others. She tries to do this as concisely as possible. She uses narrative, detail, emotive language and makes comments about her thoughts and feelings.

The sentence structure is varied in the speech: compare the sentence beginning, 'If I had not grown up in Nigeria...', with the short simple sentence with which the passage begins. What do you think such variety contributes to a piece such as this? Speech-writing also offers the opportunity for less formal sentence structures than you would find in most written English. Can you find evidence of this in the passage?

ACTIVITY 3

A02

SKILLS

CRITICAL THINKING, ANALYSIS,
INTERPRETATION

▼ IDENTIFYING LINGUISTIC TECHNIQUES AND DEVICES

Copy and complete the following table, explaining as precisely as you can what you think the effect that each technique has on the audience. A simple way to start this is to put your finger at random on the passage, and try to find a linguistic technique or device in the sentence you've landed on.

LINGUISTIC TECHNIQUES OR DEVICES	QUOTATION	EFFECT CREATED
Personal anecdote	'I visited Mexico from the U.S...'	By explaining how she discovered that she has the kind of prejudice that she has experienced from others, she shows how universal prejudice is, and also that she doesn't see herself as superior to others.
Anaphora (repetition of opening words of phrases which are next to each other)	'no possibility...'	
Emotive language		
Use of short sentences		