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# EE/RPPF

For use from May/November 2018

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International Baccalaureate®  
Baccalauréat International  
Bachillerato Internacional

Candidate personal code:

## Extended essay - Reflections on planning and progress form

**Candidate:** This form is to be completed by the candidate during the course and completion of their EE. This document records reflections on your planning and progress, and the nature of your discussions with your supervisor. You must undertake three formal reflection sessions with your supervisor: The first formal reflection session should focus on your initial ideas and how you plan to undertake your research; the interim reflection session is once a significant amount of your research has been completed, and the final session will be in the form of a viva voce once you have completed and handed in your EE. This document acts as a record in supporting the authenticity of your work. The three reflections combined must amount to no more than 500 words.

**The completion of this form is a mandatory requirement of the EE for first assessment May 2018. It must be submitted together with the completed EE for assessment under Criterion E.**

**Supervisor:** You must have three reflection sessions with each candidate, one early on in the process, an interim meeting and then the final viva voce. Other check-in sessions are permitted but do not need to be recorded on this sheet. After each reflection session candidates must record their reflections and as the supervisor you must sign and date this form.

### First reflection session

Candidate comments:

English has always been a subject I enjoyed and was motivated to work with, and the book I had just recently started (Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov) was one I had heard was rather thought provoking. This is why I chose this as my starting point for the extended essay. My hopes for exploring this novel is to gain insight on techniques used by authors to have different impacts on readers, seeing as Lolita is praised for its controversial effect on the reader.

After the first meeting with my supervisor, my first concerns were brought to my attention. I have not yet finished reading the book, therefore at this point it is hard to determine what I want to focus on in my research question. In order to overcome this obstacle, I am going to finish reading the book in the next 3-4 weeks. As well as this, I have also brainstormed different areas to take note of during the reading process, such as how Lolita is portrayed and how the narrator is portrayed, and what effect this has on myself as a reader.

Date:

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**Interim reflection**

Candidate comments:

I'm enjoying my RQ, which explores changes in narrative style throughout the novel. My biggest challenge was getting enough quotes from the text to analyse and create ideas. I was lacking quotes from towards the end of the novel, but I overcame this by re-reading the novel, this time with my RQ in mind. Through this, I found plenty more quotations. Another struggle faced is the structure of my essay, and that is a work in progress I'm still slowly (but surely) overcoming. I think that it will be easier to re-organize once I am near the end of my essay, as all the ideas will be clearer. I made a very good decision in deciding to look at the language rather than overall themes and ideas, as I feel it's much more interesting, and I get to explore an aspect of the novel that I haven't seen explored yet!

Date:

Supervisor initials:

**Final reflection - Viva voce**

Candidate comments:

When I chose to do my essay on this book, I hadn't read it, but was interested in the renowned, controversial narrative voice. When I began to read, I found Nabokov's style challenging due to use of language I had never seen before. I wanted to develop a research question that explored the power of language, and how Nabokov manages to achieve an effect on readers. This was incorporated into my RQ with a twist, making it different from traditional analyses of the book, as it explored how the narrative language changes as the novel progresses. I started writing thinking the language changes drastically throughout the story, but was proved wrong by my own analyses that suggested that the language, at its core, underwent no change! This was a success; it made me feel my essay was groundbreaking. This experience taught me about the importance of choosing a fruitful RQ, which I will be able to apply to future projects like university theses, or other research papers.

Date:

Supervisor initials:

## Supervisor comments:

**Supervisor:** *By submitting this candidate work for assessment, you are taking responsibility for its authenticity. No piece of candidate work should be uploaded/submitted to the e-Coursework system if its authenticity is in doubt or if contradictory comments are added to this form. If your text in the box below raises any doubt on the authenticity of the work, this component will not be assessed.*

This student has been positive, diligent and a pleasure to work with throughout. I was vaguely troubled that she might find it awkward to focus on the narration of the “erotic vignettes” through the novel, an area entirely outside her experience of course. She was also challenged, and learned much from, Nabokov’s linguistic virtuosity, as she touches on in her reflections. She was alive to the text as a construct in language and seemed to enjoy the (appropriate) focus on language that was at the heart of her enquiry. When we discussed the whole experience, she seemed to have found it highly rewarding. She was gratified that she felt she had made a real discovery - that Humbert’s diction had not markedly changed, but that the context/reader’s perception had. She worked independently and in an organised way.

