

# NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION NOVEMBER 2016

## **ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE: PAPER II**

Time: 3 hours 100 marks

## PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

- 1. This question paper consists of 8 pages. Please check that your question paper is complete.
- 2. Utilise your reading time carefully, ensuring that the selections made showcase your ability to share your response to the texts.
- 3. Questions must be answered in **BOTH SECTIONS**. In SECTION A, Question 1 is **compulsory**, and then answer **ONE** question on the **selected novel**. In SECTION B, Question 4 is **compulsory**, and then answer **ONE** question from Question 5.
- 4. Ensure that you number your questions as indicated on the question paper.
- 5. **Begin each QUESTION on a new page.** Do not copy down headings for your answers. Copy down **only** the question numbers, making sure they are accurate.
- 6. You may answer the questions in whatever order you wish, but number your answers exactly as the questions are numbered.
- 7. Please be aware that planning mind maps, should you wish to use one, do **not** carry a mark.
- 8. Ensure that you **include a word count** at the end of your mini-essay (Question 1) **only**. **No word count is required for Ouestions 2 to 5.**
- 9. You are encouraged to give your own judgements. Attempt to create space in which your **own voice** can be evident. The examiners will judge your answers on your understanding of, and insight into given texts, and will also assess the competence with which your answers are expressed.
- 10. Take care to follow instructions for each question with meticulous care.
- 11. Answers must be written in the Answer Book supplied.
- 12. It is in your own interest to write legibly and to present your work neatly.

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## SECTION A LITERATURE

# **QUESTION 1**

# THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY

#### SHAKESPEARE CORIOLANUS

Refer to the visual and extract from Phyllis Rackin's study of *Coriolanus*, then write a **mini-essay** in response to the topic that follows.



[Source: <a href="http://ytimg.googleusercontent.com/vi/9X1uFoOXAmk/0.jpg">http://ytimg.googleusercontent.com/vi/9X1uFoOXAmk/0.jpg</a>]

'Volumnia has made Coriolanus the greatest soldier in the world, but that is all she has made him. The soldier's virtue proves not only inadequate in every crisis but becomes self-destructive to Coriolanus himself.'

(Phyllis Rackin, 'Coriolanus: Shakespeare's Anatomy of virtus'. Modern Language Studies, 13, 1983 p. 312)

## **TOPIC:**

Consider Rackin's comment and argue whether Coriolanus' **self-destruction** may, or may not be attributed **only** to Volumnia's single-minded focus of moulding a son's military **virtues**.

# Please note:

- The length of your response must be between **400–450 words**.
- Your knowledge of **Shakespeare's** text, *Coriolanus*, and your ability to structure and substantiate your stance in order to develop a **tightly constructed argument** will be assessed.
- Close and relevant reference to the play is essential.
- Please be aware that you will be penalised should your essay be longer than 450 words.
- Please provide an accurate word count at the end of your essay.

#### **AND**

#### **NOVELS**

## TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES or ABSOLUTION

Answer **EITHER** Question 2 (*Tess of the d'Urbervilles*) **OR** Question 3 (*Absolution*).

# QUESTION 2 TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES (Thomas Hardy)

- Write a literary essay on **ONE** of the following topics.
- Your ability to select detail from the novel, in order to develop a succinct **argument**, which is clearly focused and perceptive, will be assessed.
- Your essay should be **approximately 600 words** in length.
- Close and relevant reference to the text in the question is essential.
- Do **NOT** provide a word count at the end of your essay.

# Answer **EITHER** Question 2.1 **OR** Question 2.2.

- 2.1 Presenting a paper at the Tanner Lectures on Human Values at the University of Michigan, Nobel laureate Nadine Gordimer emphasised the **important role of a writer**. For her, a writer needs:
  - to become **more than just a writer** of stories.
  - to share a **social conscience** or **responsibility** with his/her readers.
  - to create characters that represent 'the essential gesture<sup>1</sup> of a social being'.

    (Nadine Gordimer, Lecture transcript: Tanner Lectures, University of Michigan, 1984)

**Evaluate** whether Thomas Hardy's characters in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* may be considered to represent **the essential gesture of a social being**.

[30]

# OR

2.2 "The triangular romantic structure of Hardy's work provides more than merely a mechanical framework for the novels ... each of the characters is **corrupted by modernism** and **fails repeatedly to grasp the significance of their own role**."

(Tobey Hertzog, 'The Grand Designs of Hardy's Major Novels', *Studies in the Novel* p. 418)

Consider the above comment and then assess whether Angel and Alec are **corrupted by modernism** and **fail repeatedly to grasp the significance of their roles**.

[30]

OR

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> gesture: sign, movement

# QUESTION 3 ABSOLUTION (Patrick Flanery)

- Write a literary essay on **ONE** of the following topics.
- Your ability to select detail from the novel, in order to develop a succinct **argument**, which is clearly focused and perceptive, will be assessed.
- Your essay should be **approximately 600 words** in length.
- Close and relevant reference to the text in the question is essential.
- Do **NOT** provide a word count at the end of your essay.

Answer **EITHER** Question 3.1 **OR** Question 3.2.

- 3.1 Presenting a paper at the Tanner Lectures on Human Values at the University of Michigan, Nobel laureate Nadine Gordimer emphasised the **important role of a writer**. For her, a writer needs:
  - to become **more than just a writer** of stories.
  - to share a **social conscience** or **responsibility** with his/her readers.
  - to create characters that represent 'the essential gesture<sup>1</sup> of a social being'.

    (Nadine Gordimer, Lecture transcript: Tanner Lectures, University of Michigan, 1984)

**Assess** whether Patrick Flanery's characters in *Absolution* may be considered to represent the essential gesture of a social being.

[30]

#### OR

3.2 "While memories may be subject to transformation by the present ... traumatic memories should not be removed from their links to the past. They should be understood rather as **remodelled versions of the past**. The act of remembering evokes **shame of the past** and **fear that the past will invade the present**." (Garth Stevens, Norman Duncan eds. *Race, Memory and Apartheid Archive*, p.72)

Consider whether memory for Clare and Sam is constructed and remodelled with the same intention. In your answer you should consider whether memory evokes a shame of the past and/or fear that the past will invade the present.

[30]

60 marks

<sup>1</sup> gesture: sign, movement

#### **SECTION B** TRANSACTIONAL WRITING: SHORT PIECES

- Answer **TWO** of the following questions.
- NOTE: You must answer Question 4 (WHICH IS COMPULSORY) and then answer EITHER QUESTION 5.1 OR QUESTION 5.2.
- The body of your response should be **approximately 250–300 words** in length.
- Remember to pay attention to the **register** and **purpose** of your text.
- It is essential that the **appropriate format** is used.

# **QUESTION 4**

# THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY

Study the photograph below, read the extracts on the following page and then answer the question that follows:



[Source: <a href="http://www.jackimcinnes.net/PressArticles/ArtSouthAfrica2012.pdf">http://www.jackimcinnes.net/PressArticles/ArtSouthAfrica2012.pdf</a>]

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# **RECYCLING the APOCALYPSE – Trolley pushers on the move!**

They push, they trawl and they create art from what we throw away.

[Source: <a href="http://www.clickclackgorilla.com/recycling-for-the-apocalypse">http://www.clickclackgorilla.com/recycling-for-the-apocalypse</a>]

Informal recyclers comb the dustbins and sidewalks of residential and commercial neighbourhoods for selected solid waste items with resale value, which they load onto makeshift trolleys. On foot and with sheer muscle power they pull their loaded carts for many kilometres through the streets to privately-owned buy-back centres where the waste material is weighed and sold.

[Source: <a href="http://informalcity.co.za/recycle">http://informalcity.co.za/recycle</a>]

Our knee jerk reaction is to curse them because they and their trolleys make a racket, mostly at odd hours; they leave a bit of a mess in their wake; the neighbourhood dogs bark endlessly while they are in the area; and they are viewed as "suspicious characters" by us.

[Source: <a href="https://wynbergwise.wordpress.com/2015/04/27/trolley-pushers">https://wynbergwise.wordpress.com/2015/04/27/trolley-pushers</a>]

"Nobody wonders where each day they carry their load of refuse, outside the city surely: but each year the city expands ... . The bulk of the outflow increases and the piles rise higher, become stratified, extend over a wider perimeter."

(Italo Calvino, Invisible Cities, p. 156)

You have come across the photographic work of Claudio Beltramo, award-winning photographer. His current work entails a series of photographs of South African trolley pushers. His website advertises: "although the trolley pushers' expressions seem empty, they are full of personality and history. Their poverty is art." Write an open letter (to appear on *The Guardian* newspaper international website: opinions@guardian.com) addressed to Claudio Beltramo, on creating art from those who are economically disadvantaged and unemployed.

[20]

AND

# **QUESTION 5**

**Both** Question 5.1 and Question 5.2 have been based on the same source article.

Answer **EITHER** Question 5.1 **OR** Question 5.2.

# Is Shakespeare an overrated writer?

Channel: Entertainment / Theatre / Playwrights

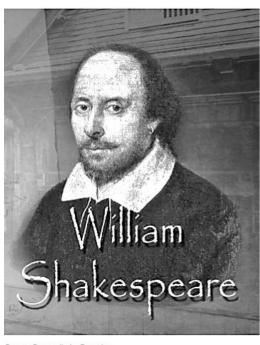












Source: Composite by G\_marius

♥0 **■**13 →

Shakespeare is probably the most praised and studied writer in history. Is all that attention and adulation justified or is Shakespeare overrated?

#### Shakespeare the genius

William Shakespeare is widely considered the best English-language writer of all times and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. His plays and poems shook the history of English literature and theatre. We owe him masterpieces such as Romeo and Juliet, Othello, Hamlet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, King Lear, and Richard II. There are multiple Shakespeare festivals and companies and his plays continue to be shown all over the world.





#### The criticisms

However, the appreciation for Shakespeare is not unanimous. Some people argue that too much attention is devoted to Shakespeare. That his plays are not as enjoyable and interesting as generally assumed. They find Shakespeare's characters too charicaturesque or unidimensional. Do people genuinely enjoy his plays as much as they claim?

Do you think Shakespeare is an overrated writer/Does he deserve to be considered the best?

[Source: <a href="https://netivist.org">https://netivist.org</a>]

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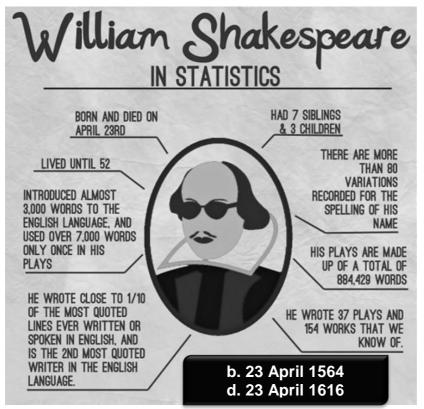
#### **EITHER**

'SHAKESPEARE400' is a cultural organisation that has encouraged global communities to share in the celebration of Shakespeare on the 400th anniversary of his death. You came across the open debate on "Is Shakespeare an overrated writer?" on <a href="www.netvist.org">www.netvist.org</a>. As part of your school's 'SHAKESPEARE400' campaign, matriculants have created a newspaper, exploring different ways of being part of the global celebration. You have become aware that debates about the study of Shakespeare at school are often heated. Write the editorial to the newspaper, which articulates (presents) your strong views on the subject.

[20]

#### OR

5.2 As part of the 'SHAKESPEARE400' celebration at your school, the cultural club is staging short extracts from Shakespeare's works. The atmosphere of the evening is planned to be **fun and quirky**. As chairperson of the club, you have been requested to **pay tribute** to Shakespeare. You have decided to **structure your tribute as a EULOGY**, which will be printed in the commemorative programme. Write the **eulogy**, **bearing in mind the atmosphere of the evening**. The following visual will appear in the programme.



[Source: <a href="http://visual.ly/williamshakespeare">http://visual.ly/williamshakespeare</a>]

[20]

40 marks

Total: 100 marks