ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE: PAPER II

Time: 3 hours 100 marks

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. This question paper consists of 7 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. You may answer the questions in whatever order you wish, but number your answers exactly as the questions are numbered.

6. Do not hesitate 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.

7. Be guided by the number of marks allocated to each question. Aim at concise answers that give relevant information.

8. Answers must be written in the Answer Book supplied.

9. It is in your own interest to write legibly and to present your work neatly.
SECTION A  LITERATURE

SHAKESPEARE: HENRY V

THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY

QUESTION 1

Look at the THINKING POINTS below, which will act as a stimulus for the topic that follows. Please note that you will not need to refer to the thinking points directly in your essay, as they have been included in order to act as a springboard for your engagement with the play and the topic.

THINKING POINTS:

Alice Marquis, considering the effects of war rhetoric used in Iraq, writes: 'The words of a politician wanting to send his troops to fight are as powerful and as dangerous as the finest weapon yet to be invented.' [Journal of Contemporary History]

prop·a·gan·da
• Information, esp. of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote or publicise a particular political cause or point of view.
• The dissemination of such information as a political strategy.

in·spire
• Fill (someone) with the urge or ability to do or feel something, esp. to do something creative: 'his enthusiasm inspired them'.
• Create (a feeling, esp. a positive one) in a person: 'inspire confidence'.

CANTERBURY:
...
Turn him to any cause of policy,
The Gordian knot of it he will unloose,
Familiar as his garter: that, when he speaks,
The air, a charter'd libertine,
is still,
And the mute wonder lurketh in men's ears,
To steal his sweet and honey'd sentences;
So that the art and practic part of life
Must be the mistress to this theoric [Act 1, Scene 1]

HENRY: ... For these fellows of infinite tongue that can rhyme themselves into ladies' favours, they do always reason out again. What! a speaker is but a prater: a rhyme is but a ballad. [Act V, Scene 2]
TOPIC:
Write a mini essay which considers the force of Henry's rhetoric (language). In your answer you should consider whether Henry's words are a weapon to manipulate others or a gift to build patriotism or perhaps even both.

- Your knowledge of Henry V and your ability to plan, structure and substantiate your stance will be assessed.
- The length of your response must be approximately 400 to 450 words in length.
  - You will be penalised if your essay is over 450 words.
- Please provide a word count at the end of your essay.
- Remember that your response must be preceded by a ONE page plan of what you intend to argue in your essay. The plan must provide a detailed summary of content and argument, as well as give an indication of how you will structure your essay.

AND

NOVELS

THE SCARLET LETTER or THE BENEFICIARIES

QUESTION 2 THE SCARLET LETTER

- Write a literary essay on ONE of the following topics.
- Your essay should be approximately 600 words in length.
- Close and relevant reference to the texts in question is essential.

Answer EITHER Question 2.1 OR Question 2.2.

2.1 A distinguished critic of English Literature, Frank Kermode, makes the following observation about the role of the novel:

Novels correspond at their simplest level to a basic human need; they must help us make sense of the world and by so doing give comfort.

[The Sense of an Ending]

Consider the above statement and judge whether the choices made by Hester Prynne allow the reader to make sense of Hester's world. In your discussion, you need to comment in what way this results, or does not result, in the reader feeling a sense of 'comfort'.

[30]

OR

2.2 Critics of The Scarlet Letter have frequently noted that although Hester Prynne is a more interesting character to modern readers, Arthur Dimmsdale's role is the structural and thematic centre of the romance.

Consider the above comment and judge whether Arthur Dimmsdale's role is the 'thematic centre of the romance.'

[30]
QUESTION 3  THE BENEFICIARIES

Answer EITHER Question 3.1 OR Question 3.2.

• Write a literary essay on ONE of the following topics.
• Your essay should be approximately 600 words in length.
• Close and relevant reference to the texts in question is essential.

3.1 A distinguished critic of English Literature, Frank Kermode, makes the following observation about the role of the novel:

Novels correspond at their simplest level to a basic human need; they must help us make sense of the world and by so doing give comfort.

[The Sense of an Ending]

Consider the above statement and judge whether the choices made by Lally allow the reader to make sense of Lally's South Africa. In your discussion, you need to comment in what way this results, or does not result, in the reader feeling a sense of 'comfort'.

[30]

OR

3.2 Our past, according to critic Mark Sanders, cannot be avoided or ignored. In his book, Complicities: the Intellectual and Apartheid, he argues that we cannot avoid some degree of shared responsibility and thus, whether we like it or not, we are all folded together in the experience of apartheid. It is only when we face that truth that we can move forward into a shared forgiveness and be liberated from the past.

Consider the above comment and judge whether Lally's experiences as an adult are folded in her past.

[30]

60 marks
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 5.2.
- The body of your response should be approximately 250 to 300 words in length.
- Remember to pay attention to the register and purpose of your text.
- It will be essential to ensure that the appropriate format is used.

QUESTION 4

THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY

Read the following article and then answer the question that follows:

Armstrong begins struggle for public redemption

After shocking revelations of a doping scandal, the once-awesome reputation of cyclist Lance Armstrong is in tatters

Lance Armstrong was the ultimate comeback hero. As a young cyclist he was heading for the top of his sport – until a diagnosis of testicular cancer threatened to end his career – and even his life. Yet Armstrong recovered and went on to win an astonishing seven consecutive victories in the Tour de France. 'The Boss' became the most successful cyclist ever and the most worshipped athlete in the world. Then, last October, the US Anti-Doping Agency released a report that shook the sporting world. Armstrong's mighty reputation was shattered. He became in the eyes of the public the 'anti-athlete', a greedy and remorseless figure who had defrauded the world in pursuit of personal glory.

Crocodile tears?

Sickening, say less forgiving types. Only a fool would believe that these cynical celebrities are truly sorry – it is a shameless act designed to win back the money and fame they vainly love. If Armstrong were really sorry, he would surrender his celebrity for good. And what good would that do? Ask more forgiving types. Armstrong has been an inspiration to millions, and his money funds charitable causes that are truly worthwhile. Retreating into obscurity would be cowardly; if he can show that he has truly changed, his positive influence on the world can survive and even grow.

[New York Times]
Your school launched a reading campaign. Exclusive Books sponsored a number of books. Your grade was given copies of Armstrong's 'It's Not About the Bike', which traces his inspirational journey, 'charting his triumph, tragedy and transformation to world champion'. You found the book captivating and, at the news of the revelation of his doping, you have mixed feelings of disappointment, anger and forgiveness. You decide to post an email on the Armstrong website (scandal@lancearmstrong.org), where you express your sincere feelings about the scandal and his reputation.

[20]

AND

QUESTION 5

Answer EITHER Question 5.1 OR Question 5.2.

Refer to the information below (HSRC and Transparency International). Both Questions 5.1 AND 5.2 have been based on the information. Answer either Question 5.1 or 5.2.

Why the focus on youth?
Never before in history have there been so many young people. Currently, youth aged 12 – 24 make up 1.5 of the global population of 6.5 billion. Of all young people, nearly 90% (1.3 billion) live in developing countries. Africa has the largest share of children and youth. The latest South African census reveals that the bulk of the population is under 25. Failure to invest in young people can lead to their involvement in crime, violence and conflict.

Is South Africa ready to take advantage of the demographic dividend?
The current youth cohort is the best educated ever, they are the healthiest sector of the population, they have more technology savvy and high hopes and aspirations for the future, and they can influence political processes and civic life. If change is to occur in South Africa, they will be the ones to do it.

Corruption Perceptions Index
Latest publication date: November 2012
South Africa's ranking: 69 out of 174 countries

- South Africa is ranked 69th out of 174 countries on Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2012.
- Countries are ranked on a scale of zero (perceived to be highly corrupt) to 100 (perceived as having low levels of corruption).
- Botswana is the top-ranked African state at 37, followed by Cape Verde (39), Mauritius (42), and Rwanda (53).
- Denmark, Sweden and New Zealand tied in top spot, each with scores of 90. Fragile, unstable states linger at the bottom of the rankings: Afghanistan, North Korea and Somalia, all scoring 8.
5.1 As a school leaver, you feel strongly that the youth can do something to change the cycle of corruption. You decide to use your blog to generate a discussion amongst youth. Your blog is called IMPACT YOUTH. Write your post (article), which must consist of three paragraphs.

OR

5.2 You have been elected as a member of ACT AGAINST CORRUPTION TODAY. Your task is to go from school to school to convince High School pupils that the youth play an important part in fighting corruption. You decide to go to the school from which you matriculated. Write the speech you would deliver. Note that the speech needs to be sincere and persuasive.