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. 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 a 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.

10. Please hand in this question paper.
SECTION A  LITERATURE

SHAKESPEARE: *HENRY V*

THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY

QUESTION 1

Refer to the visual and the opinions reflected in the Thinking Points below (1.1 to 1.5) and then answer the question that follows. Please note that you need not refer to the thinking points directly in your essay, as they have been included in order to act as springboard for your engagement with the play and the topic.

THINKING POINTS:

1.1 Either? Or? Both?

1.2 In Shakespeare's *Henry V*, King Henry is presented as the ideal Christian king. His piety, mercy and wisdom are all characteristics which demonstrate this.

1.3 Henry is an ordinary man who becomes an extraordinary hero.

1.4 Henry is nothing more than a spin-doctor, moving a nation to war for no reason other than boosting his own popularity.

1.5 If Henry is as pious as he likes to appear – demanding a moral justification for going to war, constantly invoking the name of God in all his public pronouncements, insisting on the importance of mercy, and so on – then why does he go to war in the first place? How can he threaten such immoral violence on Harfleur, kill the prisoners of war, execute Bardolph (once his friend or crony, in the days of fraternising with Falstaff)?

Paola Pugliatti, in her essay 'The Strange Tongues of *Henry V*', suggests that in *Henry V*, Shakespeare invites the audience to consider diverse and at times contradictory interpretations of Henry. Some of these possible interpretations have been included in the Thinking Points.
TOPIC:
How would you account for Shakespeare's construction of so contradictory a character?

- Your knowledge of *Henry V* and your ability to plan, structure and substantiate your stance will be assessed.
- Your response must be in the form of a **mini essay**.
- 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.

[30]

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 André Brink, in an essay entitled 'Interrogating Silence: New Possibilities', observes that fiction strives to interrogate (or question) the uncomfortable silences of society. He continues explaining that:

> the writer's primary engagement is with silence ... the tension between the spoken and the unspoken, the sayable and the unsayables.

Carefully consider André Brink's observation on the **responsibility of the writer**. Examine whether you feel the nameless narrator in Hawthorne's novel succeeds in engaging with the 'unsayables' and, by so doing, interrogates the uncomfortable silences of society. [30]

OR

2.2 It has been argued that **The Scarlet Letter** is an exploration of female identity. Yet, some literary critics have concluded that this may be too simplistic as the novel primarily deals with human weakness and thus is a novel about humanity. Argue whether **The Scarlet Letter** is indeed a novel about humanity or a novel primarily about female identity. [30]

OR
QUESTION 3  

**THE BENEFICIARIES**

- 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 3.1 **OR** Question 3.2.

3.1  André Brink, in an essay entitled 'Interrogating Silence: New Possibilities', observes that fiction strives to interrogate (or question) the uncomfortable silences of society. He continues explaining that:

> the writer's primary engagement is with silence ... the tension between the spoken and the unspoken, the sayable and the unsayables.

Carefully **consider** André Brink's observation on **the responsibility of the writer**. Examine whether you feel Sarah Penny succeeds in engaging with the 'unsayables' and, by so doing, interrogates the uncomfortable silences of society. [30]

**OR**

3.2  It has been argued that *The Beneficiaries* is a 'Coming of Age' book – a work that traces the experiences of a white innocent child, growing in awareness of political injustices.

Assess whether Lally's early awareness of political injustice is eventually understood when she is an adult. [30]
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

The following article, which appeared in The Mail and Guardian (reproduced on the next page), has attracted your attention. After having read the article you feel passionate about your opinions and wish to express your strong views on the subject. Write a letter, which will be published in READER's OPINION in The Mail and Guardian, expressing your views, clearly stating how you position yourself as a South African. Your letter must be formal and persuasive.
MARIO TESTINO PHOTOGRAPHS BANNED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. SHOULD SOUTH AFRICA DO THE SAME?

Reported by: Sean Poulter

They were hired for their beauty. But it seems that Julia Roberts and Christy Turlington weren't quite beautiful enough for L'Oreal. Pictures of them were digitally altered to make their skin appear even more flawless in advertisements for the beauty firm. Both advertisements have been banned by the British Advertising Standards Authority after complaints that they were misleading. Attention has been focused on whether South Africa should follow.

The photographs taken by Mario Testino were airbrushed. The complaints were brought by Member of Parliament, Jo Swinson, who argued that airbrushing creates a false impression of beauty. She claims the results put pressure on women and young girls who compare themselves unfavourably to the unrealistic images.

The advertisement claimed the foundation 'recreates the aura of perfect skin'. Julia Roberts was reportedly paid around £15 million to be the face of the Lancôme brand. However, she is, perhaps, an unlikely ambassador for the company. Last year, the 43-year-old star and mother of three condemned the obsession with beauty and youth as 'shallow'.

L'Oreal admitted that certain 'post production' techniques had been used on the image of the actress but insisted the picture was an accurate representation of her 'naturally healthy and glowing skin'. L'Oreal was also in the dock over its image of Christy Turlington in a magazine ad for The Eraser foundation, from its Maybelline brand.

Parts of her face had been apparently been covered with the foundation while other areas were left natural to show the effects of the product.
QUESTION 5

Answer EITHER Question 5.1 OR Question 5.2.

Refer to the visual and article below which relates to Question 5.1 and Question 5.2.

And thus, dear students, we have arrived at the formula for understanding women.

5.1 Write a satirical blog that might accompany the visual and caption. You may, for example, explore the difficulty men seem to have in understanding women. [20]

OR

5.2 You are concerned that in 2014 social stereotyping is still prevalent. You have been asked to address a group of school-leaving matriculants about the dangers of stereotyping. Present your speech. [20]

40 marks

Total 100 marks