



# basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL  
SENIOR CERTIFICATE**

**GRADE 12**

**ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE P2**

**NOVEMBER 2022**

**MARKING GUIDELINES**

**MARKS: 80**

**These marking guidelines consist of 24 pages.**

## NOTE TO MARKERS

- These marking guidelines are intended as a guide for markers.
- The marking guidelines will be discussed with the marking panels before marking commences at the marking centres.
- Candidates' responses must be considered on their merits.

## MARKING GUIDELINES

1. Wherever a candidate has answered more than the required number of questions, mark only the first answer/response. (**The candidate may not answer the essay and the contextual question on the same genre.**)
2. If a candidate has answered all four questions in SECTION A (prescribed poems), mark only the first two.
3. If a candidate has answered two contextual or two essay questions in SECTIONS B and C, mark the first one and ignore the second. If a candidate has answered all four questions (novel) and/or all six questions (drama), mark only the first answer in each SECTION, provided that one contextual and one essay have been answered.
4. If a candidate gives two answers, the first of which is wrong and the next one correct, mark the first answer and **ignore** the next.
5. If answers are incorrectly numbered, mark according to the marking guidelines.
6. If a spelling error affects the meaning, mark incorrect. If it does not affect the meaning, mark correct.
7. *Essay question*  
If the essay is shorter than the required word count, do not penalise, because the candidate has already penalised himself/herself. If the essay is too long, assess on merit and discuss with senior markers.
8. *Contextual questions*  
If the candidate does not use inverted commas when asked to quote, do not penalise.
9. For **open-ended questions**, no marks should be awarded for YES/NO or I AGREE/DISAGREE. The reason/substantiation/motivation/justification is what should be considered.
10. No marks should be awarded for TRUE/FALSE or FACT/OPINION. The reason/substantiation/motivation/justification is what should be considered.
11. Answers to contextual questions must be assessed holistically in the light of the discussion during the standardisation of the marking guidelines.

**SECTION A: POETRY****PRESCRIBED POETRY****QUESTION 1: POETRY – ESSAY QUESTION****'VULTURES' – Chinua Achebe**

- Use the following points, among others, as a guideline to marking this question. Responses might differ, depending on the candidate's sensitivity to and understanding of the poem.
- Refer to page 23 for the rubric to assess this question.

- The speaker draws similarities between the vulture and people ('the Commandant'); both good and evil co-exist within them. However, there is a difference in their reason for committing evil: vultures act on instinct and for survival, while people have free will/choice.
- The vulture's repulsive physical appearance ('bashed-in', 'dump' and 'gross') is associated with its perceived capacity for cruelty and evil.
- However, 'nestled' and 'affectionately' suggest the vulture is gentle and caring.
- This contradiction is also seen in the Commandant who is portrayed as both repulsive ('hairy nostrils') and loving ('tender' and 'Daddy').
- 'ogre', 'cruel' and 'evil' are juxtaposed with 'tenderness' and 'love' in the concluding section to reinforce this contradiction.
- 'perpetuity of evil' implies that despite the existence of goodness, evil will continue to flourish.
- The disgusting image of the vultures gorging on the bowel of an animal emphasises their brutal and ruthless nature.
- This cruel nature is further reinforced by 'cold telescopic eyes' which demonstrates the vultures' callousness and detachment.
- 'fumes of human roast clinging rebelliously' is a shocking image which presents the Commandant as a monster who has the capacity for evil and who indiscriminately and inhumanely slaughters people.
- However, the same Commandant is presented as capable of love because he buys treats for his children on the way home from work.
- This description of him as a family man makes his actions in the camp even more despicable and deplorable.
- Neither the vultures nor the Commandant display remorse for their hideous actions.
- The speaker is bewildered by love's ability to exist in unpleasant circumstances and ignore the surrounding horror ('charnel-house').
- 'a tiny glow-worm ... a cruel heart' reinforces the contradictory nature of people by implying that even the most callous person has some capacity for love even though it may be difficult to access.
- The speaker feels hopeless because 'that kindred love' is reserved for one's own kind and is not extended to others and this will allow evil to continue to exist.
- The speaker's tone shifts from revulsion and disgust when describing the vultures to bewilderment/confusion as he battles to understand how love can exist in terrible circumstances. His tone is also one of horror/shock that the Commandant can be both cruel and affectionate.
- The tone in the last section is initially hopeful/optimistic/grateful or ironic and then becomes despairing/pessimistic/hopeless.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[10]

**QUESTION 2: POETRY – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION****'somewhere i have never travelled, gladly beyond' – ee cummings**

- 2.1 The speaker sees his relationship as a journey of discovery./The journey is unfamiliar, different and exciting.

[Award 2 marks for one distinct idea.] (2)

- 2.2 By using 'i' the speaker reduces his own importance and sees himself as insignificant./He acknowledges the power his loved one has over him.

[Award 2 marks for one distinct idea.] (2)

- 2.3 By comparing his heart/emotions to the blossoming of a rose, the speaker suggests he is ready to open himself to his loved one. She is like 'Spring', implying that her love has nourished him, released his emotions and brought him to life again. His loved one is careful and gentle ('petal by petal', 'skilfully'); she encourages him to open himself to the experience of love; she gently urges him to break down his emotional barriers. Her impact on him is almost magical ('mysteriously'). This effectively conveys the inexplicable power that love has to be transformative.

[Award 3 marks only if the effectiveness of the image is discussed.]

[Award only 1 mark for an explanation of the comparison.] (3)

- 2.4 The speaker believes that love is mysterious/incomprehensible/illogical and more powerful than nature itself. The poem explores the enigmatic/indescribable and transformative nature of love. The speaker implies that his loved one is his world ('colour of its countries') and that nothing in nature ('not even the rain') can rival her power. He acknowledges, and is in awe of, the power her 'intense fragility' and 'small hands' have over him. He feels this power 'compels' him to open up his heart to her; he cannot explain the hold that it has over him, yet 'something in [him] understands' it and is willing to obey.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[Award 3 marks only if there is a critical discussion.]

(3)  
**[10]**

**QUESTION 3: POETRY – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION****'FELIX RANDAL' – Gerard Manley Hopkins**

- 3.1 The word, 'hardy-handsome' creates the impression that Felix is in his prime./Felix is physically strong/powerful and resilient which are admirable qualities.
- [Award 2 marks for one distinct idea.] (2)
- 3.2 It suggests that Felix's physical illness contributed to a deterioration of his mental faculties.
- [Award 2 marks only if the link between his physical illness and mental deterioration is made clear.] (2)
- 3.3 The 'tongue' represents how the speaker's words eased Felix's suffering and guided him towards spiritual enlightenment; 'touch' demonstrates how the speaker's presence alleviated Felix's suffering. This image is effective as it shows the role that the speaker played in Felix's spiritual growth which allowed Felix to reconcile himself to his fate.
- [Award 3 marks only if the effectiveness of the image is discussed.]
- [Award only 1 mark for an explanation of the comparison.] (3)
- 3.4 In the final stanza, the speaker focuses on Felix when he was in his prime. He is shown to have been a man of considerable strength and skill. He was full of life ('boisterous') and a productive member of society. He stood out from his peers, who respected and revered him. By creating a favourable impression of Felix and the admirable qualities he possesses, the speaker reminds the reader that Felix's debilitating illness does not define him and should not detract from his legacy.
- [Award 3 marks only if there is a critical discussion.] (3)
- [10]**

**QUESTION 4: POETRY – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION****'FIRST DAY AFTER THE WAR' – Mazisi Kunene**

- 4.1 The word 'songs' has connotations of joy, celebration and happiness. The speaker is overjoyed that the war/apartheid has ended./He is optimistic and full of joy at the thought of a new beginning.

[Award 2 marks for one distinct idea.] (2)

- 4.2 The people are unsure about whether to believe that this day of freedom has finally arrived./They are afraid to get their hopes up as they might be disappointed should freedom not materialise.

[Award 2 marks for one distinct idea.] (2)

- 4.3 A 'circle' suggests a coming together of equals which is all-encompassing and unifying. The fact that 'all' people are called demonstrates that different cultures, ethnicities and religions are included in this celebration. This implies that the end of apartheid was celebrated by the whole world as people were no longer segregated and diversity was celebrated.

[Award 3 marks only if the effectiveness of the image is discussed.]

[Award only 1 mark for an explanation of the comparison.] (3)

- 4.4 The mood of the poem is celebratory/upbeat. There is a demand for a 'festival' to give thanks that the war/apartheid has ended. It is an auspicious occasion that is worthy of celebration. The 'old man' represents the older generation who might have been accepting of the status quo and who might not believe what they are witnessing. They need to be 'shook up' and urged to join the celebrations; there is a sense of impatience and eagerness in this action. The 'first fruits of the season' are the reward that can now be enjoyed after enduring much hardship. People who were previously separated ('stranger') 'held hands' and 'shouted', which suggests that they are united in their joy. There is optimism and hope after years of suffering; 'peace' has finally been achieved.

[Award 3 marks only if there is a critical discussion.]

(3)  
**[10]**

**UNSEEN POETRY (COMPULSORY)****QUESTION 5: CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 5.1 The word 'laden' suggests that there is a great deal of moisture which is weighing down the grass.

[Award 2 marks for one distinct idea.] (2)

- 5.2 The speaker feels a close connection to nature; it has a soothing/calming effect on him. The lines suggest that the movement of the grass is gentle and the grass sways rhythmically. The word, 'rustling' suggests that the grass also makes a muted sound as the speaker disturbs it by walking through it.

[Award 1 mark for the speaker's attitude and 1 mark for the explanation.] (2)

- 5.3 The length of the lines decreases/diminishes. This reinforces the regretful/sorrowful/mournful tone of the speaker. He realises that the grass will eventually be destroyed. He will no longer be able to appreciate it and it will no longer bring him joy.

[Award 1 mark for a reference to line length, 1 mark for tone and 1 mark for the discussion.] (3)

- 5.4 The contradiction between 'green and succulent' grass and 'black and burnt plains' captures the idea that the cycle of nature is about the rejuvenation that occurs after destruction. All life must come to an end so that new life can begin. The oxymoron ('Fruitless growth') suggests that, despite the renewal, there is a pointlessness to this repetitive cycle of nature as nothing lasts.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[Award 3 marks only if a comment is made.] (3)  
**[10]**

**TOTAL SECTION A: 30**

**SECTION B: NOVEL****THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY – Oscar Wilde****QUESTION 6: THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples should be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

- Basil's portrait makes Dorian aware of his physical attractiveness and initiates his wish to remain young and beautiful. His narcissism proves to be his undoing as his wish allows him to act without consequence, ultimately leading to his moral decline.
- Even though Dorian remains unsullied, the portrait shows his moral decay suggesting that the novel is cautioning against excessive behaviour of any kind.
- Although Lord Henry suggests that living a life of excess, and the yielding to temptation is the ultimate aim of life, such a lifestyle is shown to lead to unhappiness. Giving into every temptation ultimately leads to the destruction of one's self. A life of extremes is dangerous.
- Lord Henry is reckless in his espousing of the theories of New Hedonism and Aestheticism. He does not consider the impact they may have on impressionable people like Dorian.
- Lord Henry's influence leads to Dorian's surrounding himself with beautiful people and things but when their appeal fades, he is quick to discard them. He shuns Sibyl when her allure as an actress disappears, and he leaves a plethora of destroyed friendships – and people – in his wake. Dorian's influence on people, like Adrian Singleton and Lady Gwendolen, proves to be as harmful to them as Lord Henry's influence is ultimately on Dorian.
- The fact that Dorian is constantly searching for sensory pleasures suggests that aestheticism and hedonism only bring temporary satisfaction.
- Dorian's poor choices and inability to resist temptations lead to the destruction and downfall of people around him, and to his own demise.
- Basil's naive idolisation of Dorian leads to his not wanting to acknowledge how morally depraved Dorian has become, which results in his murder.
- Dorian is not held accountable for his actions as he looks pure and innocent. At one point, Dorian even observes that, had his sins been punished earlier, he might not have continued on his destructive course of action.
- The portrait allows Dorian to conceal his sinful behaviour but this separation of body and soul becomes increasingly difficult to maintain because he is unable to avoid/escape feelings of guilt and regret.
- Dorian believes that the portrait gives him immunity because it takes on the signs of his depravity. His momentary remorse over the course of his lifetime is easily appeased because he knows that there is no evidence and therefore no punishment for his actions. Dorian's killing himself when he stabs the portrait however, supports the belief that one cannot truly escape the consequences of one's actions.
- James Vane acts in extreme ways to gain revenge which results in his own death.
- Despite people's perceived conservatism, their permissiveness pushes the boundaries of socially acceptable conduct and is detrimental to their reputations and their lives.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[25]



**QUESTION 7: THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 7.1 Basil has revealed the finished portrait of Dorian Gray to Lord Henry who expresses admiration/appreciation for Dorian's strikingly good looks. Prior to this, Dorian and Lord Henry had been discussing the importance of aestheticism and Lord Henry tells Dorian that he should appreciate his youth and beauty. He plants the thought that, by ageing, Dorian will lose his beauty.
- [Award 3 marks for three distinct points.] (3)
- 7.2 Victorian Society is perceived as shallow/superficial, placing great emphasis on appearance. It suggests that one's appearance determines one's worth.
- [Award 2 marks for one distinct idea.] (2)
- 7.3 'Shrugged' implies a nonchalant response to Basil's accusation. Lord Henry is detached and indifferent to the effect that he has had on Dorian. His blasé attitude and lack of concern suggest that he will not take responsibility for his actions.
- [Award 3 marks for two ideas well explained.] (3)
- 7.4 Lord Henry might be held responsible as it is he who introduces Dorian to the idea that life should be lived for beauty and that the pursuit of pleasure is paramount. He convinces Dorian to adopt these values, and to live a self-indulgent lifestyle; he tells Dorian that he should yield to temptation and not feel bound by the rules of society. Lord Henry's encouraging Dorian's narcissism leads to Dorian's fatal wish to remain forever young and beautiful. He lives by the yellow book given to him by Lord Henry, seeking out increasingly decadent experiences and becoming more corrupt with each one.
- [Candidates might argue that Dorian must be held responsible for his own choices and that he is pre-disposed to living a life of decadence and self-indulgence.]
- [Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.] (3)
- [Award 3 marks for a critical discussion.]
- 7.5 James Vane has travelled from London to Dorian's country estate to avenge his sister's death. Dorian saw James looking through a window of the house the previous evening. The shock of seeing him caused Dorian to faint.
- [Award 3 marks for three distinct points.] (3)

- 7.6 When Dorian is confronted by James as he is leaving an opium den, Dorian convinces James that he is not the man that James is looking for. He does this by referring to his youthful good looks which make it impossible to believe that Dorian was the young man involved with Sibyl 18 years earlier.

[Award 3 marks for three distinct points.] (3)

- 7.7 It would appear that Dorian is deeply distressed by the thought of having killed Basil. The stark reality of what he has done finally seems to have hit home and his tears would suggest that Dorian regrets his actions.

[Award 1 mark for a reference to Dorian's state of mind and 1 mark for a discussion thereof.] (2)

- 7.8 'Scarlet' is a deep red colour which is a reminder of the blood that Dorian spilt when he murdered Basil. It is also a reference to the 'blood' that Dorian sees seeping from the portrait each time he returns to the attic. The image suggests that time has not lessened Dorian's feelings of horror and guilt at his dreadful deed. Despite his best efforts to forget his crime, his conscience will not allow his soul to be at ease.

[Award 3 marks for a comment on the significance of the image.] (3)

- 7.9 Aestheticism emphasises the importance of beauty and the pursuit of pleasure. Dorian adopts the idea that life should mimic art in that it should be beautiful but 'useless'. He becomes self-absorbed and focused on his own gratification without concern for the effect his actions might have on others. By calling himself an aesthete, Dorian is able to justify his egotistical pursuit of new sensations regardless of the moral issues that might be raised. He spends his life gathering beautiful things and indulging his every desire without making any meaningful contribution. He values beauty above all else but ironically finds himself increasingly drawn to the ugliness of life. Nothing brings him lasting pleasure or satisfaction. Ultimately this has disastrous consequences for the people with whom he is associated and for himself.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[Award 3 marks for a critical discussion.] (3)  
**[25]**

**LIFE OF PI – Yann Martel****QUESTION 8: LIFE OF PI – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples should be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

**AGREE**

- Pi experiences bullying when his school mates tease him about his name. His response is resourceful and reflects his resilient nature. These qualities assist him in overcoming the trauma of losing his family and being stranded with a tiger.
- The ingenuity he displays in recreating his name also allows him to build a makeshift raft and find alternative solutions to the hardships he faces at sea.
- The horror of watching Mahisha kill and devour a goat teaches Pi a healthy respect for wild animals; this awareness assists him when he is forced to live in such close quarters with Richard Parker.
- The criticism that Pi faces for wanting to explore three religions simultaneously develops his independence. It strengthens his resolve of having something to believe in. This is essential to his survival on the lifeboat, and throughout his life. The routine and religious rituals provide comfort and guidance during trying times.
- Despite his grief at losing his family in the shipwreck, Pi is able to adjust to his new reality, both on the lifeboat and in Canada. He rallies quickly and takes measures to ensure his safety and survival. Regardless of the obstacles he faces, he rebounds, perseveres and finds the strength to overcome these challenges.
- Although Pi is traumatised by the hyena's/French cook's barbarism, it also strengthens his resolve to survive. He realises that he will have to commit acts that would normally be abhorrent to him to ensure his survival. His adoption of Richard Parker as his alter ego allows him to separate himself from this savage side of himself. This is essential to his long-term survival.
- There are times when he becomes despondent and loses hope and even wishes for death. However, his belief that he will be rescued keeps him hopeful.
- The algae island appears to offer all the basic resources to live a comfortable life. However, when Pi discovers the human teeth in a tree on the island, he becomes aware that deeper spiritual enlightenment is the only recipe to a meaningful life.
- Despite the horrors Pi experiences at sea, he realises how reliant all creatures are on one another. Neither Pi nor Richard Parker would have survived if they did not have each other.
- Although Pi is forced to compromise his strong morals in his struggle to survive, his creation of Richard Parker as his alter ego allows him to revert to those morals once he returns to civilisation. This ability to adapt his morals to his circumstances saves his life.
- Pi's horrible experiences demonstrate that having faith in something, whether in oneself or in one's abilities or in a higher power, is essential for a happy and fulfilled life. He is able to reconcile his belief in science with his religious faith, proving that both can co-exist.

[A cogent 'Disagree' response is unlikely. However, treat all responses on their merits.]

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

**[25]**

**QUESTION 9: *LIFE OF PI* – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 9.1 Mr. Patel has taken Pi and Ravi to the tiger enclosure and has made them watch how the tiger, which had not been fed for three days prior to this event, devours a goat that has been left in its cage. He is concerned that Pi's anthropomorphism of animals will put him in danger. He does not want Pi to think that he can treat the animals in the zoo like pets. The lesson is a reminder to the boys that the tiger is a predator.

[Award 3 marks for three distinct points.] (3)

- 9.2 Having watched Mahisha attack the goat, Pi is painfully aware of the danger Richard Parker poses to him when they find themselves alone on the lifeboat. He realises that he needs to establish boundaries and keep his distance from Richard Parker. He knows that he will have to ensure that Richard Parker's physical needs are taken care of by providing him with food so that the tiger does not turn on him.

[Award 2 marks for 2 distinct ideas.] (2)

- 9.3 Pi and his mother share a warm and loving relationship. His mother is protective of Pi, defending him when necessary, and offering him comfort. She encourages him to read and be imaginative. She respects his independence and does not oppose his desire to embrace three different religions. Her humanity, firm morals and courage inspire Pi. He is ashamed when she discovers that he has eaten the biscuits as he wants to live up to her example and make her proud.

[Award 3 marks for a well-developed discussion.] (3)

- 9.4 The hyena represents the French cook. They are similar in their savagery and viciousness. When the sailor's leg becomes infected the cook amputates it, and the sailor dies slowly and painfully. The cook then eats some of the sailor's flesh. He also decapitates Pi's mother when she objects to his savagery. Like the hyena he is greedy, violent and terrified of going hungry.

[Award 3 marks for a well-developed discussion.] (3)

- 9.5 Pi is prepared to do anything to survive, even going against his moral principles. He foregoes his vegetarianism, and resorts to killing not only fish and other creatures but a fellow castaway. His killing of the French cook is an act of vengeance. He provides food for himself and Richard Parker thereby ensuring that he does not become the tiger's next meal. Pi resorts to becoming animalistic in order to preserve his life.

[Award 3 marks only if there is a comment.] (3)

- 9.6 The dream rag is a rag that Pi soaks in sea water and uses to cover his face while he dozes. It induces a state of hallucination. Pi uses his dream rag as an escape mechanism. It allows him to avoid the harsh reality of his situation.

[Award 2 marks for two distinct points.]

(2)

- 9.7 Orange is associated with survival and hope. All the safety equipment (lifejackets, whistle, lifebuoy) is orange and helps Pi survive. Orange Juice, the orang-utan, and Richard Parker, the orange tiger, offer Pi comfort and hope. The fading of the colour is indicative of Pi's loss of hope because his chances of survival seem to be fading with the loss of the life raft and the dwindling of the resources.

[Award 3 marks for a well-developed discussion on the significance of the orange colour fading.]

(3)

- 9.8 Candidates might suggest that the happiness and love that Pi finds in Canada indicate that he has overcome his ordeal. He successfully studies for two degrees, marries and has a loving family of his own. His house is full of evidence that his faith has endured.

However, candidates might argue that Pi has not come to terms with his traumatic experiences. His fading memories of his family and hoarding of tinned food and the expression of sadness/pain that appears when he thinks about Richard Parker are signs that the effects of his ordeal will remain with him always.

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

[Award 3 marks only if there is a comment.]

(3)

- 9.9 YES

Richard Parker is a source of companionship for Pi while they find themselves stranded on the lifeboat. As long as Pi has to focus on keeping Richard Parker alive, he has a sense of purpose. Spending time taming Richard Parker distracts Pi from thinking about the physical deprivation he is experiencing. Being busy prevents him from wallowing in the misery of losing his family. Richard Parker also saves Pi from being attacked by the hyena and the blind Frenchman.

[Candidates might refer to the second story where Richard Parker is seen as Pi's alter ego. This construct is essential to Pi's survival as it allows him to distance himself from his own savage nature and makes it easier to live with the knowledge of the gruesome acts he was forced to commit.]

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

[Award 3 marks for a well-developed discussion.]

(3)

[25]

**TOTAL SECTION B: 25**

**SECTION C: DRAMA****HAMLET – William Shakespeare****QUESTION 10: HAMLET – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples should be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

**VALID**

- Hamlet reveres his father and deeply mourns his loss. This causes him to be judgmental of Claudius; the comparison of the two 'as Hyperion to a satyr', clearly depicts this. Therefore, when the murder of his father is revealed by the ghost he is determined to embark on a course of vengeance. He becomes resolute in his hatred of Claudius, as well as in his attempts to punish him.
- Hamlet's relationship with his father and his need to fulfil his duty cause him to make rash decisions which result in unnecessary loss of life.
- However, this creates a serious dilemma for him: he is torn between his duty to avenge his father and his own moral and religious convictions.
- His procrastination in acting against Claudius leads to Claudius's treachery against him and results in many deaths, including his own.
- Hamlet is disillusioned with his mother's incestuous marriage to Claudius so soon after King Hamlet's death. He feels that his mother has betrayed both him and his father. When he confronts her, he forces her to choose between her loyalty to Claudius and himself. Although she never actively opposes Claudius, she does try to protect Hamlet by lying about Polonius's death and by warning Hamlet about the poisoned wine during the duel. Her drinking of the poisoned wine results in her own death.
- Gertrude's hasty re-marriage influences Hamlet to perceive all women as faithless, including Ophelia, whom he harshly rejects.
- Claudius tries to present himself as a caring and concerned father-figure, but this is rejected by Hamlet who resents Claudius for wanting to usurp his father's role in his and his mother's lives.
- Polonius's relationship with his children is manipulative and controlling. He does not trust them and constantly spies on them. He is concerned that their behaviour will compromise his opportunities of advancement.
- Laertes wants to return to Paris to escape his father's constant lecturing. However, he does not openly defy his father. Later, he rushes home to avenge his father's death. His collusion with Claudius results in all three characters' deaths.
- Polonius is insensitive and dismissive toward his daughter. He regards her as ignorant and naïve. When Polonius instructs Ophelia to reject Hamlet's attentions, she meekly obeys and allows herself to be used to spy on Hamlet. She is so used to submissively obeying her father, that she is lost without him when he is killed. She is driven to madness and ultimately death.
- Hamlet, Laertes and Fortinbras all feel duty-bound to avenge their fathers' deaths. This indicates the loyalty, love and respect towards their respective fathers. While Hamlet and Laertes lose their lives in redressing the wrongs done to their fathers, Fortinbras, in giving up his quest for revenge, gains the throne of Denmark.

[A cogent 'Invalid' response is unlikely. However, treat all responses on their merits.]

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

[25]

**QUESTION 11: HAMLET – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 11.1 King Hamlet of Denmark has died and he has been succeeded by his brother, Claudius. Claudius has married his late brother's widow, Gertrude. The court has gathered in the throne room to listen to the pronouncements of the new king.
- [Award 3 marks for three distinct ideas.] (3)
- 11.2 In these lines Claudius seems sincere in his expression of sorrow for his brother's death. However, Claudius is being hypocritical as it is later revealed by the ghost that Claudius has murdered the former king in order to usurp his throne and marry the queen.
- [Award 2 marks for a clear understanding of irony.] (2)
- 11.3 Fortinbras acts decisively to reclaim the lands that his father had lost to King Hamlet. He demands that Claudius 'surrender' the lost lands and threatens to invade Denmark if his demands are not met. His attitude is in direct contrast to Hamlet's indecisiveness in avenging his father's murder. Hamlet procrastinates in carrying out the ghost's wishes, overthinking his actions, needing to ensure the verity of the ghost's accusations. His belief that taking revenge could endanger his soul also contributes to his hesitation in taking action.
- [Award 1 mark for each character's attitude and the third mark for a discussion thereof.] (3)
- 11.4 Hamlet is in a state of despair/despondency; life has become meaningless to him. He is inconsolable at the death of his father and feels betrayed by his mother's hasty marriage to Claudius. He feels trapped and would consider suicide if it were not against God's laws. This indicates his disillusionment with the world around him.
- [Award 1 mark for a reference to Hamlet's state of mind and 2 marks for a discussion thereof.] (3)
- 11.5 By referring to an 'unweeded garden', Hamlet is implying that the wellbeing of the country is being neglected. The country is overrun with corruption and disorder. This image implies that Denmark is in a state of decay. Hamlet's disdain for the prevailing decline of his homeland, governed by 'rank and gross' principles is evident.
- [Award 3 marks for a clear explanation of the image accompanied by a valid comment.] (3)
- 11.6 Claudius is terrified/afraid/anxious/petrified of the threat that Hamlet poses to him. By comparing Hamlet to a disease, Claudius suggests that Hamlet's presence at court troubles him. The only remedy is to send Hamlet to England where he plans to have him executed. This emphasises Claudius's desperation and the drastic lengths he is prepared to go to, to protect his position.
- [Award 1 mark for a reference to attitude and 1 mark for a discussion.] (2)

- 11.7 Hamlet's refusal to reveal the whereabouts of Polonius's body indicates that Hamlet does not trust Rosencrantz and Guildenstern. Hamlet is aware that they have been brought to Denmark by the King to discover the cause of his strange behaviour and to help cheer him up. By agreeing to Claudius's suggestion that they spy on Hamlet, they have become Claudius's dupes who allow themselves to be manipulated by Claudius for his own nefarious purposes.

[Award 3 marks only if there is a comment.]

(3)

- 11.8 Hamlet might point/gesture to Claudius or wave his hand dismissively as he explains his reason for referring to Claudius as his 'mother'. His tone might be sarcastic/mocking/bitter as he is alluding to the incestuous relationship between Claudius and Gertrude and his feelings of betrayal at Gertrude's loyalty to Claudius.

Candidates might describe his tone as insulting as he is trying to provoke and irritate Claudius to make his disapproval apparent.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to both body language and tone, and includes a justification.]

(3)

- 11.9 YES  
In this line, Claudius's implication is that Hamlet's madness has led to his murder of Polonius, and that his being 'loose' might endanger the lives of others. He implies that Hamlet should be restrained as a protective measure. Claudius is concerned about Hamlet being a threat to him and his hold on the throne. Hamlet has been made aware of Claudius's treachery by the ghost who has commanded him to avenge King Hamlet's murder. Hamlet is only dangerous as long as Claudius is still in his sights.

OR

NO  
Hamlet has been reluctant to take action against Claudius, even when the perfect opportunity arises when Claudius is praying. Hamlet's procrastination and concern for his mortal soul is the cause of his not taking decisive action against Claudius.

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

[Award 3 marks for a well-developed discussion.]

(3)  
**[25]**



**OTHELLO – William Shakespeare****QUESTION 12: OTHELLO – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples should be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

**VALID**

- Initially, Othello regards Desdemona as 'his soul's joy'. His happiness is dependent on his love for her. Their relationship is based on mutual respect and admiration.
- Othello regards Desdemona as his equal, admiring her assertiveness and outspokenness. She is a strong-willed and courageous woman who is prepared to defy her father and Venetian society to be with the man she loves. However, when she doggedly appeals for Cassio's reinstatement, Othello, fuelled by Iago's insinuations, misinterprets her assertiveness as pleading on her lover's behalf. He begins to distrust her, believing her to be unfaithful.
- As a result of his insecurities and jealousy, Othello develops ambivalent feelings toward Desdemona. Although he is filled with abhorrence for her supposedly promiscuous behaviour and vows that he will no longer be influenced by her charms, he is still entranced by her beauty.
- Othello's outrage at Desdemona's supposed betrayal is in conflict with his enduring love for her. He speaks of her as 'a fine woman, a fair woman, a sweet woman', yet at other times he refers to her as 'whore' and 'strumpet'.
- After being provided with 'ocular proof', Othello is determined to kill her. He justifies his actions as being those of 'an honourable murderer'.
- Desdemona is modest and unselfish in her constant love for her husband. She remains loyal and loving in spite of having to endure his humiliation and scorn.
- Later, Desdemona fails to defend herself when Othello verbally and physically abuses her. By defending his actions, she becomes a submissive and obedient wife. Ultimately, she is a victim of Othello's overpowering strength and oppressive jealousy and is killed despite protesting her innocence.
- Othello's realisation that he has wronged her leads to his remorse and his inability to continue living. He takes his own life in atonement for murdering Desdemona.
- Iago is generally disrespectful and dismissive of Emilia. He does not take her into his confidence or allow her to question his actions. He is rude and bullying and deliberately uses her as a tool to further his selfish plans.
- Emilia develops a cynical view toward marriage because of the verbal abuse she suffers at the hands of Iago. Despite this, she obeys him without question.
- Emilia's desire to be loved exposes her to Iago's manipulation. She is prepared to steal the handkerchief for him, thus compromising her integrity. However, when she realises what Iago has done, Emilia's sense of justice and honour prevails. Although Emilia realises that declaring the truth will place her life at risk, she is willing to do this to clear her conscience.
- At the end of the play, she displays great courage and defies her victimhood and her duties as a wife when she refuses to obey Iago. She is prepared to denounce him even though she realises she might die in doing so; her actions do indeed lead to her death.

[A cogent 'Invalid' response is unlikely. However, treat all responses on their merits.]

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

**[25]**

**QUESTION 13: OTHELLO – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 13.1 Othello and Desdemona have secretly married. Iago and Roderigo have stirred Brabantio's anger when they inform him about the elopement. Brabantio insists on Othello accompanying him to the senate, where he will lay charges against Othello.

[Award 2 marks for two distinct points.] (2)

- 13.2 Brabantio thinks that it is unnatural ('against all rules of nature') for his daughter to fall in love with a black man. In his mind, it is a terrible mistake for her to have done so. His racism is evident when he claims that Othello must have used witchcraft ('mixtures powerful o'er the blood/'dram conjured') to seduce Desdemona.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[Award 1 mark for the identification of diction and 2 marks for how that reveals Brabantio's prejudice.] (3)

- 13.3 NO  
Brabantio portrays Desdemona as being meek and submissive and implies that she would not have married Othello of her own free will. However, this is not consistent with Desdemona's behaviour before the Duke. She is outspoken/assertive and unafraid of challenging the conventions of her society. She is prepared to defend her choice by standing up to her father and the Duke. She presents herself as courageous, proud and confident. This contradicts the impression her father has created of her.

[A cogent 'Yes' response is unlikely. However, treat all responses on their merits.]

[Award 1 mark for Brabantio's description and 2 marks for a discussion of whether there is consistency in Desdemona's behaviour.] (3)

- 13.4 Venice is portrayed as a place where law and order prevail. Unlike Brabantio, the Duke is impartial as he allows both Brabantio and Othello to present their versions of events. His approach is calm and rational, suggesting that justice will prevail and that disputes in Venice are dealt with in a fair manner.

[Award 1 mark for an explanation of the Duke's words and 2 marks for a well-developed comment.] (3)

- 13.5 Iago reminds Othello of the handkerchief that Othello had gifted to Desdemona and mentions seeing it in Cassio's possession. He lies to Othello about Cassio speaking of his affair with Desdemona in his sleep. His deliberate use of sexual innuendo to describe the affair infuriates Othello and drives him mad with jealousy.

[Award 3 marks for three distinct points.] (3)

- 13.6 Iago's suggestion that Desdemona should be allowed to live is ironic as his intention is to encourage Othello to murder Desdemona. Not only would this destroy Othello's happiness completely, but it would ensure Iago's safety.

[Award 2 marks for a clear understanding of irony.] (2)

- 13.7 Othello is determined to take revenge. He has entered into a pact/vow with Iago to have both Cassio and Desdemona murdered. Since he wants a swift resolution to the matter, he instructs Iago to have Cassio killed within the next three days. He is grateful for Iago's support. His state of mind is occupied by thoughts of revenge which show the extent of his moral deterioration. He has become completely dependent on Iago's guidance. This illustrates that Iago wields full control over Othello.

[Award 1 mark for a reference to Othello's state of mind and 2 marks for a comment.] (3)

- 13.8 Othello might clench his fist/slam his fists down or thump his chest furiously. He could take out his dagger and point it while pacing angrily up and down. His tone might be aggressive/savage or adamant/determined/forceful as he demands revenge for Desdemona's supposed betrayal.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to both body language and tone, and includes a justification.] (3)

- 13.9 The audience might feel sympathy for Othello. In these lines, Othello is consumed by jealousy and a desire for revenge. His lack of sophistication/naivety/gullibility has caused him to succumb to Iago's manipulations and to believe Iago's lies. His torment and suffering are evident as he is unable to bear the realisation that Desdemona has betrayed their love.

OR

The audience might also have feelings of disgust/scorn/contempt for Othello for allowing himself to be manipulated by Iago and believing his lies without giving Desdemona the opportunity to refute the accusations against her. He has based his judgement of her on circumstantial evidence and Iago's lies and therefore does not deserve our sympathy.

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

[Award 3 marks for a critical discussion.] (3)  
**[25]**

**THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller****QUESTION 14: THE CRUCIBLE – ESSAY QUESTION**

- Below is the basis for answering this essay. Use the following as a guideline only. However, also allow for answers that are different, original and show evidence of critical thought and interpretation.
- A range of examples should be used by the candidates to support their arguments.
- Refer to page 24 for the rubric to assess this question.

**AGREE**

- Initially the Proctors' marriage is full of tension because of John's affair with Abigail.
- Elizabeth is cold toward John. She does not trust him and although the affair has come to an end, she is still suspicious of his interactions with Abigail.
- John is desperate to regain Elizabeth's trust. However, he is not prepared to reveal that the girls are lying as that would make his affair public. This silence allows the girls to continue with their false accusations.
- When Elizabeth is arrested, John challenges the court to clear her name.
- Elizabeth is even prepared to lie (which she has never done before) about John's affair to protect his reputation; however, this backfires and makes John seem untrustworthy. Her actions strengthen their marriage and they learn to trust and support each other.
- John makes the ultimate sacrifice for his family when he refuses to offer a public confession. He realises that if he chooses to save his own life, it will be at the expense of his family's reputation and the legacy he will leave his children. Elizabeth supports and respects his fatal decision.
- When Abigail and Betty are found dancing in the forest, Parris displays little fatherly concern and he is only interested in how their behaviour will damage his reputation as the town's minister. He supports the idea of witchcraft so as to deflect suspicion from himself. This decision encourages the hysteria which results in the loss of innocent lives.
- Abigail mirrors this self-centred behaviour when she steals Parris's money and runs away. She has no consideration for how her actions will affect her family.
- Abigail lacks empathy as a result of having witnessed her parents' murder. This, together with Parris's harsh parenting style, makes her bitter and vindictive. Her harsh circumstances enable her to make accusations against innocent people without any remorse.
- The Putnams are ambitious and ruthless. They are prepared to use their daughter, Ruth, and the trials to make false accusations in order to gain more land.
- The Nurses have a large family which is envied by Ann Putnam. This jealousy plays a role in Ann's accusing Rebecca of witchcraft. Francis is devastated and challenges the court in an attempt to prove his wife's innocence. However, this challenge only results in more suspicion being cast on the people who signed the petition.
- Giles Corey and his wife have poor communication and instead of Giles asking her about the book she is reading, he tells the court about her behaviour which casts suspicion on her and contributes to her arrest.
- Giles feels guilty about his role in his wife's arrest and he, like Francis Nurse, also challenges the court in an attempt to clear his wife's name. However, this attempt fails and he is arrested and later pressed to death.

[A cogent 'Disagree' response is unlikely. However, treat all responses on their merits.]

[Credit valid alternative/mixed responses.]

[25]

**QUESTION 15: *THE CRUCIBLE* – CONTEXTUAL QUESTION**

- 15.1 Abigail wanted Tituba to cast a charm on Elizabeth Proctor; she wants to eliminate Elizabeth so that she can be with John. Tituba was also asked to conjure up the spirits of Ann Putnam's babies.

[Award 2 marks for two distinct points.] (2)

- 15.2 Because Salem is a Puritan society, it deems dancing as a forbidden pleasure. Salem is conservative and restricts people's behaviour to what it views as morally acceptable. People who disobey the rules are severely punished for non-compliance. Corporal punishment was commonly practised.

[Award 3 marks for three distinct points.] (3)

- 15.3 Abigail is selfish and does not truly love anyone, not even Betty. She threatens Betty and is physically violent toward her so that she will not tell the truth. Betty is scared of Abigail. Abigail's lack of care for Betty is further proved when she runs away from Salem with Parris's money and leaves Betty behind.

[Award 3 marks for a well-developed discussion.] (3)

- 15.4 Parris has been unable to unify his congregation. He is paranoid and insecure and believes that people are plotting against him and trying to remove him from his position as minister. He is overly concerned about his reputation and what the people of Salem think about him.

[Award 1 mark for a reference to Parris's state of mind and 2 marks for a comment.] (3)

- 15.5 Elizabeth has been arrested because Abigail has accused her of sending out her spirit to harm her. Abigail claims to have been stabbed in her stomach with a needle. This accusation is seemingly confirmed when a poppet is found in Elizabeth's house with a needle stuck in its belly.

[Award 3 marks for three distinct ideas.] (3)

- 15.6 Danforth's words imply that if people are innocent then that truth will come out and they do not need a lawyer to defend them. However, the opposite is true because it is the innocent, in Salem, who are being falsely accused and executed.

[Award 2 marks for a clear understanding of irony.] (2)

- 15.7 Parris is threatened by Proctor as he knows that Proctor is respected and that if Proctor challenges the court, then that will cast doubt on the validity of the trials. Parris is envious/jealous that Proctor naturally has the support of the townsfolk, whereas he has to use the court to gain support. Parris's moral weakness clearly emerges through his resentment of Proctor.

[Award 3 marks only if attitude is identified and a valid comment is made.] (3)

- 15.8 Proctor might put his hand on his heart and point at himself while shaking his head. His tone is pleading/appealing/deferential as he does not want to anger the court and not have his plea heard. His only consideration is the acquittal of Elizabeth and the other innocent prisoners.

[Credit valid alternative responses.]

[The candidate's response should be convincing in context.]

[Award 3 marks only if the candidate refers to both body language and tone, and includes a justification.] (3)

- 15.9 YES  
Even though Proctor is a flawed individual, he ultimately proves to be a moral man. He commits adultery and some of his actions are motivated by pride; he fears the town's finding out about his affair and he is concerned about his reputation. However, his moral fortitude is evident when he challenges the court in an attempt to free his wife and other innocent people. He is prepared to die rather than confess to witchcraft. Proctor is aware that if he confesses to save his life, he will ruin his family's reputation and he is not prepared to do that. This proves that he is a 'good man'.

OR

NO

[Consider responses that focus only on Proctor's adultery. However, no more than 2 marks should be awarded for this response.]

[Credit a mixed response.]

[Award 3 marks for a well-developed discussion.] (3)  
[25]

**TOTAL SECTION C: 25**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 80**

**SECTION A: Assessment rubric for literary essay: Poetry (10 Marks)**

Criteria	Exceptional	Skilful	Moderate	Elementary	Inadequate
<b>CONTENT</b>  <b>6 MARKS</b>  Interpretation of topic. Depth of argument, justification and grasp of text.	<b>5-6</b>  -In-depth interpretation of topic -Range of striking arguments; extensively supported from poem -Excellent understanding of genre and poem	<b>4</b>  -Shows understanding and has interpreted topic well -Fairly detailed response -Sound arguments given, but not all of them as well motivated as they could be -Understanding of genre and poem	<b>3</b>  -Fair interpretation of topic -Some good points in support of topic -Some arguments supported, but evidence is not always convincing -Basic understanding of genre and poem	<b>2</b>  -Unsatisfactory interpretation of topic -Hardly any points in support of topic -Inadequate understanding of genre and poem	<b>0-1</b>  -No understanding of the topic -No reference to the poem -Learner has not come to grips with genre and poem
<b>STRUCTURE AND LANGUAGE</b>  <b>4 MARKS</b>  Structure, logical flow and presentation. Language, tone and style used in the essay	<b>4</b>  -Coherent structure -Arguments well-structured and clearly developed -Language, tone and style mature, impressive, correct -Virtually error-free grammar, spelling and punctuation	<b>3</b>  -Clear structure and logical flow of argument -Flow of argument can be followed -Language, tone and style largely correct	<b>2</b>  -Some evidence of structure -Essay lacks a well- structured flow of logic and coherence -Language errors minor; tone and style mostly appropriate	<b>1</b>  -Structure shows faulty planning -Arguments not logically arranged -Language errors evident -Inappropriate tone and style	<b>0-1</b>  -Poorly structured -Serious language errors and incorrect style

**NOTE:** If a candidate has ignored the content completely and written a creative response instead, award a 0 mark for both Content and Structure and Language.

**SECTIONS B AND C: Assessment rubric for literary essay: Novel and Drama (25 Marks)**

Criteria	Exceptional	Skilful	Moderate	Elementary	Inadequate
<b>CONTENT</b>	<b>12-15</b>	<b>9-11</b>	<b>6-8</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>0-3</b>
<b>15 MARKS</b>  Interpretation of topic. Depth of argument, justification and grasp of text.	-Outstanding response: 14-15 -Excellent response: 12-13 -In-depth interpretation of topic -Range of striking arguments extensively supported from text -Excellent understanding of genre and text	-Shows understanding and has interpreted topic well -Fairly detailed response -Some sound arguments given, but not all of them as well motivated as they could be -Understanding of genre and text evident	-Mediocre interpretation of topic; not all aspects explored in detail -Some good points in support of topic -Some arguments supported, but evidence is not always convincing -Partial understanding of genre and text	-Scant interpretation of topic; hardly any aspects explored in detail -Few points in support of topic -Very little relevant argument -Little understanding of genre and text	-Very little understanding of the topic -Weak attempt to answer the question. -Arguments not convincing -Learner has not come to grips with genre or text
<b>STRUCTURE AND LANGUAGE</b>	<b>8-10</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>2-3</b>	<b>0-1</b>
<b>10 MARKS</b>  Structure, logical flow and presentation. Language, tone and style used in the essay	-Coherent structure -Excellent introduction and conclusion -Arguments well-structured and clearly developed -Language, tone and style mature, impressive, correct	-Clear structure and logical flow of argument -Introduction and conclusion and other paragraphs coherently organised -Logical flow of argument -Language, tone and style largely correct	-Some evidence of structure -Logic and coherence apparent, but flawed -Some language errors; tone and style mostly appropriate -Paragraphing mostly correct	-Structure shows faulty planning. -Arguments not logically arranged -Language errors evident. -Inappropriate tone and style -Paragraphing faulty	-Lack of planned structure impedes flow of argument -Language errors and incorrect style make this an unsuccessful piece of writing -Inappropriate tone and style -Paragraphing faulty
<b>MARK RANGE</b>	<b>20-25</b>	<b>15-19</b>	<b>10-14</b>	<b>5-9</b>	<b>0-4</b>

**NOTE:** If a candidate has ignored the content completely and written a creative response instead, award a 0 mark for both Content and Structure and Language.

There must not be more than two categories' variation between the Structure and Language mark and the Content mark.