

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL****MAY 2013 SESSION**

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| SUBJECT: | English Literature |
| PAPER NUMBER: | I |
| DATE: | 15 th May 2013 |
| TIME: | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. |

Answer both sections.

Candidates are reminded that:

- it is not necessary to repeat the words of the question in the answer.
- as far as possible, answers should be limited to the lines provided.

| Section A | Section B | TOTAL |
|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | | |

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

SECTION A**Read the following poem carefully and then answer the questions that follow:****A Girl's Song**

Early one morning
As I went out walking
I saw the young sailor
Go fresh through the fields.
5 His eye was as blue as
The sky up above us
And clean was his skin
As the colour of shells.

10 O where are you going,
Young sailor, so early?
And may I come with you
A step as you go?
He looked with his eye
and I saw the deep sea-tombs,
15 He opened his mouth
And I heard the sea roar.

And limp on his head
Lay his hair green as sea-grass
And scrubbed were his bones
20 By the inching of sand.
The long tides unfolded
The lines of his body
And slow corals grow
At the stretch of his hand.

25 I look from my window
In the first light of morning
And I look from my door
At the dark of the day,
But all that I see are
30 The fields flat and empty
And the black road run down
To Cardigan town.

Leslie Norris

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

1 Underline the correct answer.

This poem is written in the:

- a) third person singular;
- b) second person plural;
- c) first person singular.

(1 mark)

2 a) In the first stanza the description of the sailor is:

- i. neutral
- ii. positive
- iii. negative

(2 marks)

b) Explain your answer to question 2a above with close reference to the first stanza.

(3 marks)

3 In the second and the third stanza there are repeated links between the sailor's eyes, mouth, hair, bones and hands and the sea. This continued comparison over a number of lines is called an

(2 marks)

4 a) In the first three lines of stanza three, there is repeated use of the /s/ sound. What technique is the poet using?

(1 mark)

b) What is the effect of this repeated use of the /s/ sound?

(2 marks)

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

5 Explain the effectiveness of these lines (19-20) from the third stanza:

And scrubbed were his bones
By the inching of sand.

(3 marks)

6 Suggest a reason why Leslie Norris mentions 'the first light of morning' and 'the dark of the day' in the last stanza.

(3 marks)

7 By referring to specific words/phrases in the last four lines of the poem, explain what the persona thinks of the future.

(3 marks)

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

SECTION B**Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

5 On that first morning when the sky was blue again Mary wakened very early. The sun was pouring in slanting rays through the blinds and there was something so joyous in the sight of it that she jumped out of bed and ran to the window. She drew up the blinds and opened the window itself and a great waft of fresh, scented air blew in upon her. The whole world looked as if something Magic had happened to it. There were tender little fluting sounds here and there and everywhere, as if scores of birds were beginning to tune up for a concert. Mary put her hand out of the window and held it in the sun.

"It's warm-warm!" she said. "It will make the green points push up and up and up, and it will make the bulbs and roots work and struggle with all their might under the earth."

10 She kneeled down and leaned out of the window as far as she could; breathing big breaths and sniffing the air her nose quivering like a rabbit's. "It must be very early," she said. "The little clouds are all pink and I've never seen the sky look like this. No one is up. I don't even hear the stable boys."

A sudden thought made her scramble to her feet.

"I can't wait! I am going to see the garden!"

15 She had learned to dress herself by this time and she put on her clothes in five minutes. She knew a small side door which she could unbolt herself and she flew downstairs in her stocking feet and put on her shoes in the hall. She unchained and unbolted and unlocked and when the door was open she sprang across the step with one bound, and there she was standing on the grass, which seemed to have turned green, and with the sun pouring down on her and warm sweet wafts about her and the fluting and twittering and singing coming from every bush and tree. She clasped her hands for pure joy and looked up in the sky and it was so blue and pink and pearly and white and flooded with springtime light that she felt as if she must flute and sing aloud herself and knew that thrushes and robins and skylarks could not possibly help it. She ran around the shrubs and paths towards the secret garden.

25 "It is all different already," she said. "The grass is greener and things are sticking up everywhere and things are uncurling and green buds of leaves are showing. This afternoon I am sure Dickon will come."

30 The long warm rain had done strange things to the herbaceous beds which bordered the walk by the lower wall. There were things sprouting and pushing out from the roots of clumps of plants and there were actually here and there glimpses of royal purple and yellow unfurling among the stems of crocuses. Six months before Mary would not have seen how the world was waking up, but now she missed nothing.

35 When she had reached the place where the door hid itself under the ivy, she was startled by a curious loud sound. It was the caw-caw of a crow and it came from the top of the wall, and when she looked up, there sat a big glossy-plumaged blue-black bird, looking down at her very wisely indeed. She had never seen a crow so close before and he made her a little nervous, but the next moment he spread his wings and flapped away across the garden.

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

1 Underline the correct answer.

Mary is about:

- a) three years old;
- b) ten years old;
- c) eighteen years old.

(1 mark)

2 Paragraph One suggests an overwhelming sense of 'Magic'. Quote two words (other than 'Magic') and/or phrases from the paragraph and explain how they contribute to this magical feel.

- a) _____

- b) _____

(4 marks)

3 Explain (not just quote) how the author brings the vegetation to life in lines 8 and 9.

(2 marks)

4 Name this figure of speech (line 11) and explain its effect:

her nose quivering like a rabbit's.

(3 marks)

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

- 5 Lines 13 and 14 are two short sentences marking a change in Mary’s behaviour. In what way do these two lines separate what Mary does before from what she does after these two lines?

(3 marks)

- 6 Comment on the effect of this sequence of words in line 17:

She unchained and unbolted and unlocked

(3 marks)

- 7 Explain why the sequence of adjectives in the quote below (line 35) helps the reader understand Mary’s reaction to the bird:

big glossy-plumaged blue-black bird

(3 marks)

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SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL

MAY 2013 SESSION

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| SUBJECT: | English Literature |
| PAPER NUMBER: | IIA |
| DATE: | 16 th May 2013 |
| TIME: | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. |

Answer all Sections.

Each section carries equal marks.

**SECTION A
DRAMA**

Answer ONE question only on ONE text.

TWELFTH NIGHT (W. Shakespeare)

1 SEBASTIAN

This is the air, that is the glorious sun;
This pearl she gave me, I do feel 't and see 't,
And though 'tis wonder that enwraps me thus,
Yet 'tis not madness. Where's Antonio then?
I could not find him at the Elephant.
Yet there he was; and there I found this credit,
That he did range the town to seek me out.
His counsel now might do me golden service...;

- a. Explain the immediate circumstances in which these words are spoken.
 - b. What relation is there between Sebastian and Antonio? Why would Antonio's presence do Sebastian a 'golden service' right now?
 - c. Write about the importance of friendship in *Twelfth Night*.
- 2** Compare and contrast the ways in which Viola and Olivia behave when they fall in love.
 - 3** Write an essay on the theme of hypocrisy as this is developed in the play.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (W. Shakespeare)

4 BASSANIO

'Tis not unknown to you, Antonio,
How much I have disabled mine estate,
By something showing a more swelling port
Than my faint means would grant continuance:
Nor do I now make moan to be abridged
From such a noble rate; but my chief care
Is to come fairly off from the great debts
Wherein my time something too prodigal
Hath left me gaged. To you, Antonio,
I owe the most, in money and in love,
And from your love I have a warranty
To unburden all my plots and purposes
How to get clear of all the debts I owe.

ANTONIO

I pray you, good Bassanio, let me know it;
And if it stand, as you yourself still do,
Within the eye of honour, be assured,
My purse, my person, my extremest means,
Lie all unlock'd to your occasions.

- a. What has led Bassanio to ask for help from Antonio and what is his request?
- b. How does this request lead to the major complication in this play?
- c. Discuss how the theme of friendship is explored in the play.

5 Discuss how the themes of mercy and justice are explored in *The Merchant of Venice*.

6 Explore how the relationship between Lorenzo and Jessica, although a sub-plot, is still important for the play.

MACBETH (W. Shakespeare)

7 MACBETH

He's here in double trust:
First, as I am his kinsman and his subject,
Strong both against the deed; then, as his host,
Who should against his murderer shut the door,
Not bear the knife myself...

And pity, like a naked new-born babe,
Striding the blast, or heaven's cherubim, horsed
Upon the sightless couriers of the air,
Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,
That tears shall drown the wind. I have no spur
To prick the sides of my intent, but only
Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself
And falls on th' other.

- a. What are the immediate circumstances in which these lines are spoken?
 - b. Keeping the above speech in mind, write about the role the Witches and Lady Macbeth play in Duncan's murder.
- 8** Suggest reasons why the banquet scene is considered by many critics as a turning point in *Macbeth*.
- 9** Betrayal is a central theme in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Discuss.

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE (A. Miller)

- 10** Eddie is a character in conflict with himself and others. Discuss.
- 11** Write an essay about the Carbone's family values as these are portrayed in Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge*.
- 12** Write about the theme of revenge in *A View from the Bridge*.

DEAR NOBODY (B. Doherty) *and* **THE PLAY OF KES** (B. Hines and Allan Stronach)

- 13** Speaking about the results of the pregnancy test, Helen asks, "How can something be negative and positive?" Explain the relevance of Helen's words to the play.
- 14** A central theme in *The Play of Kes* is attitude. Write about the way training Kes changes Billy's attitude towards people.
- 15** Write about the importance of parenthood in *Dear Nobody* and *The Play of Kes*.

**SECTION B
POETRY**

Answer ONE question only.

THE NEW DRAGON BOOK OF VERSE

- 1** The language of poetry makes it possible for poets to express amazement. Discuss with reference to any two of these poems: *We are going to see the Rabbit*, *The Tiger* and *The Discovery*.
- 2** Poetry is an exploration of life in all its forms. With specific reference to any two poems, show how well the poets present different life experiences.
- 3** William Carlos Williams describes a poem as ‘a machine made of words’ because a poem, like a machine, does something. With close reference to any two poems, explain what these poems attempt to achieve and how the poets manage to do it.

**SECTION C
PROSE**

Answer ONE question only on ONE text.

FRANKENSTEIN (M. Shelley)

- 1** Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* can be described as the story of the failure of a noble ambition. Discuss.
- 2** In the course of Shelley’s novel, Frankenstein receives two key gifts. From Viktor, Frankenstein receives the gift of life and from the deLaceys, he receives the gift of language. Write about the importance of these two gifts to Frankenstein.
- 3** In what ways are Viktor and Frankenstein both outsiders in the novel?

THE GREAT AUTOMATIC GRAMMATIZATOR AND OTHER STORIES (R. Dahl)

- 4** Write about two characteristics of Roald Dahl’s short stories that you feel make the narratives a good read.
- 5** With reference to two stories, illustrate how Roald Dahl creates horror.
- 6** Revenge is a common characteristic of Dahl’s short stories. Write about two instances of revenge, explaining the reasons behind the revenge and its outcomes.

ANIMAL FARM (G. Orwell)

- 7 Discuss the different examples of disloyalty that occur in *Animal Farm*.
- 8 Choose any two of the following and with close reference to the text, explain how they are explored in the novel:
friendship arrogance leadership truth
- 9 Write about how the power of language affects the animals in *Animal Farm*.

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PYJAMAS (J. Boyne)

- 10 When Bruno asks his father about the people he could see from the window, the father replies, 'Aha, those are not people – those people – well they're not people at all, Bruno ... they've nothing to do with you.' Explain how the novel shows that these words by Bruno's father are not true.
- 11 'You wear the right outfit and you feel like the person you're pretending to be'. Write about the relevance of these words by Bruno's grandmother to the novel.
- 12 *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* deals with the theme of children and their desire for friendship. Discuss.

PRIVATE PEACEFUL (M. Morpurgo)

- 13 Write about the theme of guilt in Michael Morpurgo's *Private Peaceful*.
- 14 Though they are miles apart, the village in England and the battlefield present the reader with similar examples of human behaviour. Illustrate this with close reference to the novel.
- 15 How important a part does loyalty play in Tommo's relationship with his brothers Charlie and Big Joe in *Private Peaceful*.

THE OTHER SIDE OF TRUTH (B. Naidoo)

- 16 The name Folasade, often shortened to Sade, is a traditional African Yoruba name suggesting someone 'deserving a crown'. In the light of this, explain why Beverley Naidoo's decision to name the protagonist Sade is a good choice.
- 17 The children are generally powerless in front of greater forces that lead to them 'simply being parcelled up [again] and sent to another address'. Discuss some of these forces.
- 18 Write about the relevance of the story of the leopard and the tortoise to the novel.

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MAY 2013 SESSION

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|---------------|---------------------------|
| SUBJECT: | English Literature |
| PAPER NUMBER: | IIB |
| DATE: | 16 th May 2013 |
| TIME: | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. |

Answer all Sections.

Each section carries equal marks.

**SECTION A
DRAMA**

Answer ONE question only on ONE text.

TWELFTH NIGHT (W. Shakespeare)

- 1 Compare and contrast Viola/Cesario and Malvolio's behaviour as servants.
- 2 Several characters in *Twelfth Night* let themselves be carried away by their feelings of ambition. Mention two episodes where this occurs and write about the consequences.
- 3 The Fool's final song ends with the thought that hardships of life do not matter as actors will always be there to please the audience. What aspects of *Twelfth Night* did you find most enjoyable and why?

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (W. Shakespeare)

- 4 Write about the character of the Prince of Morocco and the Prince of Arragon as they appear in *The Merchant of Venice*.
- 5 Although *The Merchant of Venice* deals with many serious issues, it is still considered a comedy. Write about a humorous character and his/her importance in the play.
- 6 Should Shylock be considered a villain or a victim or possibly both? Write about your opinion of this character giving examples from the play.

MACBETH (W. Shakespeare)

- 7 What do Macbeth's two hallucinations (that of the dagger and that of Banquo's ghost) and Lady Macbeth's sleepwalking visions reveal about the characters?
- 8 Write about the character of Banquo in the play.
- 9 Compare and contrast Duncan and Macbeth as kings in the play.

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE (A. Miller)

- 10 Eddie always finds fault with his niece's suitors. Comment on the objections he raises to Rodolpho as a suitor to Catherine in the course of the play.
- 11 How does Catherine change in the course of the play and why?
- 12 Write an essay on the part played by Marco in the play.

DEAR NOBODY (B. Doherty) *and* **THE PLAY OF KES** (B. Hines and Allan Stronach)

- 13 Write about the role of any two characters, besides Chris and Helen, in *Dear Nobody*.
- 14 *The Play of Kes* presents different relationships between sons and mothers. Discuss two of these relationships.
- 15 *Dear Nobody* and *The Play of Kes* are fictional but deal with situations that are very real. Write about these situations.

SECTION B
POETRY

Answer ONE question only.

THE NEW DRAGON BOOK OF VERSE

- 1 Poetry brings the reader face to face with a variety of human experiences. Show how true this is with close reference to any two poems you have studied.
- 2 We may not like poetry a great deal but there is always a poem we like. Write about one poem you enjoyed from *The New Dragon Book of Verse* explaining why you liked it.
- 3 A number of poems you have studied deal with negative experiences. Choose two poems and show how the poets create a sense of negativity.

SECTION C
PROSE

Answer ONE question only on ONE text.

FRANKENSTEIN (M. Shelley)

- 1 After his creation of the monster, Viktor's life and the lives of his family members are devastated by a number of evil events. Write about some of these events.
- 2 What is the part played by families and family relationships in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*?
- 3 Write an essay about the themes of selfishness and self-sacrifice in *Frankenstein*.

THE GREAT AUTOMATIC GRAMMATIZATOR AND OTHER STORIES
(R. Dahl)

- 4 Write about two of these female characters:
Lady Tutton Ms Bixby Katina
- 5 Some of the characters in the stories have an aim that they try to reach in a strange manner. Explain with reference to two of these stories:
Royal Jelly *The Great Automatic Grammatizator* *The Landlady*
- 6 A number of stories concern characters that are cheated by others. Write about two such characters.

ANIMAL FARM (G. Orwell)

- 7 Write about the two attempts to rebuild the windmill and how these both fail.
- 8 Without the presence of Boxer, the other animals would not have been able to work together. With close reference to the text discuss this character's contribution to the novel.
- 9 Compare and contrast the different styles of leadership in *Animal Farm*.

Please turn the page.

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PYJAMAS (J. Boyne)

- 10 Write about the differences between Bruno's life in Berlin and in Auschwitz.
- 11 Bruno and Shmuel come from very different backgrounds but are seen holding hands before entering the gas chamber. Write about some of the things that bring the boys together.
- 12 *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* speaks of many boundaries. Write about two of these.

PRIVATE PEACEFUL (M. Morpurgo)

- 13 *Private Peaceful* is a record of Tommo's memories on the night before the morning of his brother's execution. Write about two childhood memories that make Tommo particularly eager to survive.
- 14 In the fourth chapter of the novel, Charlie saves Bertha's life. Write about this event – and the Colonel's reaction to it – and how this helps the reader understand life in the village.
- 15 Choose two female characters from *Private Peaceful* and explain their role in the novel.

THE OTHER SIDE OF TRUTH (B. Naidoo)

- 16 In England, Sade 'tossed in her bed ... trying to shut out memories from their last terrible day at home'. With close reference to the novel, write about what happens to Sade's family on the last day at home.
- 17 Write about two of the following:
Folarin (Sade's father) Ms Bankole The Graham Family Marcia
- 18 'Bullies frighten us into believing they are powerful.' Explain the relevance of this advice by Mama in *The Other Side of Truth*.