



STUDENT NUMBER

CENTRE NUMBER

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

1997

CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH

2 UNIT

PAPER 1—READING AND WRITING

(50 Marks)

5 QUESTIONS

*Time allowed—Two hours
(Plus 10 minutes reading time)*

DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your Student Number and Centre Number at the top right-hand corner of both this page and page 9.
- Attempt ALL FIVE questions.
 - Question 1 is worth 8 marks.
 - Question 2 is worth 5 marks.
 - Question 3 is worth 12 marks.
 - Question 4 is worth 6 marks.
 - Question 5 is worth 19 marks.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided in the TWO examination booklets.
- Detach the Stimulus Booklet and use it to answer the questions.
- You may write planning notes on the unruled pages of this paper. Clearly cancel any work that you do not wish the examiners to mark, by drawing a line through it.
- Before you begin to answer a question, take time to read through all parts of the question.

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HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

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PAPER 1—READING AND WRITING

QUESTIONS 1, 2, AND 3
(25 Marks)

QUESTION 1. (8 marks)

Marks

Turn to page 3 of the Stimulus Booklet and read Item 1, 'Traineeships Make Good Business Sense'.

(a) What is the target audience for this brochure? **1**

.....

(b) Select TWO pieces of evidence from the brochure to support your answer in Question 1 (a). **1**

(i)

(ii)

(c) List TWO benefits of a Traineeship for each of the following people: **2**

(i) an employer;

1.

2.

(ii) a trainee.

1.

2.

(d) What language techniques does the brochure use to make the information clear and easy to understand? **2**

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(e) (i) Describe ONE visual feature (for example: picture, graph, etc.) which could be used to make the information in this brochure more appealing to its target audience. **2**
(Do NOT draw this feature.)

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(ii) Explain your suggestion.

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QUESTION 3. (12 marks)

Marks

Turn to pages 5, 6, and 7 of the Stimulus Booklet and read Items 3A, 3B, and 3C.

- (a) According to the letter under the heading 'Mail Box' (Item 3A) what is the price of TV violence? **1**

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- (b) (i) Look carefully at Item 3B. What attitude to violence is shown in the advertisement 'What's New on Video'? **2**

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- (ii) Name TWO features of the advertisement that promote this attitude.

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- (c) (i) What are the TWO expert groups whose ideas are discussed in the article 'No Sense in Separate Video Censorship' (Item 3C)? **4**

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- (ii) Explain the meaning of 'dual classification' as used in this article.

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- (iii) In your own words, explain what is meant by the statement 'There is real concern about discipline in video stores.' (third column).

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QUESTION 3. (Continued)

Marks

- (d) Write a letter about violence in the media to the editor of a teenage magazine. Your letter will express your opinion on some important aspects of this issue for young people. **5**

In your letter you may refer to the information provided in Items 3A, 3B, and 3C, and/or material from any other source.

Dear Editor

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A. Student
Oldtown NSW

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**PAPER 1—READING AND WRITING
(continued)**

QUESTIONS 4 AND 5

(25 Marks)

QUESTION 4. (6 marks)

Marks

Turn to page 9 of the Stimulus Booklet and read Item 4. This advertisement appeared in a lifestyle magazine.

- (a) What does the Queensland Government Travel Centre promote in this advertisement? **2**

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- (b) Explain how the words and visual features make the advertisement effective. **4**

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QUESTION 5. (19 marks)

Marks

Turn to pages 10 and 11 of the Stimulus Booklet and read Item 5. The article ‘It’s Just One Big Holiday’ was recently published in a book of contemporary writing about Australia.

Answer the following questions.

(a) This piece of writing is entertaining and it also makes serious points. **3**

(i) In your own words, explain how the writer entertains the reader.

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(ii) Identify TWO serious points in this piece of writing.

1.
2.

QUESTION 5. (Continued)

Marks

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QUESTION 5. (Continued)

Marks

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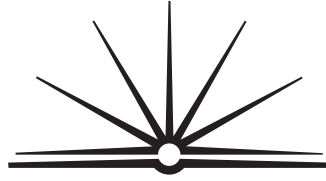
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Hope to hear from you soon.

Your friend in Australia.

(Do NOT write your name)

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BOARD OF STUDIES
NEW SOUTH WALES

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

1997

**CONTEMPORARY
ENGLISH**

2 UNIT

**PAPER 1—READING AND WRITING
STIMULUS BOOKLET**

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ITEM 1

TRAINEESHIPS

MAKE GOOD BUSINESS SENSE

More and more, businesses are discovering how Traineeships can actually improve their bottom line.

Traineeships combine work and training, like apprenticeships, but over a shorter period. Trainees quickly develop practical skills to make a positive contribution to their employer's productivity.

How Traineeships work

Traineeships provide industry endorsed and accredited quality training that can be tailored to suit individual enterprises. The period of training is generally 12 months. They can feed in to an employer's more advanced training needs, such as apprenticeships.

Training is delivered as follows:

- either totally on-the-job by the employer, or
- off-the-job with an accredited provider, or
- a combination of the two methods.

Traineeships are supported by the Commonwealth Government through incentive payments to employers who recruit Trainees.

Traineeships. The growing trend

Employers like you have responded to Traineeships. From 1994/95 to 1995/96, the number of Traineeship commencements has doubled—from 16 800 to 36 500.

Traditional sectors such as retail, manufacturing, hospitality and clerical are taking on more Traineeships.

Growth in the new industries

There's a big growth in media, information technology, sport and recreation and business sectors.

For many Trainees, it's their first real chance to build a career.

Smaller businesses see the value

Smaller businesses take business decisions seriously. They want to survive and to ensure future success. Already, they see the benefits of Traineeships.

Fact: Small and medium sized businesses accounted for the majority of Traineeship commencements in 1995/96.

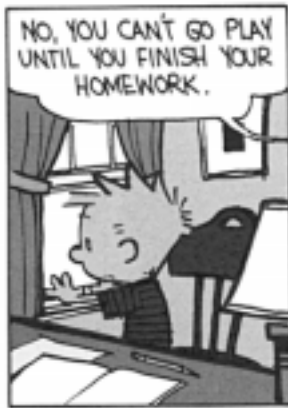
Your next step

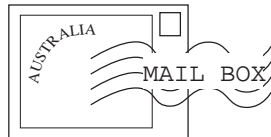
Read the brochure for the Traineeship that suits your needs. Further details are available from the relevant Industry Training Company, State Chamber of Commerce and Industry, or your local Chamber of Commerce, Group Training Company or CES office.

For a cost-effective employee willing to learn the business your way, a Traineeship is the way to go.

ITEM 2

Calvin and Hobbes © Watterson. Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.



ITEM 3A**Price of TV violence**

CONGRATULATIONS on your 'In My View' column as it gives a person an opportunity to hear and read other people's opinions.

I would just like to say how sad it is that we have to have so much violence on TV. It's no wonder it carries over on our streets, as some young people think that's the normal way to live, and what a price we are paying for it.

Let's hope that the people who allow all this to happen wake up before things get any worse.

J. W. Thorsness,
Griffith

ITEM 3B

WHAT'S NEW ON VIDEO?

**If you enjoyed
ROBOCOP and
UNIVERSAL SOLDIER,
you'll love SOLO's
mix of high-tech
special effects and
explosive action-
thrills.**

SOLO is a prototype for the soldier of the future—a \$2 billion, state-of-the-art weapon created by the U.S. Government. He is virtually indestructible—15-times stronger and 10-times faster than any man. But there's a problem, a programming glitch . . . SOLO is becoming more than a machine. In this stunning futuristic thriller, MARIO VAN PEBBLES (from NEW JACK CITY and HIGHLANDER III) stars as a terminator who rebels against the merciless orders of his makers and finds his own 'life' in danger when the covert organisation decides to keep their secret weapon a secret, by destroying it.

**GRAB A COPY TODAY AT
YOUR FAVOURITE VIDEO
STORE!**

**DUE TO COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS THIS
IMAGE COULD NOT BE REPRODUCED.**

ITEM 3C

No sense in separate video censorship

DUE TO COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS THIS IMAGE COULD NOT BE REPRODUCED.



Adapted from an article by David Marr

Classification restrictions on videos as proposed by Canberra's morals committee are simply unnecessary.

Videos are an odd object of fear right now in Australia. Last week the Senate's Committee on Community Standards—known in Canberra as the morals committee—issued yet further recommendations to save us before it's too late from the dangers posed by movies issued in black boxes.

The trouble is, so many of us now have video players at home. What was once minority entertainment is now almost as widely available as free-to-air television. So the Senate committee which has successfully limited what can be seen on television screens in this country is turning its attention, more than ever before, to video. Now it wants special restrictions on films once they're put into the black boxes, restrictions that will make them unavailable, or available only in

Sylvester Stallone in *Rambo: First Blood*

censored form in video stores across the country.

This sort of dual classification has long been opposed. The argument is that a film is a film whether it's on video or up on the cinema screen. If it's R at Hoyts' it's R at home. But the Senate standards committee particularly wants to weed from the video shelves what it calls 'extreme R'.

The chairman of the committee, Senator John Tierney, says such films 'certainly should be edited in some way'. He declined to say what films he meant, nor what should be cut from them but said, 'Films classified R because of high-level violence should not be available through video stores'. Australia, of course, already bans films that show unduly detailed and extreme violence. They can be seen neither on screen nor rented through video stores. What Tierney is talking about are 'the sort of films that are already cut for television'.

Tierney's committee also recommended stickers should be put on 'all R-rated violent videos' to warn customers that these might be 'harmful to the mental well-being of children and those adults suffering from depression and other mental disorders'.

What also worries the Senate committee members is the sight

of kids under 18 at work behind video shop counters on Saturday evenings, kids who are expected by law to refuse to hire R-rated videos to people their own age. Senator Margaret Reynolds is deputy chair of the committee: 'There is real concern about discipline in video stores. There are stores where anything goes and there are video stores where material is appropriately graded.'

Last week's recommendations are the latest stage in a long campaign against the freedom of the video store.

The Australian Video Retailers Association denies there is a problem but is preparing a new set of guidelines for its members to follow. They consider the latest recommendations from the committee 'completely unnecessary'.

The video retailers have a good point. In this debate we need to remember that there are already government guidelines which ban any 'unduly detailed, relished or cruel' depictions of violence on film and video.

Courtesy David Marr.

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ITEM 4



Defrost the family.



Unlike pets, people shouldn't have cold noses. They shouldn't have cold toes either. If your family is suffering from these symptoms, act fast. The Gold Coast has enough sun, blue skies and warm golden beaches to replace that old electric blanket. Theme parks, sight seeing tours and water activities should chip away the rest of the ice. So you don't need a heater. You need a travel agent.

THE *ever* CHANGING *ALWAYS* amazing GOLD COAST

For bookings and further information on your 'Beautiful One Day, Perfect the Next' holiday contact the Queensland Government Travel Centre
OR your Licensed/AFTA travel agent.

ITEM 5

IT'S JUST ONE BIG HOLIDAY

In the article Anita Heiss, a young Aboriginal writer, pokes fun at the way in which Australians celebrate public holidays and other special days in the year.

Australia is truly the lucky country when speaking in terms of public holidays. These paid days off work are so entrenched that they start on the first day of January. From backyard gatherings to lavish multi-course dinners, to shows in classy hotels, Aussies go the whole hog when it comes to celebrating the last day of December. And no matter where you are, New Year's Eve sees the dregs come out in an attempt to see how much alcohol they can consume and how obnoxious they can become. This kind of *yobbo*¹ behaviour happens on an average Friday night at the local pub, too.

Celebrations vary throughout the nation with fireworks on Sydney Harbour to brawls in Byron Bay, while dancing on bars in pubs is synonymous with New Year's Eve culture—as well as most Friday nights—in most pubs and clubs around Australia. Balloons, streamers, and party hats are handed out freely as people get in the swing of New Year celebrations.

New Year's Day itself is traditionally a day off to recover from all the beer, pot and pan banging and whistle blowing in suburban streets the night before. Hangovers are dealt with by drinking the *hair of the dog*², loads of sleep, Beroccas, vitamin B, aspirin, anything remotely greasy and naturally, the Mac Attack. The most interesting thing about this holiday is that if January 1st falls on a Saturday or Sunday, then the holiday will be taken on Monday. The tradition is that a day off work must be had whatever happens.

The most bizarre of the public holidays in the country is the day given to Aussies to

celebrate the invasion of this land. On the 26th of January each year, a national holiday is given in the name of Australia Day. On this day parties, barbecues and lots of alcoholic drinks are enjoyed by a population who, for the most part, have no idea what they are celebrating. This day, for indigenous people, marks the beginning of colonisation and genocide as well as the continuous struggle for survival. And still Australia parties hard in the name of just having another party!

As Aussies toast their main man, Captain (Came and Took) Cook, as the one who discovered Australia (but seriously, how can you discover a country that already has people in it???), the day is given a full program of events that range from flag-raising ceremonies, concerts in the Domain, international wheelchair races, ferrythons, regattas, kayak sprint races to the naming of the Australia Day Award winners. Flags are flown with the Union Jack as a reminder of the origins of the convicts, thieves and whores that make up the ancestry of some of white Australia, as people swear an oath at the hundreds of citizenship ceremonies around the country. Another gentle reminder that, in this melting-pot, the original owners of this land gained citizenship rights as late as 1967.

Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday provide the hard-working people of this land with ample time to purchase, hide, find and eat the numerous foil-covered eggs that adorn shop shelves for months before the Easter weekend. It's over this period that

ITEM 5. (Continued)

many people get the opportunity to visit a favourite exhibit in the Royal Easter Show in Sydney. For some unexplained reason, Victorian State Public Offices also have Easter Tuesday as a holiday and Tasmania has a Bank Holiday, but what about the rest of Australia? Why do we miss out?

Anzac Day is another public holiday that remembers the Australian and New Zealand troops who landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula in the Dardanelles on April 25th, 1915. Gallipoli not only demonstrated the mistakes of the British commanders, but also Australia's blind loyalty to the British Empire—BRING ON THE REPUBLIC! This public holiday enjoyed by all Australians begins with the dawn service and march near the local RSL (Returned Servicemen's League) Club. Returning to the club for a veterans' breakfast, the day is then spent by *Diggers*³ and their families, alongside those who see the day as just another public holiday or another excuse for a drink.

The second Sunday in May marks a special day for mothers. Young children are busy burning toast to serve cold, causing destruction in the kitchen, plucking flower-like weeds from the neighbour's garden and scribbling their names on home-made cards, while mothers do their bit by waiting for the umpteenth pair of slippers or tacky tin of talcum picked up at the Mother's Day stall at school.

Not to be outdone, the first Sunday in September is traditionally Father's Day, where dads are given countless chequered hankies, daggy white y-fronts

and grey walking socks, along with car-care kits and blank video tapes to film the grand final. Golf balls, chocolate-coated peanuts and track suits are also common gifts for the man of the house.

Aussies still, irrelevant as it is, celebrate the Queen's Birthday by taking a long weekend. The illogical thing about this public holiday is that the holiday is taken in June (In September in Western Australia), but the old girl's birthday actually falls in April.

Christmas Day is supposed to be a religious day celebrating the birth of Christ. For many this is yet another day taken as a holiday because it says so on the calendar. Boxing Day is a holiday to finish all the leftovers from the day before. Labour days are probably the most ironic of the public holidays in Australia, as no labour occurs on these designated days off, because the good old unions would be there in no time.

So entrenched in Aussie culture is the public holiday that it is far from a privilege for workers to have a paid day off. It is a right that holiday worshippers would argue should be written into the United Nations Charter of Human Rights.

Adapted from an article by ANITA HEISS

- 1 *yobbo* loud, rough.
- 2 *hair of the dog* a hangover remedy.
- 3 *Diggers* past and present
 members of the
 Australian Army.

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