

GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2005
OKTOBER / NOVEMBER 2005

ENGLISH PRIMARY LANGUAGE HG
(Third Paper: Creative Writing,
Transactional Writing and Literature)

TIME: 2½ hours

MARKS: 120

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer FIVE questions as follows:

- **SECTION A: Creative Writing – Answer ONE question.**
- **SECTION B: Transactional Writing**

Question 1: The Letter – Answer ONE question.

Question 2: Further Transactional Writing – Answer ONE question.

Question 3: Shorter Transactional Writing – Answer ONE question.

- **SECTION C: Literature**

Answer ONE of the following questions. Your answer in this section should be either an essay or a contextual. If you choose the essay, your essay should not be longer than 500 words.

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------------------------|------------|------------|
| ○ Question 1 | Focus | (R. Meyer) | Essay |
| ○ Question 2 | Focus | (R. Meyer) | Contextual |
| ○ Question 3 | To Kill a Man's Pride | (N. Hodge) | Essay |
| ○ Question 4 | To Kill a Man's Pride | (N. Hodge) | Contextual |
| ○ Question 5 | Strictly Ballroom | (Film) | Essay |
| ○ Question 6 | Strictly Ballroom | (Film) | Contextual |

- Clearly number your choices.
 - Rule off after each complete question.
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SECTION A
CREATIVE WRITING

QUESTION 1

Select ONE of the topics below and write an original composition of 400 to 500 words. For your writing to be sincere and credible, it should reflect your values, views and experiences. Make sure that you select a topic which you understand and to which you can relate. Avoid plagiarism or prepared writing. Provide your composition with a title, if one is not given, and be sure to indicate the number of the topic you have selected.

1. **Free to be me.**



2. Write a descriptive essay entitled:

2.1 City Slicker

OR

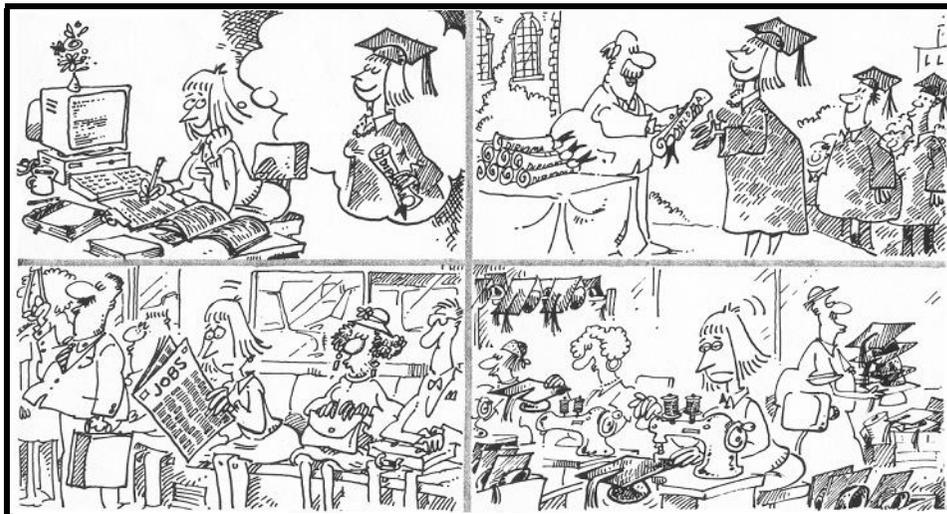
2.2 A day in the township

3. **South Africans are poor losers.** Discuss this topic in a philosophical or argumentative manner.

4. Write a narrative essay entitled "***Those were the best days of my life***".

5. Use the cartoon below as an inspiration for an essay. You may concentrate on all or any of the frames in your writing.

A Mad Look at Graduation



Mad Magazine

6. "The penetrating siren of the ambulance prevented any clear thought."

Write a short story that contains the words above. These words may occur at any point in your story.



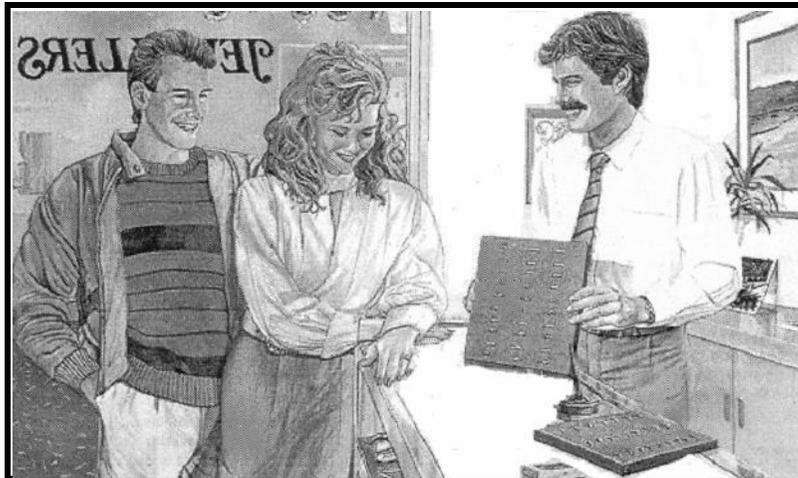
7. "Good fences make good neighbours."

8. **My father – my hero!**

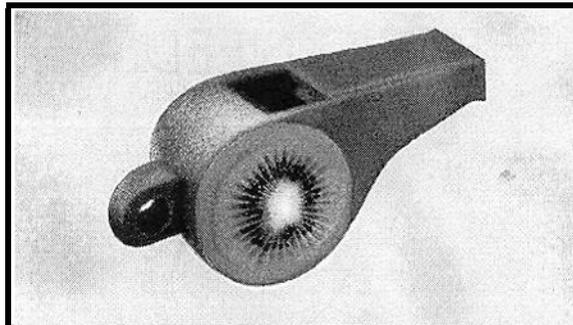


9. Select ONE of the graphics below and write a creative response. Be sure to number your choice clearly and supply an appropriate title.

9.1



9.2



TOTAL FOR SECTION A: [40]

SECTION B
TRANSACTIONAL WRITING

You are required to answer THREE questions from this section.

- One letter from Question 1.
- One longer piece of transactional writing from Question 2.
- One short piece of transactional writing from Question 3.

REMEMBER THAT EACH PIECE OF WRITING REQUIRES A DIFFERENT FORMAT.

**QUESTION 1
LETTER WRITING**

Select ONE topic from this question. The body of your letter should be about 200 words in length.

- 1.1 You require a guest speaker for a cultural awards evening at your educational institution. Write to a well-known South African stage or screen personality, inviting him or her to perform this function.
- 1.2 Below is an edited version of an editorial which appeared in the *Sunday Times* shortly after the 2004 elections.

Defensiveness does not become them

South Africa's ruling party has nothing to feel insecure about. It has won the endorsement of nearly 70% of voters after leading two broadly successful governments since 1994.

The ANC has guided the country through 10 years of transition. Against a backdrop of rapid globalisation, it began in 1994 to lay the foundations for future growth and to improve the lives of millions of people.

However, we cannot and should not lose sight of the two impediments to our continued progress, those of unemployment and poverty.

Sunday Times, 9 May 2004

Write a letter to the press in which you give your opinion of the positive and negative aspects of the New South Africa.

- 1.3 You have been provisionally accepted at the tertiary institution of your choice. Write a letter of thanks to the person who has inspired you in your selection of career path.

[20]

AND

**QUESTION 2
FURTHER TRANSACTIONAL WRITING**

Write a response to ONE of the topics below. Your answer should be about 200 words in length.

- 2.1 As a reporter for your local newspaper, you have been asked to review the opening night of a theme restaurant which has opened in your residential area. Write your review, keeping in mind the target market of the restaurant.
- 2.2 Wearing uniforms can be a problem. You have been asked to conduct an investigation and write a report about the degree of success of the use of uniforms in the institution in which you find yourself. This might be in an educational institution or in the workplace.

[20]

AND

**QUESTION 3
SHORTER TRANSACTIONAL WRITING**

Respond to ONE topic from this question. Your answer should be about 80 words in length.

- 3.1 As a fundraiser, a few selected South African Bands are coming together for a *Battle of the Bands* competition. Design a flyer which will be used to publicise this event.
- 3.2 It is your friend's birthday and you intend to hold a surprise party for him or her. Write the informal invitation which you will send to the invited guests.
- 3.3 You are privileged to be representing South Africa on an overseas sporting tour. Write a postcard to your parents, describing your experiences.

[10]

TOTAL FOR SECTION B: [50]

SECTION C
NOVEL

Answer ONE question from this section.

FOCUS compiled by R. Meyer

QUESTION 1
ESSAY

Discuss how the personality traits of the Teacher in Richard Rive's *The Visits* turn him into a victim of his own making.

[30]

OR

QUESTION 2
CONTEXTUAL

Read the text before answering the questions which follow.

The Schoolmaster by Pauline Smith

Jan Boetje stood up in the cart and slashed at them, and they backed toward the stream. Jan Boetje jumped from the cart, and with the stick end of his whip struck the mules over the eyes, and his face, that had grown so dear to me, was suddenly strange and terrible to see. I cried to him: 'Jan Boetje! Jan Boetje!' but the weakness of my chest was upon me and I could make no sound. I rose in the cart to climb out of it, and as I rose Jan Boetje had a knife in his hand and dug it into the eyes of the mules to blind them. Sharp above the laughter of the children and the cries of the wild geese there came a terrible scream, and I fell from the cart onto the soft grey sand of the river bed. When I rose again the mules were far down the stream, with the cart bumping and splintering behind them, and Jan Boetje after them. And so quickly had his madness come upon him that still the children laughed and clapped their hands, and still the wild geese flew among the great red rocks above us.

5

10

- 2.1 Place the passage in context by explaining the following:
- 2.1.1 Why have they come here on this specific day? (2)
- 2.1.2 What precipitates (causes) Jan Boetje's behaviour? (2)
- 2.2 Refer to lines 1 to 3.
- 2.2.1 Comment on the effectiveness of the writer's use of strong verbs in these lines. (2)
- 2.3 "...the weakness of my chest was upon me"
- 2.3.1 Do you agree that Engela is physically weak but mentally strong? Explain your answer. (3)

- 2.4 Refer to lines 7 to 9.
- 2.4.1 The writer effectively juxtaposes sounds with the action taking place. Explain. (3)
- 2.4.2 From where does the “terrible scream” emanate? Provide proof for your answer. (2)
- 2.5 How has the writer prepared us for what happens in this extract? (3)
- 2.6 Explain how the writer makes use of the senses in this extract. (3)
- 2.7 2.7.1 Explain how Jan Boetje is punished for his deeds. (3)
- 2.7.2 How does this episode affect Engela’s feelings for him? (3)
- 2.8 This day out turns out very differently to what Engela has hoped. What, do you think, were her expectations for the day? (2)
- 2.9 Explain why the style of narration is so effective in this story. (2)
- [30]**

OR

TO KILL A MAN’S PRIDE edited by N Hodge

**QUESTION 3
ESSAY**

Write an essay of about 500 words in length in which you discuss how the conflict between the rural and encroaching urban world is explored in the story, ***The Wind and the Boy*** by **Bessie Head**.

[30]

OR

**QUESTION 4
CONTEXTUAL**

Read the following extract taken from ***Unto Dust*** by **Herman Charles Bosman** and answer the set questions.

Stoffel Oosthuizen paused in his narrative, and I let my imagination dwell for a moment on that situation. And I realized just how those Boers must have felt about it: about the thought of bringing the remains of a Transvaal burgher home to his widow for Christian burial, and perhaps having a lot of kafir bones mixed up with the burgher – lying with him in the same tomb on which the mauve petals from the oleander overhead would fall 5

“I remember one of our party saying that that was one of these worst kafir wars,” Stoffel Oosthuizen continued. “If it had been a war against the English, and part of a dead Englishman had got lifted into that coffin by mistake, it wouldn’t have mattered so much,” he said. 10

<p>There seemed to me in this story to be something as strange as the African veld. Stoffel Oosthuizen said that the little party of Boers spent almost a whole afternoon with the remains in order to try to get the white man sorted out from the kafir. By the evening they had laid all they could find of what seemed like Hans Welman's bones in the coffin in the Cape-cart. The rest of the bones and flesh they buried on the spot.</p>	15
<p>Stoffel Oosthuizen added that, no matter what the difference in the colour of their skin had been, it was impossible to say that the kafir's bones were any less white than Hans Welman's. Nor was it possible to say that the kafir's sun-dried flesh was any blacker than the white man's. Alive, you couldn't go wrong in distinguishing between a white man and a kafir. Dead, you had great difficulty in telling them apart.</p>	20
<p>"Naturally, we burghers felt very bitter about this whole affair," Stoffel Oosthuizen said, "and our resentment was something that we couldn't explain, quite. Afterwards, several other men who were there that day told me that they had the same feelings of suppressed anger that I did. They wanted somebody – just once – to make a remark such as 'in death they were not divided'. Then you would have seen an outburst all right. Nobody did say anything like that, however. We all knew better. Two days later a funeral service was conducted in the little cemetery on the Welman farm, and shortly afterwards the sandstone memorial was erected that you can still see there."</p>	25
<p>That was the story Stoffel Oosthuizen told me after I had recovered from the fever. It was a story that, as I have said, had in it features as strange as the African veld. But it brought me no peace in my broodings after that attack of malaria. Especially when Stoffel Oosthuizen spoke of how he had occasion, one clear night when the stars shone, to pass that quiet graveyard on the Welman farm. Something leapt up from the mound beside the sandstone slab. It gave him quite a turn, Stoffel Oosthuizen said, for the third time – and in that way – to come across that yellow kafir dog.</p>	30
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- 4.1 How is both the narrator's as well as Stoffel Oosthuizen's prejudice introduced in the opening paragraph? (3)
- 4.2 Briefly explain how the "mix-up" came about in the first place. (3)
- 4.3 Write a paragraph detailing how H.C. Bosman satirises the people of the Marico district. You need to refer to the story as a whole. (5)
- 4.4 Consider lines 17 to 22: discuss the inherent irony found in Stoffel Oosthuizen's comments – especially in the light of the whole intention of his story. (4)
- 4.5 Examine lines 26 to 28: what tone would you attribute to their comments, "They wanted somebody – just once – to make a remark such as 'in death they were not divided'? Justify your answer. (2)
- 4.6 Clearly explain how the yellow dog acts as a motif (a repeated element) in unifying the story. (4)
- 4.7 Provide a detailed explanation of the Biblical allusion found in the title of the story: **Unto Dust** (3)

4.8 Why do you think this story has been included in the collection, **To Kill A Man's Pride**? You must refer to the pride of both the Afrikaner community and that of the black man.

(6)
[30]

OR

STRICTLY BALLROOM

**QUESTION 5
ESSAY**

The debate is not so much that the characters in **Strictly Ballroom** are **stereotypes** (a person or thing which seems to conform to a widely accepted type, mould), but that the characters are **archetypes** (original, prototypes; a typical specimen).

How far would you say that this statement is correct? Examine the characters in **Strictly Ballroom**, and the way that they are presented filmically, in support of your answer.

[30]

OR

**QUESTION 6
CONTEXTUAL**

Examine the still and answer the questions that follow.



The above still is of Liz Holt

- 6.1 6.1.1 With which colour do we associate her? (1)
- 6.1.2 What does the colour symbolise and what does it tell us about this character? (4)

- 6.2 Describe Liz's appearance carefully and explain why the director has chosen to have her costumed in this fashion. (6)
- 6.3 6.3.1 Who partners Liz after she refuses to dance with Scott? (1)
- 6.3.2 Explain the circumstances behind their convenient partnership. (3)
- 6.3.3 Discuss the relationship between Liz and her new partner. (4)
- 6.4 In the beginning of the film, we do not much like Liz. Is our opinion of her modified by the end of the film? How does the director encourage us to think differently about her? (5)
- 6.5 Liz can be described as melodramatic. Discuss one incident from the film which clearly demonstrates her melodramatic behaviour. Discuss how the director employs film techniques to emphasise her behaviour. (6)

[30]

TOTAL FOR SECTION C: [30]

TOTAL: 120