

GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

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

FEB / MARCH / MAART 2006

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.

- |                       |   |            |            |
|-----------------------|---|------------|------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | Question 1 <b>Focus</b>                 | (R. Meyer) | Essay      |
| <input type="radio"/> | Question 2 <b>Focus</b>                 | (R. Meyer) | Contextual |
| <input type="radio"/> | Question 3 <b>To Kill a Man's Pride</b> | (N. Hodge) | Essay      |
| <input type="radio"/> | Question 4 <b>To Kill a Man's Pride</b> | (N Hodge)  | Contextual |
| <input type="radio"/> | Question 5 <b>Strictly Ballroom</b>     | (Film)     | Essay      |
| <input type="radio"/> | Question 6 <b>Strictly Ballroom</b>     | (Film)     | Contextual |
- Clearly number your choices.
  - Rule off after each complete question.

SECTION A  
CREATIVE WRITING

QUESTION 1

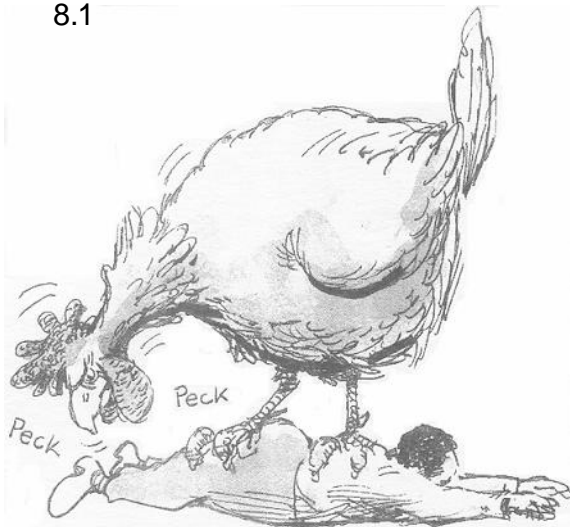
Select ONE of the topics below and write an original composition of 400 to 500 words. For your writing to be sincere and credible, it should reflect your values, views and experiences. Make sure that you select a topic you understand and to which you can relate. Avoid plagiarism or prepared writing. 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. Freedom in my lifetime.
2. South Africans do not understand the meaning of charity! Respond to this topic.
3. Write about an experience that illustrates the following: "The best advice my father gave me was never to quit".
4. "The object of playing any sport is to win the game and not to develop an individual".  
Write an argumentative essay in which you either accept or reject this view.
5. My hobby – my inspiration.
6. "I couldn't stand still...I was shaking with excitement."  
Use this line as a starting point for a story.
7. Write an essay entitled:
  - 7.1 Home alone!

OR

- 7.2 Cinema addict!
8. Select ONE of the cartoons below and write a creative response. Be sure to number your choice clearly and supply an appropriate title.

8.1



8.2



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 The South African Football Association (SAFA) has won the right to host the 2010 Soccer World Cup. It has asked for volunteers (male and female) to help in the planning of this event. In addition, some of the volunteers will go to Germany during the 2006 Soccer World Cup to gain experience.

Write to SAFA, urging them to select you as a volunteer. Be sure to 'sell' yourself to SAFA.

- 1.2 The following letter appeared in your local newspaper:

I am a pensioner who is 72 years old. Recently as I was returning from the supermarket with my purchases, I boarded a bus. The bus was packed with school children and university students (14 years to 19 years). Not one 'teenager' offered me a seat. I remained standing for the duration of the trip. Teenagers today have no manners!

"Disgusted"

Write a letter to the press in which you disagree with "Disgusted's" letter.

- 1.3 You are studying in another province. Your mother commented recently that she misses the relationship she had with you previously. You felt upset because your mother has played a significant role in your life.

Write a letter to your mother, assuring her of the love that you have for her. Remember to avoid over-sentimentality.

(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 Your local newspaper has asked you to review one of the films currently on circuit. Write your film review.
- 2.2 The company that you work for is planning to operate a subsidized canteen. You are the workers' representative. You have been asked to consider the request and present a report to management. Write your report. (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 You are the chairperson of a youth organization where you live. Your organization has decided to hold a "Fun Day". Write the text for the poster that will advertise the event.
- 3.2 Your previous school has decided to hold a fund-raising dinner with a well-known personality (sporting or social) as the guest of honour. The school has approached you to write the formal invitation that will be sent to the invited guests.
- 3.3 You have been lucky to be chosen to spend a year at an educational institution / a workplace outside of South Africa. Write a postcard to your friend, 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

***Manhood*** by John Wain

The autocratic behaviour of parents often has negative consequences for their children. In an essay of approximately 500 words discuss the reasons for Mr Willison behaving so autocratically. Then discuss the effects of his behaviour on his family.

[30]

OR

QUESTION 2  
CONTEXTUAL

Read the text before answering the questions which follow.

***The Voter*** by Chinua Achebe

‘Yes, two shillings is shameful. If Marcus were a poor man – which our ancestors forbid – I should be the first to give him my paper free, as I did before. But today Marcus is a great man and does things like a great man. We did not ask him for money yesterday; we shall not ask him tomorrow. But today is our day; we have climbed the iroko tree today and we would be foolish not to take down all the firewood we need.’

5

Roof had to agree. He had been taking down a lot of firewood himself lately. Only yesterday he had asked Marcus for one of his many rich robes – and had got it. Last Sunday Marcus’s wife had objected (like the woman she was) when Roof pulled out his fifth bottle of beer from the refrigerator; she was roundly and publicly rebuked by her husband. To cap it all Roof had won a land case recently because, among other things, he had been chauffeur-driven to the disputed site. So he understood the elders about the firewood.

10

‘All right’, he said in English and then reverted to Ibo. ‘Let us not quarrel about small things.’ He stood up, adjusted his robes and plunged his hand once more into the bag. Then he bent down like a priest distributing the host and gave one shilling more to every man; only he did not put it into their palms but on the floor in front of them. The men who had so far not wanted to touch the things, looked at the floor and shook their heads. Roof got up again and gave each man another shilling.

15

2.1 Refer to line 1.

2.1.1 Explain what the two shillings are for. (2)

2.1.2 Why do the elders expect more money? (2)

2.1.3 Explain why the reasons given in 2.1.2 are ironic. (3)

- 2.2 But today Marcus is a great man and does things like a great man' (lines 2 – 3).
- 2.2.1 Why is Marcus considered to be a great man? (2)
- 2.3 ‘...we would be foolish not to take down all the firewood we need” (lines 4 – 5).
- 2.3.1 Explain what is meant here. (2)
- 2.3.2 Explain how Roof has taken down a lot of firewood himself. (2)
- 2.4 Refer to line 8.
- 2.4.1 How do the elders feel about Marcus’s wife? Why? (3)
- 2.4.2 Why, do you think, Marcus rebukes her in public? (2)
- 2.5 Refer to lines 15 to 16.
- 2.5.1 Explain the significance of the comparison in line 15. (3)
- 2.5.2 Provide a possible reason why Marcus places the coins on the floor. (2)
- 2.6 The elders do not behave as we expect them to. Explain. (3)
- 2.7 How do you feel about Roof? You may base your answer on this passage as well as on what happens in the rest of the story. (4)
- [30]**

OR

***TO KILL A MAN’S PRIDE* edited by W. Hodge**

**QUESTION 3  
ESSAY**

Many people would argue that Mathilda, from ***The Suit***, gets what she deserves. The narrator does, however, allow us to explore her motivations and even feel pity for the harshness of the punishment.

Write an essay in which you respond to the above statement.

**[30]**

OR

**QUESTION 4**  
**CONTEXTUAL**

Read the following extract taken from *Beggar My Neighbour* by Dan Jacobson then answer the set questions.

Michael stared into their dark faces, and they stared into his. "What are you waiting for?" he asked.	
"For you." First the boy answered; then the girl repeated, "For you."	
Michael looked from one to the other, and he remembered what he had been doing to them in his dreams. Their eyes were fathomlessly black to look into. Staring forward, Michael understood what he should have understood long before: that they came to him not in hope or appeal or even in reproach, but in hatred. What he felt towards them, they felt towards him; what he had done to them in his dreams, they did to him in theirs.	5
The sun, their staring eyes, his own fear came together in a sound that seemed to hang in the air of the lane – a cry, the sound of someone weeping. Then Michael knew that he was the one who was crying. He felt the heat of the tears in his eyes, their moisture running down his cheeks. With the same fixity of decision which had been in his dreams of violence and torture, Michael knew what he must do. He beckoned them forward, closer. They came. He stretched out his hands, he felt under his fingers the springy hair he had looked at so often before from the distance between himself and them; he felt the smooth skin of their faces; their frail, rounded shoulders, their hands. Their hands were in his, and he led them inside the gate.	10
He led them into the house, through the kitchen, down the passage, into his room, where they had never been before. They looked about at the pictures on the walls, the toys on top of the low cupboard, the twisted white sheets and tumbled blankets on the bed. They stood on both sides of him, and for the first time since he had met them, their lips parted into slow, grave smiles. Michael knew that what he had to give them was not toys or clothes or bread, but something more difficult. Yet it was not so difficult at all, for there was nothing else he could give them. He took the girl's face in his hands and pressed his lips to hers. He was aware of the darkness of her skin, and of the smell of it, and of the faint movement of her lips, a single pulse that beat momentarily against his own. Then it was gone. He kissed the boy, too, and let them go. They came together, and grasped each other by the hand, staring at him.	15
"What do you want now?" he asked.	20
At last anxiety flickered in Michael and left him, as the boy slowly shook his head. He began to step back pulling his sister with him.	25
	30
	35

- 4.1 At what stage in the story does this extract take place? (2)
- 4.2 What point is the narrator making by referring to the two children as simply "the boy" and "the girl" – or, elsewhere in the story, as "*stukkie broods*"? (3)
- 4.3 Provide some detail as to the nature of what Michael "had been doing to them in his dreams" (lines 4 – 5). (3)

- 4.4 Consider lines 6 to 10. Attempt to justify the children's mutual hatred for each other. You will need to consider the story as a whole. (4)
- 4.5 Comment on why you think the narrator pays so much attention to "touch" in this section. (3)
- 4.6 Consider lines 27 to 29. What do you think it was that Michael had to give the children? Justify your answer. (3)
- 4.7 How does this section of the story act as a catharsis (emotional release) for Michael? (4)
- 4.8 Why is this cathartic moment not really completed? Consider your response in terms of the story's conclusion. (3)
- 4.9 Provide a detailed discussion of the "lessons" to be learnt from this story. Do include a comment on the main thematic concerns. (5)
- [30]**

OR

***STRICTLY BALLROOM***

**QUESTION 5  
ESSAY**

The film, ***Strictly Ballroom***, skilfully uses colour to represent character. Certain characters are associated with particular colours. The universally accepted ideas associated with these colours are cleverly used to enhance the personality and behaviour traits of the characters.

By identifying which colours are associated with the main characters, discuss how the use of colour adds to an understanding of each character.

**[30]**

OR



QUESTION 6  
CONTEXTUAL

Examine the still and answer the questions that follow.



- 6.1 Place this still in context. (Describe where exactly in the film, **Strictly Ballroom**, it occurs.) (3)
- 6.2 Name the camera angle AND shot type. (4)
- 6.3 Scott's jacket is particularly symbolic.
- 6.3.1 What does it symbolise? (2)
- 6.3.2 To whom did the jacket belong? (2)

- 6.4 Scott and Fran are staring fixedly at someone.
- 6.4.1 At whom are they staring? (2)
- 6.4.2 Why are they staring at him/her? (4)
- 6.4.3 Who / What eventually breaks the stare? (2)
- 6.5 In this scene, Scott and Fran dance the *Paso Doble*. What is the *Paso Doble*? What does it represent? (5)
- 6.6 Scott and Fran have grown close to one another. Account for the change/s in each one of them which has/have led to this closeness between them. 3+3=(6)  
[30]
- TOTAL FOR SECTION C: [30]**
- TOTAL: 120**

**END**