

S

93001Q



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

Scholarship 2013 English

9.30 am Tuesday 12 November 2013
Time allowed: Three hours
Total marks: 24

QUESTION BOOKLET

There are three sections in this examination:

Section A: Close reading of unfamiliar texts

Section B: Responding to literature and language

Section C: Exploring issues in literature and language.

Write THREE essays in total, one from each section, in Answer Booklet 93001A.

Each essay is worth eight marks.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–7 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MAY KEEP THIS BOOKLET AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

You have three hours to complete this examination.

INSTRUCTIONS

Write a response, in the form of an essay of at least 800 words, to EACH of:

- Section A
- ONE statement from Section B
- ONE statement from Section C.

Each essay should:

- demonstrate an extensive knowledge of the texts discussed and the methods used in crafting them
- respond critically with mature ideas and independent reflection
- sustain coherent, substantiated, and engaging argument
- show accurate use and control of the conventions of academic writing.

PLANNING

PLANNING

SECTION A: CLOSE READING OF UNFAMILIAR TEXTS

Write an essay comparing the ways that the writers explore their own perceptions of art in Text A and Text B.

The essay must focus on the way(s) each writer has crafted the text by using techniques to reinforce the content. Techniques include vocabulary, phrasing, point of view, positioning of the reader, figurative language, and structure.

TEXT A**The Art Instinct**

It is time to look at the arts in the light of Charles Darwin's theory of evolution—to talk about instinct and art.

For copyright reasons, this resource cannot be reproduced here.

... Any way you look at it, the arts have nothing to do with the mundane facts of body and brain that Darwinian evolution typically explains.

Source (adapted): Denis Dutton, *The Art Instinct: Beauty, Pleasure, and Human Evolution* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009), pp 1–2.

TEXT B

Before the Mirror

5

For copyright reasons, these resources cannot be reproduced here.

10

15

20

Sources

Text: John Updike, "Before the Mirror", *The New Yorker*, 9 September 1996, p 64.

Image: <http://enthemata.wordpress.com/2013/01/05/sarantakos-32/> (accessed 18 January 2013).

SECTION B: RESPONDING TO LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

Write a coherent and engaging essay in response to ONE of the statements numbered 1–14. Use the statement as the focus for an in-depth discussion of **one or more long texts** OR **a range of short texts**.

Your essay should reflect independent thinking and show extensive knowledge of appropriate text(s), their purposes, and the methods used in crafting them.

Note: No content or quotations used in your answer to this section should be repeated in Section C.

STATEMENTS (Choose ONE)

1. **Non-fiction** draws readers towards frontiers of meaning, and an understanding of how societies work.
2. In the best **short stories** the unit of time is the minute, not the month.
3. **Novels** either celebrate or condemn the follies of their characters.
4. **Novels** are driven by action and events, but better reward those readers who concentrate on the thoughts and ideas that underpin them.
5. To experience **poetry** fully, the reader must explore its intricacies and details.
6. **Poetry** offers silence as much as substance – what is left unsaid is often as important as the written word.
7. The real objective of **drama (non-Shakespearean)** is the exploration of the complicated nature of the individual.
8. **Shakespeare's** greatest talent is that he never tells us what to think.
9. **Shakespeare** manages to explore realistic characters within realistic, complex, and dramatic situations.
10. **Films** show the everyday dilemmas of average people suffering, colliding, and surviving.
11. Memorable **films** should make us forget we are sitting in a movie theatre.
12. **New media** are more than mechanical gimmicks for creating worlds of illusion – they provide new and unique powers of expression.
13. **Language** has the power to change reality.
14. There is no such thing as an honest **documentary**.

SECTION C: EXPLORING ISSUES IN LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

Write a coherent and engaging essay in response to ONE of the statements numbered 15–24.

Your essay should reflect independent thinking about an issue and show extensive knowledge of a **range of appropriate texts**, their purposes, and the methods used in crafting them.

Note: No content or quotations used in your answer to Section B should be repeated in this section.

STATEMENTS (Choose ONE)

15. The outraged and the opportunistic have taken the medium of the book and made it into a weapon.
16. Words have great power, in the hands of those who wield them.
17. The digital age has reshaped literature.
18. Literature attempts to find a language and structure that formalises the craziness of life.
19. All literature labours to make language adequately express imagination and experience.
20. Literature empowers us as readers to confront our assumptions – it challenges us to think about the world around us and to re-evaluate what we see.
21. A love of literature is a textually transmitted disease, normally contracted in childhood.
22. Through literature we know the past, govern the present, and influence the future.
23. Literature is interested in the complex space shared by reader and writer.
24. The power of literature is in its ability to tell the truth about the unspeakable.

93001Q