



**ENGLISH TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
Year 12 English ATAR Course Examination, Semester Two 2018**

**Question Paper**

**ENGLISH**

**English ATAR (Year Twelve)**

**Time allowed for this paper (or as determined by the school)**

Reading time before commencing work: Ten minutes

Working time for paper: Three hours

**Materials required/recommended for this paper**

***To be provided by the supervisor***

This Question Paper

Standard Answer Book

***To be provided by the candidate***

Standard items: pens, pencils, eraser or correction fluid, ruler, highlighter

Special items: nil

**Important note to candidates**

No other items may be taken into the examination room. It is **your** responsibility to ensure that you do not have any unauthorised notes or other items of a non-personal nature in the examination room. If you have any unauthorised material with you, hand it to the supervisor before reading any further.

**Structure of this paper**

Section	Number of questions available	Number of questions to be answered	Suggested working time (minutes)	Marks available	Percentage of exam
Section One: Comprehending	3	3	60	30	30
Section Two: Responding	6	1	60	40	40
Section Three: Composing	5	1	60	30	30
<b>Total</b>					<b>100</b>

**Instructions to candidates**

1. The rules for the conduct of Western Australian external examinations are detailed in the *Year 12 Information Handbook*. Sitting this examination implies that you agree to abide by these rules.
2. Write your answers to each section in the Standard Answer Book or paper supplied by your school or college.
3. You must be careful to confine your responses to the specific questions asked and to follow any instructions that are specific to a particular question.
4. You must not use texts from Section One to answer questions from Section Two.

**Section One: Comprehending****(30 Marks)**

In this section there are **three (3)** texts and **three (3)** questions. Answer **all** questions.

You are required to comprehend and analyse unseen written and visual texts and respond concisely in approximately 200–300 words for each question.

Suggested working time: 60 minutes

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**Question 1:****(10 marks)**

Explain how visual and written elements work together to appeal to the target audience of **Text 1**.

**Question 2:****(10 marks)**

Analyse how language choices convey a particular mood in **Text 2**.

**Question 3:****(10 marks)**

Compare how the narrative point of view is used to introduce the main character in **Text 2** and **Text 3**.

**See next page for Text 1**

**Text 1**

*Text 1 is a black and white reproduction of the cover of the July 2015 print edition of Dolly, an Australian magazine.*



See next page for Text 2

**Text 2**

*Text 2 is the opening of Australian author Jock Serong's novel, The Rules of Backyard Cricket published in 2017.*

The broken white lines recede into the blackness behind us as we hurtle forward.

Do you remember this?

I knew it in childhood; this feeling of the irretrievable past slipping away behind the car. These things, gone and unrecoverable.

Cars on the other side of the divided highway are fading embers that spear into the dark. We *thurrump* over the cats' eyes, changing lanes. I look out every time I feel this cue, the markers and the slight shifting of weight, wanting to communicate with those sleepy, indifferent drivers. They have their own reveries. Night-time lives suspended between origin and destination, just like mine. I want to talk to them; I know they wouldn't want to talk to me.

Maybe I had an inkling of this as a tired child in the back seat. Maybe I recognised that something was ebbing away into the night. Back then there were antidotes to the melancholy: the promise of a warm bed; a wide, expanding future. The sadness now is uncontained. It sweeps over me in waves. It wants to drown me.

I've always slept with the lights on, fending off an indefinable sorrow in the night. Even when I lit it up, with stimulants and willing companions, it watched me scornfully, knowing it had me at bay. *That melancholy?* it said. *It's just a taste of the vast, immeasurable silence that awaits.* A speck on a pebble in a galaxy that's dust in a supercluster.

I can't see much. Just the narrow tunnel of vision directly behind the car. I've managed to get my hands up in front of my face and bring my fingers together, unruly mob that they are. I'm wedged towards the rear corner, driver's side, so close I can smell the hot plastics of the tail-light. I've felt my way to the back of the bulb, squeezed and twisted until it came free. And as it fell it revealed the light, the view, the road.

**See next page for Text 3**

**Text 3**

*Text 3 is the opening of the title story in a short story collection called 'The Woman Who Thought She Was a Planet' by Vandana Singh, published by Zubaan Books, India, in 2008.*

Ramnath Mishra's life changed forever one morning, when, during his perusal of the newspaper on the veranda, a ritual that he had observed for the last forty years, his wife set down her cup of tea with a crash and announced:

"I know at last what I am. I am a planet."

Ramnath's retirement was a source of displeasure to them both. He has been content to know his wife from a distance, to acknowledge her as the benign despot of the household and mother of his now-grown children, but he had desired no intimacy beyond that. As for Kamala, herself, she seemed grumpy and uncomfortable with his proximity – her façade of the dutiful Indian wife had dropped after the first week. Now he lowered his newspaper, scowling, prepared to lecture her sternly for interrupting his peace, but instead his mouth fell open in silent astonishment.

His wife had got to her feet and was unwinding her sari.

Ramnath nearly knocked over his chair.

"What are you doing – have you lost your mind?" He leaped at her, grabbed a scrap of blue cotton sari with one hand and her arm with the other, looking around wildly to see if the servants were around, or the gardener, or whether the neighbours were peeping through the sprays of bougainvillea that sheltered the veranda from the summer heat. His wife, arrested in his arms, glared at him balefully.

"A planet does not need clothes," she said with great dignity.

"You are not a planet, you are crazy," Ramnath said. He propelled her into the bedroom. Thankfully, the washerwoman had left and the cook was in the kitchen, singing untunefully to the radio. "Arrange your sari for heaven's sake."

She complied. Ramnath saw that tears were glistening in her eyes. He felt a stab of concern mingled with irritation.

"Have you been feeling ill, Kamala? Should I phone Dr Kumar?"

"I am not ill," she said. "I have had a revelation. I am a planet. I used to be a human, a woman, a wife and a mother. All the time I wondered if there was more to me than that. Now I know. Being a planet is good for me. I have stopped taking my liver pills."

"Well, if you were a planet," Ramnath said in exasperation, "you would be an inanimate object circling a star. You would probably have an atmosphere and living things crawling about you. You would be very large, like Earth or Jupiter. You are not a planet but a living soul, a woman. A lady from a respectable household who holds the family honour in her hands."

**End of Section One**

**Section Two: Responding****(40 Marks)**

In this section there are **six (6)** questions. Answer **one (1)** question.

Your response should demonstrate your analytical and critical thinking skills with reference to any text or text type you have studied.

Suggested working time: 60 minutes

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**Question 4:** **(40 marks)**

Examine the ways visual elements work with either written or audio codes to promote empathy in at least **one multimodal text** you have studied.

**Question 5:** **(40 marks)**

Evaluate the importance of a particular character in conveying ideas about social attitudes in at least **one text** you have studied.

**Question 6:** **(40 marks)**

Explain how particular written or visual language features have been used in innovative ways to provoke an audience response in at least **one text** you have studied.

**Question 7:** **(40 marks)**

Compare how and why **two texts** you have studied have represented a particular group, event, culture or idea.

**Question 8:** **(40 marks)**

Discuss the impact your understanding of the context of production has had on your interpretation of at least **one text** you have studied.

**Question 9:** **(40 marks)**

Explore the way the use of a particular perspective in at least **one text** you have studied has encouraged you to consider or accept a controversial idea.

**End of Section Two**

**Section Three: Composing****(30 Marks)**

In this section there are **five (5)** questions. Answer **one (1)** question.

You are required to demonstrate writing skills by choosing a form of writing appropriate to a specific audience, context and purpose.

Suggested working time: 60 minutes

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**Question 10:****(30 marks)**

Create an interpretive text designed to be published alongside the image below.

**Question 11:****(30 marks)**

Compose a narrative which features two contrasting characters thrown together by circumstances.

**Question 12:****(30 marks)**

Write a persuasive text in which you use rhetoric to convince a particular audience to modify or stop a specific habit.

**Question 13:****(30 marks)**

Compose a text in a form of your choice, in which an everyday object or place is used symbolically.

**Question 14:****(30 marks)**

Craft a text in which you use point of view or voice to create empathy for a person or character who has done something usually considered wrong.

**End of Examination**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### SECTION ONE

#### Text 1

Bauer Media Group. July, 2015. *Dolly*. Accessed via  
<https://www.magzter.com/preview/8172/105149>

Reproduced with permission from Bauer Media Group.

#### Text 2

Serong, Jock. 2016. *The Rules of Backyard Cricket*. Melbourne: The Text Publishing Company Australia.

Reproduced with permission from The Text Publishing Company Australia.

#### Text 3

Singh, Verdana. 2008. *The Woman Who Thought She Was a Planet and Other Stories*. New Delhi: Zubaan Books.

Reproduced with permission from Zubaan Books.

### SECTION THREE

#### Question 10

Martin, C & Arlotta, D. 2015. 'Two Caucasian, two African American children play together'. Accessed via <https://pixnio.com/people/children-kids/two-caucasian-and-two-african-american-children-playing-together>

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