

Paper 2

The criterion-by-criterion approach

Question: “Analyse how justice is represented and understood in at least two works studied.”

Works: *Fiefa's Child* by Dalene Matthee, *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

Introduction	Introductory sentence that grabs your attention: a famous quote, a question, a bold statement, an anecdote or joke.	Writers do not write in a vacuum. They are influenced by the contexts in which they write.
	A sentence that connects to the ‘attention grabber’ and explains its relevance to the 2 (or 3) works that you have read. This sentence states the names of the works, years of publication and authors’ names in passing.	<i>Fiefa's Child</i> by Dalene Matthee, <i>The Kite Runner</i> by Khaled Hosseini
	The thesis statement, where you explain that the question can be answered by exploring each work, the context of each work and the language of each work.	“The contexts of both writers influenced their representation and understanding of ‘justice’ in South Africa and Afghanistan.”
Body paragraph 1	Topic sentence 1: Explain how both texts can be used to answer the question. Focus on the texts only.	In both works, individuals are up against very unjust societies. Nevertheless, they both manage to set one thing straight: Benjamin knows who lied about his biological mother. Amir discovers he has a half-brother and rescues his half-brother’s son from the Taliban.
	Illustrations from both works. Where, in the plot of each work, do we see the authors commenting on the thesis / guiding question?	The reader’s search for justice is what makes each work a page-turner. Benjamin’s search for justice takes the form of a quest, fulfilled when he learns about Berta’s lie. Amir’s quest to achieve atonement is fulfilled when he adopts Sohrab.
	Explanation: how do these examples illustrate the authors’ message?	Both authors have a kind of quest and redemption story/ Authors’ message may be that individuals all have a duty to seek the truth, even if you can’t change the injustice of society.
Body paragraph 2	Topic sentence 2: How has contextual knowledge influenced your interpretation of the works? How did it shape the authors’ intentions?	Why did the authors tell the quest for redemption story? South Africans needed to hear one in 1984 during the height of apartheid. Hosseini hoped for a better Afghanistan after the fall of the Taliban in 2001. He saw the chance to redeem a country’s pride.
	Give examples of how the context of the author can be seen in the work?	Matthee comments on the evils of racism in separating loved ones. She shows that what happened in 1870 could happen in 1984. There are parallels between Hosseini’s life and Amir’s. The flea market in California, the need to go back to one’s roots.
	Explanation: how do these examples illustrate the author’s message?	Benjamin’s search for identity and justice is SA’s search for identity and justice. Amir’s search for atonement and justice is Afghanistan’s search for atonement and justice.
Body paragraph 3	Topic sentence 3: Elaborate on the nature of each author’s style. How has context influenced the author’s style?	Because Matthee wants the reader to experience all sides of the story, white/black, mother/father, the novel is narrated in free indirect speech from each character’s perspective. Because the novel is slightly autobiographical, Hosseini wrote in the 1 st person.
	Examples of use of language and its effect on its audiences.	We feel sympathy for Elias van Rooy, even though he’s backwards. He represents injustice in South Africa. Out to kill an elephant, knowing its wrong. We feel Amir’s guilt, through symbolism (the lamb, the kite) and 1 st person narration.
	Explanation: how do these examples illustrate the authors’ message?	Narrative technique helps create understanding of justice in the cultural context. The symbols are typical of Afghanistan and the Islam. The lamb is a sacrifice. The kite represents flying high.
Conclusion	Answer the question again. State the thesis in other words.	Justice is represented and understood in the contexts of South Africa and Afghanistan through characters who seek their true identity. Authors are calling their countries to also find their true identity and leave their backwards ways behind.
	Retell how authors convey their message through language and structure.	Authors achieve this message through narrative technique and symbolism.
	A very wise thought.	These countries, for better or worse, have done a lot of soul searching since the authors wrote these works.