

## Paper 2

### The comparative approach

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

**Works:** *Fiefa's Child* by Dalene Mathee and *The Kite Runner* Khaled Hosseini

Introduction	Introductory sentence that grabs your attention: a famous quote, a question, a bold statement, an anecdote or joke.	What makes a novel a page-turner? One reason: readers want the satisfaction of seeing justice carried out.
	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> (FC) by Dalene Mathee and <i>The Kite Runner</i> (TKR) by Khaled Hosseini both engage readers by telling an individual’s quest for justice.
	The thesis statement, where you answer the question in a nutshell and branch out into 3 main ideas.	“In these works the notion of justice is represented and understood in the contexts of South Africa and Afghanistan, where racial tension, family ties and personal identity are all issues.”
Body paragraph 1	Topic sentence 1: the first of the 3 main ideas that answer the question / thesis statement.	Justice and racial tension in FC and TKR: there’s discrimination towards Fiefa and Hassan. She’s black, he’s Hazara. The Magistrate discriminates against Fiefa. Assef (and Amir) discriminate against Hassan. The reader feels sympathy towards Fiefa and Hassan.
	Illustrations from both works. How does the writer use language, style and structure?	We feel sympathy for Fiefa, because her story is told in free indirect speech, we hear her thoughts and feel her pain when she’s discriminated against. Amir tells his thoughts directly: he feels guilty for the discrimination against Hassan.
	Explanation: how do these examples illustrate the authors’ message?	Dalene’s message: The whites, like Barta, feel constant guilt for discriminating against the blacks. Pashtuns pay the price for discriminating against the Hazaras by feeling a constant guilt too.
Body paragraph 2	Topic sentence 2: the second of the 3 main ideas that answer the question / thesis statement.	The racial problems create tensions in families. Both families have a BIG secret: Benjamin is not van Rooyen’s child. Hassan is Amir’s half-brother. No one will speak the truth, because they’re afraid of what others will say.
	Illustrations from both works. How does the writer use language, style and structure?	Both writers use plot twists to shock their readers. Barta reveals the truth about Benjamin. Rahim Khan tells Amir that Hassan is his half-brother.
	Explanation: how do these examples illustrate the authors’ message?	The strongest family members throughout the book: Barta and Baba turn out to be the weakest, as they kept the secrets that destroyed the families. Authors show that the injustices of SA and Afghanistan tear apart families.
Body paragraph 3	Topic sentence 3: the third of the 3 main ideas that answer the question / thesis statement.	Individuals struggle to know who they really are in societies that discriminate. Benjamin constantly searching for ‘home’ and a ‘mother’. Amir constantly searching for atonement.
	Illustrations from both works. How does the writer use language, style and structure?	Setting is important to understanding this personal quest: Benjamin goes from the bush to the forest to the sea. Amir goes from Kabul to California. But both must go back ‘home’, to the bush and Kabul respectively.
	Explanation: how do these examples illustrate the authors’ message?	Authors seem to comment on how you cannot deny someone their birth rights, like a sense of ‘home’. Both in SA and Afghanistan, the apartheid government and the Taliban prevent people from going home. This is unjust.
Conclusion	Answer the question again. State the thesis in other words.	Both authors explore the notion of injustice in South Africa and Afghanistan by showing their readers how racial discrimination can destroy individuals and families.
	Compare how authors conveyed their message through language and structure.	While authors use different narrative technique, they both rely heavily on setting to comment on their cultures. What’s more: they both have a plot twist, which expose the hypocrisy of their cultures.
	A very wise thought.	These thought provoking novels can lead to change in these countries. Both the apartheid government and the Taliban are gone.