

## 1999 ENGLISH LITERATURE

### Question 3

(Suggested time—40 minutes. This question counts as one-third of the total essay section score.)

The eighteenth-century British novelist Laurence Sterne wrote, “No body, but he who has felt it, can conceive what a plaguing thing it is to have a man’s mind torn asunder by two projects of equal strength, both obstinately pulling in a contrary direction at the same time.”

From a novel or play choose a character (not necessarily the protagonist) whose mind is pulled in conflicting directions by two compelling desires, ambitions, obligations, or influences. Then, in a well-organized essay, identify each of the two conflicting forces and explain how this conflict within one character illuminates the meaning of the work as a whole. You may use one of the novels or plays listed below or another novel or play of similar literary quality.

*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

*Anna Karenina*

*Antigone*

*The Awakening*

*Beloved*

*Billy Budd*

*Ceremony*

*Crime and Punishment*

*Dr. Faustus*

*An Enemy of the People*

*Equus*

*A Farewell to Arms*

*The Glass Menagerie*

*Hamlet*

*Heart of Darkness*

*Jane Eyre*

*Jasmine*

*Light in August*

*A Lesson Before Dying*

*Macbeth*

*The Mayor of Casterbridge*

*Native Speaker*

*The Piano Lesson*

*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*

*A Raisin in the Sun*

*The Scarlet Letter*

*Wuthering Heights*

END OF EXAMINATION