

## Question 3

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

“And, after all, our surroundings influence our lives and characters as much as fate, destiny or any supernatural agency.” Pauline Hopkins, *Contending Forces*

Choose a novel or play in which cultural, physical, or geographical surroundings shape psychological or moral traits in a character. Then write a well-organized essay in which you analyze how surroundings affect this character and illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole.

You may choose a work from the list below or one of comparable literary merit. Do not merely summarize the plot.

*Absalom, Absalom!*  
*The Age of Innocence*  
*Another Country*  
*Brideshead Revisited*  
*Ceremony*  
*The Color Purple*  
*Daisy Miller*  
*Death of a Salesman*  
*The Glass Menagerie*  
*The Grapes of Wrath*  
*Great Expectations*  
*Heart of Darkness*  
*Invisible Man*  
*King Lear*  
*Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*  
*M. Butterfly*  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
*My Ántonia*  
*Native Son*

*No Exit*  
*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*  
*One Hundred Years of Solitude*  
*Oryx and Crake*  
*A Passage to India*  
*The Piano Lesson*  
*The Plague*  
*The Poisonwood Bible*  
*Pride and Prejudice*  
*A Raisin in the Sun*  
*Snow Falling on Cedars*  
*Sula*  
*The Sun Also Rises*  
*Tess of the D'Urbervilles*  
*Waiting for Godot*  
*When the Emperor Was Divine*  
*The Women of Brewster Place*  
*Wuthering Heights*

**STOP**

**END OF EXAM**

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**2012 SCORING GUIDELINES**

**Question 3 (continued)**

- 0** These essays are completely off topic or inadequate; there may be some mark, or a drawing, or a brief reference to the task.
- These essays are entirely blank.