



NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
NOVEMBER 2023

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE: PAPER II

Time: 3 hours

100 marks

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. This question paper consists of 9 pages. Please check that your question paper is complete.
 2. Utilise your reading time carefully, ensuring that the selections made showcase your ability to share your response to the texts.
 3. Questions must be answered in **BOTH SECTIONS**. In **SECTION A**, Question 1 is **compulsory** and then answer **ONE** question on the selected novel. In **SECTION B**, Question 6 is **compulsory**, and then answer **either** Question 7 **or** Question 8.
 4. Number your answers exactly as the questions are numbered.
 5. **Begin each QUESTION on a new page.** Do not copy down headings for your answers. Copy down **only** the question numbers, making sure they are accurate.
 6. You may answer the questions in whatever order you wish, but number your answers exactly as the questions are numbered.
 7. **No word count is required for ANY QUESTION.**
 8. You are encouraged to give your own judgements. Attempt to create space in which your **own voice** will be evident. The examiners will judge your answers on your understanding of and insight into given texts. They will also assess the competence with which your answers are expressed.
 9. Follow instructions in each question with meticulous care.
 10. Answers must be written only in the Answer Book supplied.
 11. It is in your own interest to write legibly and to present your work neatly.
-

SECTION A LITERATURE**QUESTION 1****THE TEMPEST: SHAKESPEARE****THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY.**

Study the quotation below and then write a literary essay in response to the topic that follows.

'The title of the play refers not merely to the brief storm in the first scene but also to the greater tempest which is dealt with throughout the play. This state of discord and disorder prevails until Prospero's leadership has again been correctly reassumed and all individuals are willing to return to their proper places in the universal chain.'

– Lawrence E. Bowling

[Source: The Theme of Natural Order in 'The Tempest', College English, Vol.12, No.4 (Jan. 1951) pp. 203–209 <<https://www.jstor.org/stable/372626>>]

TOPIC:

Critically discuss to what extent Prospero uses his position of **leadership** successfully to **restore natural order** after which all individuals are willing to **return to their proper places** in the universal chain.

You must refer to at least **TWO** characters in your response.

Please note:

- Your response must be in the form of a well-structured literary essay.
- The length of your response must be **approximately 600 words**.
- Your knowledge of Shakespeare's text, *The Tempest*, and your ability to structure and substantiate your stance in order to develop a **tightly constructed argument** will be assessed.
- **Close** and **relevant** reference to the play is **essential**.
- Do **NOT** provide a word count at the end of your essay.

[30]

AND

NOVELS***THE HANDMAID'S TALE OR THE THEORY OF FLIGHT***

Answer **ONE** question on your selected novel.

Answer **EITHER**

Question 2 (*The Handmaid's Tale*)

OR

Question 3 (*The Handmaid's Tale*)

OR

Question 4 (*The Theory of Flight*)

OR

Question 5 (*The Theory of Flight*)

Please note:

- Your response must be in the form of a well-structured literary essay.
- Your essay should be **approximately 600 words** in length.
- Your ability to select detail from the novel, in order to develop a **succinct argument**, which is clearly focused and perceptive, **will be assessed**.
- **Close** and **relevant** reference to the text in the question is **essential**.
- Do **NOT** provide a word count at the end of your essay.

EITHER

QUESTION 2**THE HANDMAID'S TALE: MARGARET ATWOOD**

Read the following:

'Essentially, a story expresses how and why life changes for its characters. All great storytellers since the dawn of time have dealt with this fundamental conflict between subjective hope and cruel reality.'

– Bronwyn Fryer

[Source: <<https://hbr.org/2003/06/storytelling-that-moves-people>>]

TOPIC:

Critically discuss how Atwood, in *The Handmaid's Tale*, deals with the fundamental **conflict** between subjective **hope** and cruel **reality** to address life changes in her characters.

You must refer to a minimum of **TWO** characters in your response.

[30]

OR

QUESTION 3**THE HANDMAID'S TALE: MARGARET ATWOOD**

Read the following:

'Because the Gileadean government attempts to control even women's memory, Offred's continued recollection of her personal memories becomes an act of resistance. Indeed, it is through her maintenance of memories that she sustains hope by keeping alive her past identity as a multifaceted woman with agency.'

– F. Vinson, S. Katherine

[Source: 'Storied Memories: Memory as Resistance in Contemporary Women's Literature' (2010). Dissertations. 176. <https://ecommons.luc.edu/luc_diss/176>]

TOPIC:

Critically discuss to what extent Offred, in Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, uses her **memories** as an act of **resistance**, thereby maintaining **hope** and giving her **agency**.

[30]

OR

QUESTION 4**THE THEORY OF FLIGHT: SIPHIWE GLORIA NDLOVU**

Read the following:

'Essentially, a story expresses how and why life changes for its characters. All great storytellers since the dawn of time have dealt with this fundamental conflict between subjective hope and cruel reality.'

– Bronwyn Fryer

[Source: <<https://hbr.org/2003/06/storytelling-that-moves-people>>]

TOPIC:

Critically discuss how Ndlovu, in *The Theory of Flight*, deals with the fundamental **conflict** between subjective **hope** and cruel **reality** to address life changes in her characters.

You must refer to a minimum of **TWO** characters in your response.

[30]

OR

QUESTION 5**THE THEORY OF FLIGHT: SIPHIWE GLORIA NDLOVU**

Read the following:

'Post-colonial African literature is the story of change that does not lead to new beginnings or real rebirth. The literature contains stories of alternating triumph and defeat, freedom and bondage.'

– Chidi Okonkwo

[Source: <<https://www.jstor.org/stable/23817260>>]

TOPIC:

Critically discuss to what extent Ndlovu, in *The Theory of Flight*, presents a story of **triumph and defeat, freedom and bondage** that does **NOT** lead to a **new beginning**.

Your response must refer to a minimum of **TWO** characters.

[30]

60 marks

SECTION B TRANSACTIONAL WRITING: SHORT PIECES

Please note:

- Answer **TWO** of the following questions.
- You must answer **Question 6 (compulsory)** and then answer **either Question 7 or Question 8**.
- The body of your response should be **approximately 250 to 300 words** in length.
- Remember to pay attention to the **register** and **purpose** of your text.
- It is essential that the **appropriate format** is used.

QUESTION 6

THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY.

Read the texts below and answer the question that follows.

Artificial intelligence (AI): the ability of a digital computer or computer-controlled robot to perform tasks commonly associated with intelligent beings, such as the ability to reason, discover meaning, generalise, or learn from past experience. Computers can be programmed to carry out very complex tasks – as, for example, discovering proofs for mathematical theorems or playing chess – with great proficiency. Some programs have attained the performance levels of human experts and professionals in performing certain specific tasks, so that artificial intelligence is found in applications as diverse as medical diagnosis, computer search engines, and voice or handwriting recognition.

[Source: <<https://www.britannica.com/technology/artificial-intelligence>>]

Elon Musk's warnings about AI research followed months-long battle against 'woke' AI

Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk has been waging a battle for the last several months over what he called 'woke' artificial intelligence, a fight that appears to have factored into his call for a six-month pause in the development of next-generation AI systems.

Musk was one of several signatories to a letter this week that warned of advanced AI technology that could pose 'profound risks to society and humanity'. The letter said one of those risks is that AI might be used to 'flood our information channels with propaganda and untruth'.

Musk tweeted, 'The danger of training AI to be woke – in other words, lie – is deadly.' In February, Musk had a similar reaction when a Musk ally tweeted that ChatGPT lists former President Trump and Musk himself as 'controversial' figures, while President Biden and Bill Gates are not.

Musk replied by tweeting, '!!'

OpenAI has a set of rules for using ChatGPT that get to the heart of Musk's complaint about a 'woke' AI system. According to the company, its tools can't be used to generate 'hateful, harassing, or violent content'. That includes content that 'expresses, incites, or promotes hate based on identity, intends to harass, threaten, or bully someone, or promotes or glorifies violence or celebrates the suffering or humiliation of others.'

'Elon has been on the front line of the Twitter files, so he's seen how bad the censorship can be,' said Jake Denton, research associate in the Heritage Foundation's Tech Policy Center. 'This is just so evident to everyone in this space ... that [AI tech] is exceeding the pace of our ability to control it.'

'The consumer-known issue is the ChatGPT bias,' he said. 'It's obviously on a path to replace search. The average person will soon go to a chat-based AI system rather than a search bar. And that means the response, the information that they get when they enter a search query, is going to be ... a curated thing with the restrictions of the AI company reflected in that answer,' he added. 'That's a major danger.' The letter signed by Musk and others called on governments to enforce a pause on AI research.

– Peter Kasperowicz, April 2023

[Source: <<https://www.foxnews.com/politics>>]

You are a writer for AI tech, an online tech website. Write a **blog** for AI tech expressing your views on the **controversial role** of a 'woke AI' in society. You may either **support** the role of a 'woke AI' or **criticise** it in your response.

[20]

AND

BOTH QUESTION 7 AND QUESTION 8 ARE BASED ON THE EXTRACT BELOW.

Read the text below and then answer **ONE** of the questions that follow on page 9.

Absurd censorship: Outrage sparks as passages are removed from Roald Dahl books

Has censorship gone too far?

That's a question many are grappling with amidst new edits made to literary classics.

Over the weekend, Britain's *Daily Telegraph* newspaper was the first to report that Puffin Books, a division of Penguin Random House, had made extensive changes to many written works by celebrated author Roald Dahl.

A review of the newly released Dahl editions found that passages about weight, mental health, gender, and race had been changed. For example, a description of Augustus Gloop in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* was altered from 'fat' to 'enormous'.

Hundreds of changes of the sort can be found in Dahl's many children's books, such as *Matilda*, *The Fabulous Mr. Fox*, *Witches*, *The Twits*, and more.

Many public figures have since voiced their distaste and concern with the wave of censorship. Among them are England's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and award-winning author Salman Rushdie.

The problem with taking licence to re-edit classic works is that there is no limiting principle. You start out wanting to replace a word here and a word there and end up inserting entirely new ideas.

This is the second controversy regarding the late author in recent years. Dahl's family apologised for his antisemitic views back in December 2020 via a written statement: 'Those prejudiced remarks are incomprehensible to us and stand in marked contrast to the man we knew and to the values at the heart of Roald Dahl's stories, which have positively impacted young people for generations.'

The Roald Dahl Story Company says it worked with Puffin to review the texts found in the new editions.

– Al Sciola

[Source: <<https://dailyhive.com/canada/roald-dahl-censorship>>]

Answer **EITHER** Question 7 **OR** Question 8.

QUESTION 7

As a concerned matriculant, you wish to respond to the ideas regarding censorship of literature presented in the text entitled, 'Absurd censorship: Outrage sparks as passages are removed from Roald Dahl books'. Write an **impassioned open letter** to the CEO of The Roald Dahl Story Company either **supporting** or **criticising censorship** of children's stories.

[20]

OR

QUESTION 8

As one of the top achievers at your school, you have been invited to deliver a **speech** at an assembly of parents, staff, and students in which you express your views on the extent to which **freedom of speech** should be **protected** for writers. You may either argue **in favour** of writers' freedom of speech or **against** it.

[20]

40 marks

Total: 100 marks