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93001Q



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

## Scholarship 2012 English

2.00 pm Monday 12 November 2012  
Time allowed: Three hours  
Total marks: 24

### QUESTION BOOKLET

There are three sections in this examination:

- Section A: Close reading of unfamiliar texts
- Section B: Responding to literature and language
- Section C: Exploring issues in literature and language.

Write **THREE** essays in total, one from each section, in Answer Booklet 93001A.

Each essay is worth eight marks.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–7 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

**YOU MAY KEEP THIS BOOKLET AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

You have three hours to complete this examination.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Write a response, in the form of an essay of at least 800 words, to EACH of:

- Section A
- ONE statement from Section B
- ONE statement from Section C.

Each essay should:

- demonstrate an extensive knowledge of the texts discussed and the methods used in crafting them
- respond critically with mature ideas and independent reflection
- sustain coherent, substantiated, and engaging argument
- show accurate use and control of the conventions of academic writing.

**PLANNING**

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## SECTION A: CLOSE READING OF UNFAMILIAR TEXTS

Write an essay comparing the ways that the writers explore their own perceptions of creativity in Text A and Text B.

The essay must focus on the way(s) each writer has crafted the text by using techniques to reinforce the content. Techniques include vocabulary, phrasing, point of view, positioning of the reader, figurative language, and structure.

### TEXT A

#### Children, in a Marvellous Year, Standing Upright Here

The arts—in all their mysterious and uplifting expressions—define us as a people and as individuals.

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... and who have no unique gift of spiritual or intellectual  
nourishment to offer their fellow citizens or the world.

Source (adapted): Peter Biggs, *Islands of Excellence* (Wellington: Steele Roberts, 2004), p 144.

**TEXT B****Recitative***(to Ronald Stevenson)*

Come, let's away to prison;  
 We two alone will sing like birds i' the cage.

Shakespeare: *King Lear*

Whereas a man may have noon audience,  
 Noght helpeth it to tellen his sentence.

Chaucer: *Prologue to The Nun's Priest's Tale*

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## SECTION B: RESPONDING TO LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

Write a coherent and engaging essay in response to ONE of the statements numbered 1–14. Use the statement as the focus for an in-depth discussion of **one or more long texts** OR **a range of short texts**.

Your essay should reflect independent thinking and show extensive knowledge of appropriate text(s), their purposes, and the methods used in crafting them.

*Note: No content or quotations used in your answer to this section should be repeated in Section C.*

### STATEMENTS (Choose ONE)

1. **Poetry** provides both a window to the world of the poet and a mirror to the world of the reader.
2. The purpose of **poetry** is to name the unnameable, shape the world, and stop it going to sleep.
3. **Novels** acquaint us with the concerns of other times, thereby allowing us to make sense of our own.
4. **Novels** convey deep understandings of human nature expressed in the most appropriate style.
5. **Shakespeare's** power lies in his ability to bring us woe and wonder, either in performance or in the theatre of the mind.
6. **Shakespeare** is the master of ellipsis – we have to interpret what is left out.
7. The success of **drama (non-Shakespearean)** lies in the exaggeration of feelings – an exaggeration that dislocates everyday reality.
8. **Short stories** have the power to disorient us and leave us feeling uneasy.
9. The potency of **film** derives from its ability to successfully depict characters surmounting crises.
10. **Film** tries too hard to appear real. The resulting techniques of illusion require no contribution from the audience.
11. **Non-fiction** aims to present reality, but that reality is subjectively presented by the writer.
12. Today's **journalism** lacks credibility because it focuses on the kinds of things that tend to preoccupy thirteen-year-old boys: sports, sex, crime, and narcissism.
13. **New technologies** facilitate real engagement with important ideas.
14. **Language** allows the dullest wit to flower in a creative field.

## SECTION C: EXPLORING ISSUES IN LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

Write a coherent and engaging essay in response to ONE of the statements numbered 15–26.

Your essay should reflect independent thinking about an issue and show extensive knowledge of a **range of appropriate texts**, their purposes, and the methods used in crafting them.

*Note: No content or quotations used in your answer to Section B should be repeated in this section.*

### STATEMENTS (Choose ONE)

15. The essence of literature is in the tension between emotion and intellect.
16. Texts allow us to hear voices from other places and pasts.
17. Literature explores how people deal with change; the literature of science fiction challenges us to accept change.
18. Fantasy succeeds when the fantastical merges with reality.
19. Any work of literature involves an act of creation in which we, the readers, become collaborators.
20. The artistry of writers enables them to make new things familiar and familiar things new.
21. Writers need to be relevant to their audience by engaging with their social context.
22. The fate of books in the future will depend on how successfully they can compete with other forms of communication.
23. Literature does not simply describe reality, it adds to it.
24. New media facilitate new forms of creativity.
25. Literature is a substitute for experiences that readers have not had.
26. Style is the foundation of literature.

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