# **SMARTWIZ**

#### **GRADE11 ENGLISH LITERATURE EXAM**

MARKS: 80	MARKS	
TIME: 2 HOURS		
SCHOOL		
CLASS (eg. 4A)		
SURNAME		
NAME		

### **Instructions for Learners:**

- Read all instructions carefully before you begin the exam.
- Write your full name and student number clearly on the answer sheet/book.
- Answer all questions unless otherwise instructed.
- Show all your work/calculations where necessary.
- Write neatly and clearly.
- Use only a blue or black pen. Do not use correction fluid or tape.
- Electronic devices (calculators, cell phones, etc.) are not allowed unless explicitly permitted.
- Raise your hand if you have any questions.
- Do not talk to other learners during the exam.
- Any form of cheating will result in immediate disqualification from the exam.

This exam consists of six pages, including the cover page.

# SECTION A: SHAKESPEARE – HAMLET (40 marks)

Read the extract below and answer the questions.

**1.6** How does this soliloquy reveal Hamlet's internal conflict? (3)

Extract: Hamlet's famous soliloquy (Act 3, Scene 1)
To be, or not to be: that is the question: Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, Or to take arms against a sea of troubles, And by opposing end them? To die: to sleep; No more; and by a sleep to say we end The heart-ache and the thousand natural shocks That flesh is heir to, 'tis a consummation Devoutly to be wish'd. To die, to sleep; To sleep: perchance to dream: ay, there's the rub; For in that sleep of death what dreams may come When we have shuffled off this mortal coil, Must give us pause.
<b>1.1</b> What dilemma is Hamlet expressing in this soliloquy? (3)
<b>1.2</b> Explain the metaphor "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune." (3)
1.3 What does Hamlet mean by "to take arms against a sea of troubles"? (3)
1.4 Why does Hamlet say "To die: to sleep; No more"? What does this reveal about his thoughts on death? (4)
1.5 Explain the phrase "To sleep: perchance to dream: ay, there's the rub." What is the "rub"? (4)

# **SECTION B: POETRY (40 marks)**

Poem 1: "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou **2.1** What is the tone of the poem? Support your answer with examples. (3) **2.2** Identify and explain two examples of repetition in the poem. (4) **2.3** How does the poem use imagery to convey strength? (3) 2.4 What message about overcoming adversity does the poem communicate? (3) Poem 2: "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost **3.1** What choice is the speaker faced with in the poem? (3) **3.2** Explain the symbolism of the "two roads" in the poem. (3) **3.3** How does the poem explore the theme of decision-making and consequences? (4) **3.4** What feeling does the last stanza evoke about the choice the speaker made? (3)

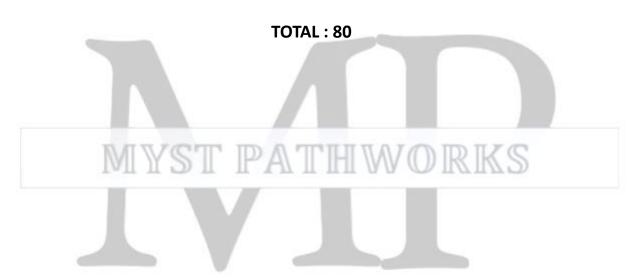
# **CREATIVE TASK (10 marks)**

Choose one of the following:

- a) Write a diary entry from Hamlet's perspective on the day he delivers his "To be or not to be" soliloquy.
- **b**) Write a short poem inspired by *Still I Rise* about resilience in your own life.

Write approximately 100–120 words.	

### **END OF EXAM**



#### **MEMO**

## **SECTION A:** *Hamlet* (40 marks)

#### 1.1

- Hamlet is debating whether to live or die the question of existence.
- He is struggling with enduring suffering or ending it through death.
- (3 marks)

#### 1.2

- "Slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" is a metaphor for the hardships and attacks life throws at a person.
- It suggests suffering caused by fate or bad luck.
- (3 marks)

#### 1.3

- "To take arms against a sea of troubles" means to fight back against overwhelming problems.
- Hamlet considers whether to actively resist his difficulties.
- (3 marks)

#### 1.4

- Hamlet equates death to sleep that ends all pain and suffering.
- He contemplates death as a peaceful escape but is uncertain.
- (4 marks)

#### 1.5

- "Perchance to dream" means maybe death brings dreams or unknown experiences.
- The "rub" is the problem or obstacle the fear of what dreams come after death.
- This fear causes Hamlet to hesitate.
- (4 marks)

#### 1.6

- The soliloguy shows Hamlet's deep internal conflict: to continue suffering or end his life.
- Reveals his indecision, fear, and philosophical questioning of life and death.
- (3 marks)

## **SECTION B: POETRY (40 marks)**

### Still I Rise - Maya Angelou

#### 2.1

- The tone is confident, defiant, and hopeful.
- Examples: Repetitive use of "I rise," references to overcoming oppression.
- (3 marks)

#### 2.2

- Repetition examples: "I rise" repeated throughout to emphasize resilience.
- "You may" repeated to show challenges posed by others.
- (4 marks)

#### 2.3

- Uses imagery such as "I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide" to show strength and vastness.
- "I dance like I've got diamonds at the meeting of my thighs" conveys power and self-worth.
- (3 marks)

#### 2.4

- Message: No matter the difficulties, the speaker will rise above adversity and oppression.
- Emphasizes courage and hope.
- (3 marks)

### The Road Not Taken - Robert Frost

#### 3.1

- The speaker must choose between two paths in a forest, symbolizing a life decision.
- (3 marks)

#### 3.2

- The "two roads" symbolize different choices or directions in life.
- Each road represents a different future.
- (3 marks)

### 3.3

- The poem explores how choices shape life's journey.
- Shows that decisions have consequences, and the speaker reflects on the choice's impact.
- (4 marks)

#### 3.4

- The last stanza evokes a feeling of nostalgia and perhaps some regret or wonder about the road not taken.
- The speaker acknowledges the significance of his choice.
- (3 marks)

# **CREATIVE TASK (10 marks)**

Criteria	Marks
Content relevance	/4
Creativity &	/3
originality	
Language &	/3
expression	
Total	/10

- Diary entry: Should reflect Hamlet's conflicted thoughts, fears, or reflections on life and death.
- Poem: Should clearly express resilience or overcoming challenges, inspired by Still I Rise.
- Mark for coherence, vocabulary, emotional depth, and engagement.

