

**2019 ENGLISH OLYMPIAD EXAMINATION**  
**Theme: Hidden Truth**  
**FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE PAPER**

DATE: Tuesday, 5 March 2019

TIME ALLOCATION: 3 HOURS  
+ up to 30 minutes' reading time.

TEXT: *A Twist in the tale*

TOTAL MARKS: 100

You may have with you in the examination venue:

- pens, pencils, rulers and erasers
- the anthology *A twist in the tale* (may contain underlining or highlighting but no notes)
- your dictionary

You may **not** have the Study Guide or any other paper with notes, documents, cell phones or information retrieval systems of any kind.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Write all answers in the Examination Booklet.
2. Write the section and number of the question above each answer, and start each question at the top of a new page.
3. On the cover of the Examination Booklet, please clearly indicate:
  - your school's Olympiad Exam Number
  - your personal Exam Number
  - each **section** and the **number of the question** that you have answered from that section (e.g. Section A: 4 & Section B:3 & Section C)

**Do NOT write your name, your address or your school's name on the cover, or anywhere in your Examination Booklet.**
4. Answer:
  - a) One question from **SECTION A**
  - b) One question from **SECTION B**
  - c) ALL the questions from **SECTION C**

Regarding **SECTION A**

We invite you to express your own ideas in response to the questions. There are no model answers but do remember that you are expected to refer liberally to the text, demonstrating a prepared and personal response to the material contained therein.

NB: You are invited to draw from your extended reading, but remember that the main focus of your essay should be upon texts contained in the anthology.

We value your responses. Enjoy the experience!

**CAUTION for SECTION B:** You may not answer a question in Section B on an author whose writing you discussed in Section A. If you do so, your answer will not be considered. Choose your options wisely.

**DO NOT TURN OVER THIS PAGE UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR GIVES YOU PERMISSION.**

Select ONE of the following options and write an essay of 450 – 500 words in response to your chosen topic. ESSAYS IN EXCESS OF THE PRESCRIBED LENGTH WILL BE PENALISED ACCORDINGLY.

REMEMBER TO QUOTE OR REFER CLOSELY TO THE TEXT TO SUBSTANTIATE YOUR IDEAS.

**NOTE:** When you answer Section B, you may not answer a question on an author whose writing you discuss here in Section A. If you do so, your answer will not be considered.

**QUESTION 1 Es'kia Mphahlele: The suitcase**

William James states the following about fate: “We are spinning our own fates, good or evil, never to be undone.”

In light of these words, discuss the events in Timi’s life leading up to the incident where he decides to take the suitcase and the consequences for both him and his family.

(50)

**QUESTION 2 Doris Lessing: A sunrise on the veld**

Eckhart Tolle once stated: “In the stillness of your presence, you can feel your own formless and timeless reality as the unmanifested life that animates your physical form. You can then feel the same life deep within every other human and every other creature. You look beyond the veil of form and separation. This is the realization of oneness. This is love.”

In light of this statement, write an essay about the boy’s attitude before he sees the dying buck and how his view of life changes after seeing the dying buck. What does he learn?

(50)

**QUESTION 3 MC Vassanji: Breaking loose**

In this short story, “*Breaking loose*”, Yasmin Rajan’s father states the following: “The world is not ready for it.”

Discuss what Yasmin’s father meant and the issues with which she has to deal and the truth she discovers.

(50)

**QUESTION 4 Christopher Hope: Learning to fly  
Melvin Whitebooi: Looking for Johnny September**

The stories, “*Learning to fly*” and “*Looking for Johnny September*”, are both written in the aftermath of the apartheid era. Discuss what truths we, as South Africans, may learn from them to make our country a better place.

(50)

**QUESTION 5 Marita van der Vyver: She doesn't speak**

Pascal Mercier once said: "We leave ourselves behind when we leave a place, we stay there, even though we go away and there are things in us that we can find again only by going back there."

Noekie speaks again when she returns to her previous home in Transvaal and sees Rebecca. In light of these words, describe and discuss the relationship Noekie has with Rebecca in contrast to that which she has with her mother. Why do you think that she starts to speak again when she sees Rebecca?

(50)

**QUESTION 6 Melvin Whitebooi: Looking for Johnny September**

Nathaniel Branden states the following about guilt: "What is guilt? It is moral self-reproach—I did wrong when it was possible to have done otherwise."

In light of these words, discuss how Christiaan Louw feels about shooting and killing Johnny September after speaking to Johnny's friends and family.

(50)

**QUESTION 7 Patrick Waldo Davis: Wings for Bulbie**

Martin Luther King states the following about education: "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically."

In light of this statement, discuss how Bulbie made a positive impact in the lives of his students.

(50)

**TOTAL MARKS SECTION A [50]**

Kindly turn the page for Section B

Select ONE of the following options. Remember that your answer will be assessed based on your appropriateness of register and diction. Your answer may be between 180-220 words in length.

**CAUTION: YOU MAY NOT ANSWER A QUESTION ON AN AUTHOR WHOSE WRITING YOU DISCUSSED IN SECTION A. IF YOU DO SO, YOUR ANSWER WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

**QUESTION 1 Es'kia Mphahlele: The suitcase**

Imagine that you are Timi. Write a letter to Timi's wife, explaining why you took the suitcase.

(20)

**QUESTION 2 MC Vassanji: Breaking loose**

Write a dialogue for the conversation between Yasmin, her mother and Daniel Akoto. In the conversation, Yasmin and Daniel Akoto ask for Yasmin's mother's blessing.

(20)

**QUESTION 3 Marita van der Vyver: She doesn't speak**

Pretend that you are Noekie. Write a poem about how Noekie feels about living in the Transvaal in contrast to living in London.

(20)

**QUESTION 4 Francois Bloemhoff: When the world began turning the other way**

Write the lyrics of a **song or a poem** you (Alan) have written to Emma after the parent-teacher-student evening.

(20)

**QUESTION 5 Melvin Whitebooi: Looking for Johnny September**

Write an extract from the diary of Christiaan Louw in which he reveals his thoughts about the guilt he feels for shooting and killing Johnny September.

(20)

**QUESTION 6 Patrick Waldo Davis: Wings for Bulbie**

Imagine that you are John Jansen. You have been asked by Mrs Smith (Bulbie's widow) to say a few words at his funeral. Write the **eulogy**.

(20)

**TOTAL MARKS SECTION B [20]**

Kindly turn the page for Section C

**NB: There is no choice in this section. Answer ALL questions.**

**QUESTION 1: The focus is on Ambiguity**

**Explain the difference in meaning between the following pairs of sentences:**

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| 1.1 | Morris enjoys fresh strawberries and cream.                      |   |
| 1.2 | Morris enjoys fresh strawberries, and cream.                     | 2 |
| 1.3 | Duck!  |   |
| 1.4 | Duck.  | 2 |
| 1.5 | The passengers who wore their seatbelts survived the accident.   |   |
| 1.6 | The passengers, who wore their seatbelts, survived the accident. | 2 |
- /6/

**QUESTION 2: The focus is on Punctuation and Capital Letters**

Read the following extract taken from “Wings for Bulbie” by Patrick Waldo Davids and answer the questions below.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <p>“This odd, pot-bellied toppie a teacher? Our new Maths teacher? No ways, old pally, seems more like a first class weekend alcoholic to me. Supply him with a plug and a live wire and he’s a bulbie,” J.J., real trouble maker and the school’s Mathematics whizz, whispered as Bulbie introduced the maths syllabus.</p>   |    |
| <p>“Anything on your mind, Mister ... ?” Bulbie asked, looking J.J. level in the eye.</p>  | 5  |
| <p>“John Jansen, Sir, but just plain J.J. for my <i>bras</i>. No, I was just saying: looks like a year of suffering,” J.J. retorted. The class sniggered.</p>  |    |
| <p>“Negative attitude, Mister J.J.,” Bulbie said and turned to the rest of the class. “To quote Bogart: I think it’s the start of a beautiful friendship, but then, it has to come from both sides.” He conveyed the message with appropriate hand movement.</p>   | 10 |
| <p>Bulbie’s introduction of himself soon reached the bush telegraph – as happens in most small towns. His inevitable fall from grace soon became the latest jigsaw puzzle for the small-town toppies and aunties. You see, a drunkard-teacher, and what’s more, one that prided himself on it, simply had to succumb in a missionary town with prohibition bred to the bone. The only pieces in the puzzle were how, where and when.</p> | 15 |

- |       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| 2.1   | There are three commas in line 1.   |   |
| 2.1.1 | Explain why the first one (after “odd”) is used.  | 1 |
| 2.1.2 | Explain the use of the pair of commas in the third sentence in line 1.                            | 1 |
| 2.2   | How would the tone change if the two question marks in line 1 were replaced by exclamation marks? | 1 |
| 2.3   | What kind of word do we call the hyphenated adjective “pot-bellied” (line 1)?                     | 1 |
| 2.4   | What does the contraction “he’s” in line 2 stand for?   | 1 |

|       |   |      |
|-------|---|------|
| 2.5   | Explain why the first letter in the word “bulbie” is written in the lower case the first time it is used, and then with a capital letter (upper case) the second time it is used in line 3. | 2    |
| 2.6   | The writer has used three dots (...) in line 5.   |      |
| 2.6.1 | What do we call these three dots ?  | 1    |
| 2.6.2 | Explain why they are used here.   | 1    |
| 2.7   | Why are full stops used after the initials “J.J.” (line 6)?   | 1    |
| 2.8   | Explain the use of the colon in line 6.   | 1    |
| 2.9   | Explain the use of the dash in line 11.   | 1    |
| 2.10  | Why is it correct to hyphenate “drunkard-teacher” (line 13), but would be incorrect to hyphenate “drunken teacher”?   | 2    |
|       |   | /14/ |

**QUESTION 3: The focus is on Correction of Punctuation Marks**

Rewrite the following sentences correctly. Write out the whole sentence. Do not simply write the corrections.

|      |  |      |
|------|--|------|
| 3.1  | There are in-store special’s and bargains to be bought.          | 1    |
| 3.2  | Fifi, the dog, wagged it’s tail.                                 | 1    |
| 3.3  | My hat is on top of the cupboard, your’s is there.               | 1    |
| 3.4  | <b>WORS ROLLS</b> – a meal in it’self (sign in front of a stand) | 1    |
| 3.5  | Our’s is the green house.  | 1    |
| 3.6  | Its just gone five ’o the clock.                                 | 1    |
| 3.7  | Who’s pencil is this?  | 1    |
| 3.8  | Potatoes and avo’s are cheap at the moment.                      | 1    |
| 3.9  | Womens’ dresses for sale (sign in the window of a shop)          | 1    |
| 3.10 | There are three important studios’ in that street.               | 1    |
|      |  | /10/ |

**TOTAL SECTION C [30]**

**GRAND TOTAL MARKS = 100**