



The 2022 English Olympiad

Theme: The Future – Utopia or Dystopia?

ENGLISH FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (FAL) EXAMINATION

DATE: Tuesday, 8 March 2022

STARTING TIME: Between 11:00 and 14:00, at the discretion of your school.

TIME ALLOCATION: 3 hours (plus 15 minutes reading time before candidates start writing)

TEXT/ANTHOLOGY: *A Brave New World*

TOTAL MARKS: 100

EXAMINATION REGULATIONS:

This examination is to be written under normal examination conditions, with full invigilation.

Candidates may have the following with them in the examination venue:

- pens, pencils, rulers and erasers
- the Anthology (*A Brave New World*) which may contain underlining or highlighting, but no notes
- a dictionary

During the examination, candidates may not have access to an Olympiad Study Guide or to any other notes or documents, or to cell phones or information systems of any kind.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

1. **Please write clearly and legibly.** Marks will be deducted for illegible handwriting.
2. Write all your answers in your Examination Answer Booklet.
3. Start each section at the top of a new page, and write the number of the question above each of your answers – eg A3, B5, etc.
4. On the cover of your Examination Answer Booklet, please clearly indicate:
 - your school's Olympiad Centre Number;
 - your personal Examination Number; and
 - the number of each of the questions that you have answered.

Do NOT write your name, your address or the name of your school on the cover, or anywhere else in your Examination Answer Booklet.
5. You are required to answer:
 - a) one question from **SECTION A** (60 marks)
 - b) one question from **SECTION B** (40 marks)

You are invited to draw from and to refer to your extended reading, but the main focus of your essay should be upon the texts contained in the Anthology.

We value your responses. Enjoy the experience.

DO NOT TURN OVER THIS PAGE WITHOUT PERMISSION

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

Note: You are invited to express your own ideas in response to the questions in Section A, using your own voice. There are no model answers, but you are expected to refer liberally to the relevant works in the Anthology, providing your personal response to the material and to the question that you have chosen to answer.

Remember to quote or to refer closely to the relevant text/s to substantiate your ideas.

Question A1: 'The World is Too Much with Us' by William Wordsworth

'Composed upon Westminster Bridge, September 3, 1802' by William Wordsworth

Jacques-Yves Cousteau says the following regarding nature: "For most of history, man has had to fight nature to survive; in this century he is beginning to realise that, in order to survive, he must protect it."

Both poems, 'The World is Too Much with Us' and 'Composed upon Westminster Bridge', speak about the relationship that humankind has with nature.

Discuss the differences and similarities in the poems.

Question A2: 'The Taste of the world around me' by Ntandokazi Ntame

'On behalf of the bornfrees' by Nqobile Leruo Mmope

Stewart Stafford says the following regarding people: "Honest people will always be hated, not because they are incorrect (they may be exactly right), but because some loathe truth and its agents."

Both poems, 'The Taste of the world around me' and 'On behalf of the bornfrees', are honest and real. They provide many truths about the current world that we are living in.

Using these two poems as a foundation for your essay, discuss the various issues (challenges) that are mentioned in the poems as well as the practicality of the solutions offered by the authors.

Question A3: Any texts in the Anthology

Neil de Grasse Tyson said the following about nature:

Even with all our technology and the inventions that make life so much easier than it once was, it takes just one big natural disaster to wipe all that away and remind us that, here on Earth, we're still at the mercy of nature.

The theme of 'THE PIVOTAL ROLE THAT NATURE PLAYS IN MAN'S LIFE' is prevalent in many of the texts in the Anthology. Select two or three texts that contain this theme and write an essay that examines how it is showcased in each text.

Question A4: *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

Carl Rogers says the following in his book, *On Becoming a Person*:

... if the result of my efforts and those of others is that man becomes a robot, created and controlled by a science of his own making, then I am very unhappy indeed. If the good life of the future consists in so conditioning individuals through the control of the rewards they receive, that they will be inexorably productive, well-behaved, and happy or whatever, then I want none of it.

In the novel, *Brave New World*, Aldous Huxley emphasises the fact that people need to be free to make their own choices and pursue their dreams and passions.

Using the extract from *Brave New World* in the Anthology as a foundation for your essay, examine the advantages and the disadvantages of what many would perceive as a possible 'Utopia'.

Question A5: ‘Eclipse Our Sins’ by Tlotlo Tsamaase

Anton Chekhov said the following about destroying the environment:

Man has been endowed with reason, with the power to create, so that he can add to what he’s been given. But up to now he hasn’t been a creator, only a destroyer. Forests keep disappearing, rivers dry up, wild life is become extinct, the climate’s ruined and the land grows poorer and uglier every day.

It is evident that the novelette, ‘Eclipse Our Sins’, stands as a warning for humankind to acknowledge the fact that people are destroying the earth.

In a well-structured essay, discuss the social ills that are being explored in the novelette as well as how the earth is being negatively impacted upon due to the negative actions of man.

Question A6: ‘The world after Coronavirus’ by Yuval Noah Harari

Alvin Toffler says the following about technology: “Our technological powers increase, but the side effects and potential hazards also escalate.”

In the Blog Post, ‘The world after Coronavirus’, Yuval Noah Harari highlights the power of information technology. According to Harari it is vital to safeguard our digital infrastructure.

In a well-structured essay, discuss the effects that the surveillance methods and data monopoly will have on the world population. What have we as people learned from the Covid-19 pandemic?

**Question A7: ‘We May Be Brothers After All’ by Chief Seattle of the Squamish tribe
‘I Have a Dream’ by Rev. Dr Martin Luther King Jr (1963)
Inaugural Address of USA President John F. Kennedy (1961)**

Brené Brown says the following in *The Gifts of Imperfection*:

Spirituality is recognising and celebrating that we are all inextricably connected to each other by a power greater than all of us, and that our connection to that power and to one another is grounded in love and compassion. Practising spirituality brings a sense of perspective, meaning and purpose to our lives.

All of the three texts above touch on the importance of equality and the fact that we are all connected. Discuss the importance of equality and the positive impact it may have on mankind.

**Question A8: ‘We May Be Brothers After All’ by Chief Seattle of the Squamish tribe
‘I Have a Dream’ by Rev. Dr Martin Luther King Jr (1963)
Inaugural Address of USA President John F. Kennedy (1961)**

Man will always persecute prophets, hunt them, exile them and kill them. Compare the position taken by John F. Kennedy in his inaugural address with that taken by the Reverend Martin Luther King Junior, and discuss how these men saw the future, especially as it relates to societal problems.

For Section B, turn to page 4

Select ONE of the following options. Your answer will be assessed based on the appropriateness of your register and diction. The format of your response should be in line with the indicated format. Your answer should be between 250 and 300 words in length, except for Questions B8 and B9.

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. You may, however, address a question which requires you to include a group of authors, one of which you discussed in Section A.

Question B1: ‘On behalf of the bornfrees’ by Nqobile Leruo Mmope
‘The Taste of the world around me’ by Ntandokazi Ntame

Nqobile Leruo Mmope, Ntandokazi Ntame and President Cyril Ramaphosa are having a conversation. Write a dramatic presentation in dialogue form in which they exchange their respective views about living in South Africa.

Question B2: *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

You are Savage. Write two diary entries where Savage expresses his thoughts and emotions about the ‘Brave New World’.

Question B3: *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

Design a brochure for the drug ‘Soma’. Aspects that could be considered are as follows: composition, dosage and directions for use, warnings and special precautions, possible side effects, storage, identification and any other relevant information. A sketch of the drug should be included in the brochure.

Question B4: ‘The world after Coronavirus’ by Yuval Noah Harari

Write a newspaper article on the implications of data monopoly through surveillance.

Question B5: ‘Eclipse Our Sins’ by Tlotlo Tsamaase

You are the narrator in ‘Eclipse Our Sins’. Write a letter to Mother Earth apologising for all that humankind has done to destroy her and provide a declaration of what humankind will improve upon to help restore earth.

Question B6: ‘Sugared Almonds’ by Angela Graham

‘Sugared Almonds’ is a delicately told and convincing story of the effects of the Corona virus. Write a short story of your own, inspired by the everyday events of the past two years. Bring in subtle but recognisable references to the text in the Anthology.

Question B7: ‘We May Be Brothers After All’ by Chief Seattle of the Squamish tribe
‘I Have a Dream’ by Rev. Dr Martin Luther King Jr (1963)
Inaugural Address of USA President John F. Kennedy (1961)

Imagine that you are Dr Martin Luther King Jr and you are living today. Write the speech that you would make as you look back over the last 100 years. Refer to the speeches in the Anthology.

Question B8: ‘Eclipse Our Sins’ by Tlotlo Tsamaase

If you are a fan of the graphic novel genre, and would like to speak to us through art, use ‘Eclipse Our Sins’ to provide the inspiration for six to eight frames of richly dark graphic text. You are expected to blend your illustration with appropriate dialogue and written text of between 150 and 200 words. (Note: DO NOT attempt this question unless you are familiar with the genre.)

Question B9: ‘The World is Too Much with Us’ by William Wordsworth
‘Composed upon Westminster Bridge’, September 3, 1802 by William Wordsworth
‘God’s Grandeur’ by Gerard Manley Hopkins

Write a poem about the beauty and importance of nature. (250 – 300 words)