

**2016 ENGLISH OLYMPIAD**  
**FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE**

**A Journey into Darkness**

DATE: Tuesday, 1 March 2016

TIME ALLOCATION: 3 HOURS

TEXT: *The Darkness in Man's Heart*

TOTAL MARKS: 100

You may have with you in the examination venue:

- pens, pencils, rulers and erasers
- the anthology, *The Darkness in Man's Heart* (may contain underlining or highlighting but no notes)
- your dictionary

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

**INSTRUCTIONS:** All answers are to be written in the Examination Booklet.

Answer:

1. one question from **SECTION A1**
2. one question from **SECTION A2**
3. **ALL** the questions from **SECTION B**

Regarding **SECTION A:**

- We invite you to express your own ideas in response to the questions, using your own voice – there are no 'right' answers. However, the better responses tend to refer to anthology, and quote from it.
- Write the section and number of the question above each answer, and start each question at the top of a new page.
- On the cover of the Examination Booklet, please clearly indicate:
  - your school's Olympiad Centre Number
  - your personal Examination Number
  - each **section** and the **number of the question** that you have answered from that section (e.g. Section A1: 3 & Section A2: 6)

**Do NOT write your name, your address or your school's name on the cover, or anywhere in your Examination Booklet.**

**WE VALUE YOUR ANSWERS, SO ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE!**

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

**SECTION A1: DISCURSIVE ESSAY**

**(50 MARKS)**

Select ONE of the options in Section A1 and write a discursive essay of between 400 – 450 words in response to your chosen topic.

1. 'Two Wolves' – A Cherokee Parable

*An old Cherokee chief was teaching his grandson about life.*

*"A fight is going on inside me," he said to the boy. "It is a terrible fight and it's between two wolves. One is evil – he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, self-doubt and ego."*

*"The other is good – he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith. The same fight is going on inside of you and inside every person, too."*

*The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?"*

*The old chief simply replied, "The one you feed."*

In the light of this parable, discuss any three characters from your anthology and which wolf they chose to feed and the effects thereof. (50)

2. Nicholas Sparks states the following about character: "In the end you should always do the right thing even if it is hard." Naledi witnesses Basi forcing himself on Moipone and later confesses to her friend, Olebogeng, about what she had seen.

Discuss whether you are able to identify with Naledi (protagonist in *This Book Betrays my Brother*) and explain what she comes to know about her community, family, friends, as well as herself. (50)

3. Murray Bartlett said: "No person and character is beyond redemption, ultimately. That's the great thing about playing a character that has a kind of dark side; there's room to explore the opposite."

In the light of these words, discuss whether there is redemption for any of the malicious characters from your anthology. (50)

4. A humane society requires the evolution of selflessness, compassion and imagination in its individuals. Examine any two narratives in the anthology in the light of this requirement. (50)

5. G.R.L. brought out this song in 2015. You may recognize the lyrics:

**Ugly Heart**

*Maybe I'm just crazy  
Maybe I'm a fool  
Maybe I don't know how to love but  
Maybe I do  
Maybe you know more than me but  
This much is true  
This little heart and brain of mine say  
We're through with you*

*And I wonder does it blow your mind  
That I'm leaving you far behind  
I wonder does it stop your heart to know  
You're not my sunshine anymore*

*Okay you're pretty  
Your face is a work of art  
Your smile could light up New York City after dark  
Okay you're cover-boy pretty  
Stamped with a beauty mark  
But it's such a pity a boy so pretty  
With an ugly heart.*

Basimane sees himself as a trophy for any woman.

Drawing from the texts provided, write a discursive essay examining his character for evidence of likeable traits or redeeming features that mask a dark and callous person. You are invited to offer some kind of apologia\*\* for him: if you feel inclined you may play devil's advocate; or you may damn him outright, but do take a stand: for or against. (50)

(\*\* Apologia: a formal, written defence of your own or someone else's actions, opinions, conduct; an attempt to vindicate, defend or justify something.)

**SECTION A2: CREATIVE RESPONSES****(20 MARKS)**

Select ONE of the following options. Remember your answer will be assessed based upon appropriateness of register and diction. Your answer may be between 100 – 150 words in length.

1. Write an extract from the diary of Naledi in which she reveals her thoughts about her struggle with loyalties and being shackled by the knowledge that she must carry. (20)
  
2. Write a dialogue for the conversation between Dr Frankenstein and his creation. In the conversation Dr Frankenstein's creation expresses his need for a partner just like himself. (20)
  
3. Write a letter to the president of South Africa where you express your views about sexual violence in our country. Refer to the story, *This Book Betrays My Brother*, from your anthology. (20)
  
4. Marvel Comics and the characters of Anime create clear stereotypes of good and evil. If you have some artistic skill, draw a sequence of frames, portraying your own 'evil' and 'good' characters in conflict with one another. This is not a test of how good an artist you are. There must be the minimum number of words, clearly reflecting your knowledge of the text. In this case a guide would be about 120 words, either in the cartoon's speech bubbles, or partly as an introduction to your cartoon, much like stage directions for play dialogue. (20)
  
5. Basimane and Dr Frankenstein are standing at the gates of heaven. St Peter is hearing the case of each, as heaven is prepared to allow only one candidate in on a special holiday concession. Write the debate in which these two characters offer their defences. (20)

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

1. Pretend you are a teacher of English faced with the task of correcting this essay. Choose 10 common errors and correct them appropriately. (20)

AND

Write an encouraging note to the candidate, noting at least one positive aspect of the essay, and pointing out which common errors most urgently need attention. (8)

Evil is everywhere: you can hear it in the silence... An Essay by Shaakirah

*The world is full of evil. Those known to us and those that blend into society so well. The guys you'd never expect are some real dangerous. Boy oh boy are they clever!*

*Oh don't act like you don't know what I'm talking about. Those dapper dressed fellows that always keep up with the latest trends but barely say two words to any one in real life. Yes. You've got it. Me...*

*Have you ever just gone to the park and watched everyone live in the moment? I mean, really watched, like sitting on a park bench, making hay while the sun shines, with your coffee and staring out at them? Watching them live in the moment. Seeing the happiness smothered all across their faces. Hearing the loud, carefree laughs ooze from their chest and mouths. It's quite a sight. The happiness they experience is minimalistic compared to the joy I feel making sure that moment was their last.*

*Parks are an excellent place to meet people, but then there's also where I met you: Mike's Coffee Shop. I always made sure I had a window seat. Never the same one but never the less a window seat. That way I always had the upper hand. I could know more about you in seconds without you even knowing about it. That's modern technology for you. It's made getting information so much faster and easier these days. I had your address on my computer screen in a minute. Convenient.*

*That's basically how we got to where we are now. Wow! It sounds so much better out loud. I don't know how or why it had to be you, it just did. There were so many signs. It felt as though fate had brought us together for a reason. You don't need to play the victim though. Not just yet anyway. There's still a few more formalities we need to get out of the way before that label is brought up.*

*There's something about these last few moments that I just adore. I don't know if it's the sounds that I hear. Or the smell that slowly fills the room. It could be the draining of colour from your face as you await your fate and slowly begin to accept it.*

*It could be all those things. But the one thing I am most certain about is the death-becoming silence that expands between us.*

*Yes, it's the silence...*

2. In *Principles of Composition* Strunk and White advise: "In summaries, keep to one tense. In summarising the action of a drama, the writer should use the present tense."

Write down the changes you would make if you were editing the following piece of writing:

*Chance prevented Friar John from delivering Friar Lawrence's letter to Romeo. Meanwhile, owing to her father's arbitrary change of the day set for her wedding, Juliet has been compelled to drink the potion on Tuesday night, with the result that Balthazar informs Romeo of her supposed death before Friar Lawrence learned of the non-delivery of the letter.* (2)

[30]

**GRAND TOTAL [100]**