

2020 ENGLISH OLYMPIAD EXAM
Theme: Consequences
HOME LANGUAGE PAPER

DATE: Tuesday, 3 March 2020

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

TEXT: *Aftermath*

TOTAL MARKS: 100

You may have with you in the examination venue:

- pens, pencils, rulers and erasers
- the anthology *Aftermath* (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 Centre Number
 - your personal Examination 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, using your own voice. 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.

DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE WITHOUT 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.

Question One: Bongani Sibanda: Death by Cellphone

Agnes Sam: A Bag of Sweets

A theory: We are all raised in a certain culture and this creates a norm for what we know and how we live. We are bound by our cultural loyalty and by what it expects. The way we treat ourselves and others is also based on this background. Our culture can, therefore, be seen as a reason or an excuse for our actions.

Using *Death by Cellphone* and *A Bag of Sweets* as a foundation for your essay, discuss the validity of this theory.

(50)

Question Two: Christopher Marlowe: Doctor Faustus

Doctor Faustus by Christopher Marlowe was written almost 500 years ago. Considering the language, narrative and lessons, discuss whether you think the play is still relevant - or not.

(50)

Question Three

Langston Hughes asks: "What happens to a dream deferred?" Referring to two or more texts in the anthology, answer this question.

(50)

Question Four: Sibusiso Mamba: Taxi

"Mzee is a victim of his circumstances. His actions should therefore not be burdened by consequences."

To what extent do you think Mzee should be free from any consequences of his actions?

(50)

**Question Five: Emily Dickenson: Tell the Truth but tell it slant
Sibusiso Mamba: Taxi**

Emily Dickenson advocates conveying truths indirectly while Senzo lies about the truth. Considering the reasons why the writer and the character deal with their truths in the way that they do, discuss whether you agree or disagree with their sentiments and actions. (50)

Question Six

The carelessness of people's actions causes chaos in other people's lives. By referring to two or more texts from the anthology, consider whether you agree with this statement. (50)

Question Seven

"Forever is composed of nows." Emily Dickinson

For decades writers, self-help gurus and other enlightened beings have encouraged being present in the moment. One could argue that a character such as Dr Faustus does not think about his "forever" but lives for the momentary gratification of his desires when he makes a pact with the devil. Is it really beneficial to be steeped only in the present moment? Refer to *Doctor Faustus* and one other text from the anthology in your essay. (50)

TOTAL MARKS FOR 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 the appropriateness of your register and diction. Your answer should 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. YOU MAY, HOWEVER, ADDRESS A QUESTION WHICH REQUIRES YOU TO INCLUDE A GROUP OF AUTHORS, ONE OF WHICH YOU DISCUSSED IN SECTION A.

Question One: Sibusiso Mamba: Taxi
Thomas Hardy: A Broken Appointment
Agnes Sam: A Bag of Sweets

Mzee, Thomas Hardy and Kaltoum are members of a support group which helps them deal with the loss of their loved ones. Write **a dialogue** which captures a few moments of one of their meetings. (30)

Question Two: Sibusiso Mamba: Taxi

You are Jemma. Write a follow-up **article** for *The Saturday Star* on Mzee after his trial. (30)

Question Three: Agnes Sam: A Bag of Sweets

You have been keeping a secret diary for years. Write **one or two diary entries** in which you divulge your true feelings about your sister Khadija and your family's situation. (30)

Question Four

You are any character or persona from the anthology and, incidentally, Thomas Hardy's lost love. Write **a note** to Hardy in which you explain your feelings and why you could not meet with him. (30)

Question Five: Christopher Marlowe: Doctor Faustus

Dr Faustus has been granted an hour to write and post a **Facebook message** of advice. Write this post. (30)

Question Six: Bongani Sibanda: Death by Cellphone

You have just watched the film adaptation of *Death by Cellphone*. Write the **review script** that you would deliver on your YouTube channel entitled *Fearsome Firsts*. (30)

TOTAL MARKS FOR SECTION B: [30]

Kindly turn the page for section C.

Question One

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

1.

It was Friday evening and I felt exhausted. I had done too much and slept too little. And I was hungry. My week long diet of coffee and instant noodles had suddenly left me craving vegetables – real ones. Not the dehydrated scraps in the instant noodle flavouring.

2.

Anyway, I went to my local supermarket, got myself a single-basket trolley and marched in armed with my hunger and pauper's paycheck. I glided down the fruit aisle, which was dolled up like a tropical paradise – fake palm trees and all. I felt as if I were being canonised right there in the fresh produce section as I cast apple upon pear upon pawpaw into my trolley, which was lagging slightly behind me in an avant garde fashion.

3.

A few moments into my fruit frenzy I got a funny feeling that people were looking at me. I grabbed my cell phone and took a selfie standing in front of banana basket so that I could secretly assess whether or not I had a re-hydrated veggie piece in between my teeth. The selfie evidence revealed a reasonably put together me and a pic that, with the right filter, could of been profile worthy.

4.

I needed a gastronomic hug that could only come in the form of some Israeli Mud Pie. Filled with purpose, I went over to the un-themed confectionary counter. Feeling a tinge of guilt, I looked down at my trolley to comfort me in the knowledge that I was looking after my health with all that fruit. Oh, the horror! I was greeted by a wicked realization. I had a trolley, but I had not adorned it with a shopping basket. I took a few steps to gain a view of the fruit section. There, on the floor, was my apple, pear and pulped pawpaw.

1. Find an example of each of the following:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1.1 Conversion | (2) |
| 1.2 Portmanteau | (2) |
| 1.3 Loan word | (2) |
| 1.4 Truncation | (2) |
| 1.5 Reduplication | (2) |
| 1.6 Eponym | (2) |

(2 x 6 = 12 marks)

Kindly turn to the next page for the rest of the language section questions.

2. Refer to paragraph 1.

Correct a mistake in this paragraph by creating a compound adjective. Write down only the compound adjective. (2)

3. Refer to paragraph 2.

A word in this paragraph has been misspelt. Write down only the corrected word. (2)

4. Refer to paragraph 3.

A verb in this paragraph is incorrect. Write down the corrected form of this verb. (2)

5. Refer to paragraph 4.

The writer has used the wrong form of one personal pronoun in this paragraph. Write down the phrase it is contained in with the corrected personal pronoun. (2)

(2 x 4 = 8 marks)

TOTAL MARKS FOR SECTION C: [20]

TOTAL MARKS FOR THE EXAM: 100