NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
MAY 2021

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE: PAPER II

Time: 3 hours 100 marks

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. This question paper consists of 8 pages. Please check that your question paper is complete.

2. Utilise your reading time carefully, ensuring that the selections made showcase your ability to share your response to the texts.

3. Questions must be answered in **BOTH SECTIONS**. In **SECTION A**, Question 1 is **compulsory** and then answer **ONE** question on the selected novel. In **SECTION B**, Question 6 is **compulsory**, and then answer **either** Question 7 **or** Question 8.

4. Number your answers exactly as the questions are numbered.

5. **Begin each QUESTION on a new page.** Do not copy down headings for your answers. Copy down **only** the question numbers, making sure they are accurate.

6. You may answer the questions in whatever order you wish, but number your answers exactly as the questions are numbered.

7. Ensure that you **include a word count** at the end of your mini-essay (Question 1) **only**. **No word count is required for Questions 2–8.**

8. You are encouraged to give your own judgements. Attempt to create space in which your **own voice** can be evident. The examiners will judge your answers on your understanding of, and insight into given texts, and will also assess the competence with which your answers are expressed.

9. Take care to follow instructions in each question with meticulous care.

10. Answers must be written in the Answer Book supplied.

11. It is in your own interest to write legibly and to present your work neatly.

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SECTION A LITERATURE

QUESTION 1

SHAKESPEARE: *ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA*

THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY

Study the quotation from Sara Deats below and then write a mini-essay in response to the topic that follows:

"Antony is not only a braver but a better man than his competitor for empire, who is seen as worthless, mean, jealous, and vengeful. Octavius compares unfavourably to the passionate, magnanimous Antony, and his clever egotism alienates the sympathies of the audience."

[Source: <https://www.mobt3ath.com/uplode/book/book-59506.pdf>]

TOPIC:

Assess whether Antony is a **braver** and more **passionate** man than the seemingly **egotistical, jealous** Octavius who **alienates the sympathies** of the audience.

Please note:

- The length of your response must be **approximately 450 words**.
- Your knowledge of Shakespeare's text, *Antony and Cleopatra*, and your ability to structure and substantiate your stance in order to develop a **tightly constructed argument** will be assessed.
- **Close** and **relevant** reference to the play is **essential**.
- **Please be aware that you will be penalised should your essay be longer than 500 words.**
- **Please provide an accurate word count at the end of your essay.**

[30]

AND

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NOVELS

NORTH AND SOUTH OR *THE DREAM HOUSE*

Answer **ONE** question on your selected novel.

Answer **EITHER**

Question 2 (*North and South)*

OR

Question 3 (*North and South)*

OR

Question 4 (*The Dream House)*

OR

Question 5 (*The Dream House)*

Please note:

- Your response must be in the form of a well-structured literary essay.
- Your ability to select detail from the novel, in order to develop a **succinct argument**, which is clearly focused and perceptive, **will be assessed**.
- Your essay should be **approximately 600 words** in length.
- **Close** and **relevant** reference to the text in the question is **essential**.
- Do **NOT** provide a word count at the end of your essay.

EITHER

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QUESTION 2

NORTH AND SOUTH: ELIZABETH GASKELL

Read the following:

"Fiction is, to a large extent, about the choices characters make and the desirable or undesirable results those choices have."

[Source: Patricia C. Wrede *Agency in Fiction* <https://www.pcwrede.com/agency-in-fiction/>]

TOPIC:

Discuss whether **good and bad choices** made by characters in the novel, *North and South,* cause them to suffer the **consequences** that are both desirable and undesirable.

Your response should consider at least **two** characters.

[30]

OR

QUESTION 3

NORTH AND SOUTH: ELIZABETH GASKELL

Read the following:

"Gaskell creates a conflict between the class that one is born into and belongs to by blood and the class that people may believe they belong to because of their culture or education. Gaskell highlights that there is social mobility in society, but it is neither accepted nor controllable."

[Source: Gretchen McCarthy <https://blogs.commons.georgetown.edu/>]

TOPIC:

Argue to what extent **classism** in *North and South* is central to Gaskell's concerns and whether **social mobility** of the people of Milton-Northern is **accepted or controllable**.

[30]

OR

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QUESTION 4

THE DREAM HOUSE: CRAIG HIGGINSON

Read the following:

"Fiction is, to a large extent, about the choices characters make and the desirable or undesirable results those choices have."

[Source: Patricia C. Wrede *Agency in Fiction* <https://www.pcwrede.com/agency-in-fiction/>]

TOPIC:

Discuss whether **good and bad choices** made by characters in the novel, *The Dream House,* cause them to suffer **consequences** that are both desirable and undesirable.

Your response should consider at least **two** characters.

[30]

OR

QUESTION 5

THE DREAM HOUSE: CRAIG HIGGINSON

Read the following:

"We can now deal with our past, establish the truth which has so long been denied us, and lay the basis for genuine reconciliation. Only the truth can put the past to rest." (President Mandela when he signed the Promotion of National Unity and Reconciliation Act, July 1995).

[Bizos, G. *No one to Blame,* David Philip Publishers, 1998]

TOPIC:

Argue to what extent Looksmart and the Wileys, in *The Dream House,* find **truth** to put the **past to rest** and lay the basis for genuine **reconciliation**.

[30]

60 marks

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SECTION B TRANSACTIONAL WRITING: SHORT PIECES

Please note:

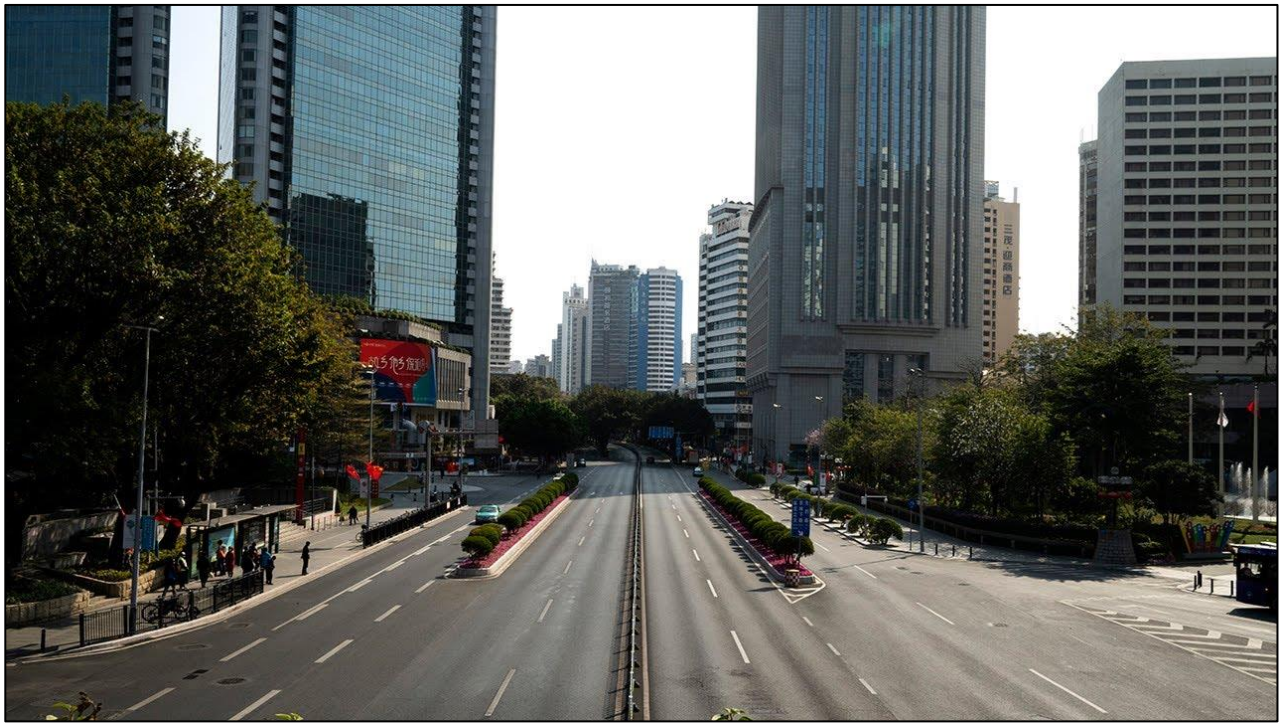
- Answer **TWO** of the following questions.
- You must answer **Question 6 (compulsory)** and then answer **either Question 7 or Question 8**.
- The body of your response should be **approximately 250 to 300 words** in length.
- Remember to pay attention to the **register** and **purpose** of your text.
- It is essential that the **appropriate format** is used.

QUESTION 6

THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY

Study the image below (IMAGE A), read the accompanying article on page 7 and then answer the question that follows.

IMAGE A



[Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dN18AMcgeww>]

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Can City Life Survive Coronavirus?

Cities are epicentres of capital and creativity, designed to be occupied collectively. Pandemics are anti-urban, preying on our human desire for connection.

It's becoming harder by the hour to find the new normal.

We need each other in a crisis like this, but we rightly fear congestion. France and Spain have ordered all cafes and restaurants shut down. In New York, it's the same, with museums and Broadway theatres on hiatus. Mosques have closed in several countries, churches have cancelled masses. Traditionally, we seek solace in religion, sports, entertainment and in the promise that modern science and societies provide all the tools needed to solve any problem. But the coronavirus undermines our most basic ideas about community and, in particular, urban life.

Historians tell us that cities emerged thousands of years ago for economic and industrial reasons. Cities also grew, less tangibly, out of deeply human social and spiritual needs. The very notion of streets, shared housing and public spaces stemmed from and fostered a kind of collective affirmation, a sense that people are all in this together.

Pandemics are anti-urban. They exploit our impulse to congregate. And our response so far — social distancing — not only runs up against our fundamental desires to interact, but also against the way we have built our cities and plazas, subways and skyscrapers. For many urban systems to work properly, density is the goal, not the enemy.

Of course, we now have teleconferencing and an abundance of social media and other forms of remote, digital interaction. The technology we consume today increasingly consumes us, for good and ill. It is escalating our anxieties with unending access to information and misinformation alike. But technology is also allowing many of us to carry on with certain kinds of businesses and act globally in ways we couldn't have imagined a generation or two ago.

We will need to figure out a different approach, together.

[Source: Michael Kimmelman <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/17/world/europe/coronavirus-city-life.html>]

The world has seen a number of pandemics in recent years changing the way in which we operate and view social interaction. Write a **speech** which you would present at a **Social Awareness Campaign** detailing how you perceive people will change the ways in which they **socialise and interact** post the Coronavirus pandemic.

[20]

AND

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QUESTION 7 AND QUESTION 8 ARE BASED ON THE EXTRACT BELOW:

Read the text below and answer ONE of the questions that follow.

Meet 'Generation Alpha'

In 2005, social researcher Mark McCrindle coined the term "Generation Alpha" to identify the group born after Generation Z. He defines the generation as those born from 2010 to 2024, while Gen Z spans 1995 to 2009.

Another element that helps define Generation Alpha is technology. McCrindle's birth year start date of 2010 happens to be the year the iPad was released, Instagram was launched and "app" was the word of the year. He believes the omnipresence of technology in those formative years leads to gamification of learning but also shorter attention spans and impaired social formation.

"[They] have been raised as screenagers to a greater extent than the fixed screens of the past could facilitate," said McCrindle. "For this reason, we also call them Generation Glass. The glass that they will wear on their wrist; the glasses on their face, that will be on the Head Up Display of the driverless car; or the interactive school desk where they learn, will transform how they work, shop, learn, connect and play."

These advancements mean that technology for Generation Alpha "is not something separate from themselves, but rather, an extension of their own consciousness and identity," said Natalie Franke. She believes many people in this generation may prefer the virtual world to the physical world and that they'll also have more opportunities for creativity.

[Source: Caroline Bologna <https://www.huffpost.com/entry/generation-alpha-after-gen-z>]

Answer **EITHER** Question 7 **OR** Question 8

QUESTION 7

Write an **open letter** addressed to your **Head of School** outlining your views on the **challenges and opportunities** Generation Alpha will face in **education** in the future. Your letter should make some **suggestions** to schools on how they could **improve the nature of teaching and learning** for this new generation.

[20]

OR

QUESTION 8

Write a **blog** post for an online parent site in which you express your views concerning the **societal challenges** that Generation Alpha will face in the future which are **different from your own challenges**.

[20]

40 marks

Total: 100 marks

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