NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
MAY 2023

VISUAL ARTS: PAPER I

Time: 3 hours 100 marks

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. This question paper consists of 10 pages. Please check that your question paper is complete.

2. **ANSWER ALL FIVE QUESTIONS.**

3. Read each question carefully before formulating your response.

4. Write neatly and in a clear and structured manner: use full sentences and paragraphs according to the instructions of each question. **No marks** will be awarded for lists of facts or diagrams.

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

6. Underline the names of artists and artworks.

7. You may not refer to the visual sources provided in one question in any of the other questions.

8. Do not repeat artists, facts, arguments **and/or** artworks. **No marks** will be awarded for the same information repeated in another question.

9. Where a question states **AND/OR,** you are allowed to discuss **ONE** aspect or **ALL** of the criteria mentioned.

10. **PLEASE NOTE:** Allocate ***45 minutes to an hour*** of your time to answer **Question 5**.

11. Answers must be completed in the Answer Book provided.

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

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QUESTION 1 VISUAL LITERACY

Study **Images A and B** and read the accompanying text. Answer the questions that follow.

Use **Images A and B** for QUESTION 1 **ONLY**.



Image A Bisa Butler ***The Safety Patrol*** Textile Art Life Size 2018	Although Bisa Butler's finished works are exclusively fabric, her methods remain interdisciplinary: photographs inform her compositions and figural choices, she layers fabrics as a painter might layer glazes, and she uses thread to draw, adding detail and texture. **1**

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Image B
Marion Boehm
The Desert Girls
Collage and fabric on paper, mixed media,
171 × 120 cm
Life Size
2018

Marion Boehm's practice was initially fuelled by her desire to pay tribute to those she met during her travels, with a particular focus on the women living in Kliptown, the oldest residential area of Soweto, Johannesburg. Upcycling discarded newspapers and shweshwe cloth, materials that speak to the experience of living in Kliptown, she began creating large-scale textile pieces. Boehm also uses lace, velvet, and other materials from the colonial period, starting a dialogue between colonial-era portraiture and her contemporary sitters.

2

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1.1 Refer to **Images A** and **B** on pages 2 and 3. Compare the similar way(s) in which each artist uses pattern and texture. (3)

1.2 Explain the criteria you would use to define these artworks as 'Art' as opposed to 'Craft.' Substantiate your answer by referring to each artwork. (3)

1.3 Identify the focal point in each artwork and explain how each artist achieved this. (4)

1.4 Refer to **Image B**. How does this artwork start a dialogue between colonial-era portraiture and contemporary sitters? (2)

1.5 Arguably these works could be viewed as being 'feminist' in nature. Explain why this is the case. (3)

[15]

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QUESTION 2 TWENTIETH CENTURY ART FROM DADA UP TO BUT EXCLUDING THE CONCEPTUAL ART OF THE 1970s

Look at **Images C** and **D**. Read the statement below and answer the questions that follow.



Image C
Jackson Pollock
Red Composition
Oil on Masonite
48,3 × 60,3 cm
1946



Image D
Andy Warhol
Shot Sage Blue Marilyn
Silkscreen Image
101,6 × 101,6 cm
1964

Jackson Pollock's *Red Composition* 1946 (**Image C**) sold for $12 Million in 2020. Andy Warhol's *Shot Sage Blue Marilyn* (**Image D**) set a new auction record when it sold in May 2022 for $195 Million.

3

2.1 Consider and debate whether or not you feel the works above warrant the prices paid for them. Explain your criteria to substantiate your response. (3)

2.2 Choose **ONE** artwork from Dada and ***another*** artwork from Surrealism that you feel should be seen as being as valuable as the artworks above.

For your selected artworks, write down the names of the artists, the titles of the artworks and a brief description of each artwork. (4)

2.3 For each selected artwork motivate why you think these artworks are as valuable as the works by Pollock and Warhol which you discussed in Question 2.1. (8)

[15]

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QUESTION 3 CONCEPTUAL AND CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL ART

Study **Image E** below and read the accompanying text. Answer the questions that follow.

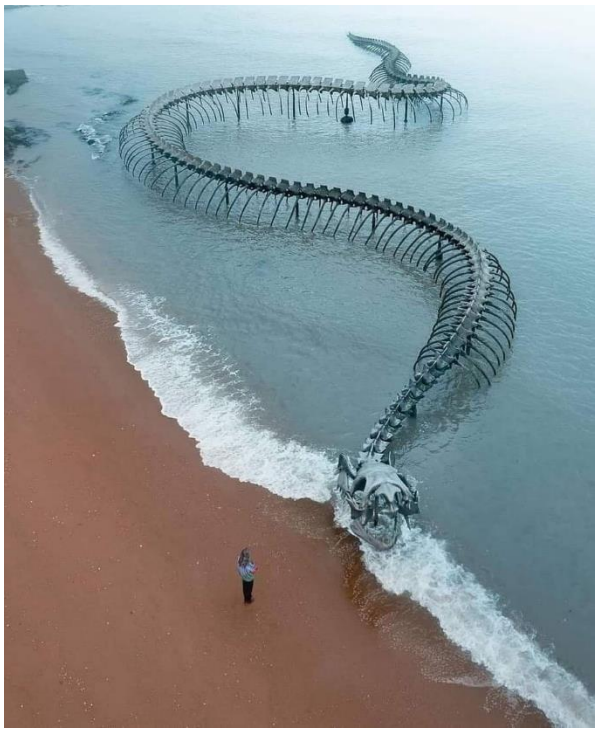

Image E
Huang Yong Ping
Serpent d'océan *(Ocean Snake)*
Aluminium sculpture
130 m long
2012

Just off the shore of France, a slithering serpent rises from the water. Completed in 2012, *Serpent d'océan* is an impressive, permanent, 130-meter-long sculpture by French Chinese contemporary artist Huang Yong Ping.

Huang Yong Ping had many of his works banned by the Chinese government. In 1989, he moved to France and has since become a naturalised French citizen.

Huang Yong Ping is considered to be 'avant-garde' by the public and critics. The definition of *avant-garde* is to create new and innovative styles or methods of making art.

4

3.1 Evaluate why the work of Huang Yong Ping is considered by critics to be avant-garde. Substantiate your response by referring to *Serpent d'océan* above. (2)

3.2 Would you classify Huan Yong Ping as a Conceptual Artist? Give **TWO** reasons for your answer. (2)

3.3 Select and discuss **TWO** avant-garde artworks each created by **TWO** different Conceptual **AND/OR** Contemporary International artists.

For **EACH** artwork write down the name of the artist, title of the artwork and a brief description of each artwork. (4)

3.4 Motivate why both selected artworks **AND/OR** artists should be considered avant-garde. Refer to your selected artworks to substantiate your debate. (12)

[20]

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QUESTION 4 RESISTANCE ART IN SOUTH AFRICA DURING THE APARTHEID ERA (Circa. 1950–1994 CE)

Read the text below, study **Image F** and then answer the questions that follow.



Image F
Dumile Feni
Mother and Child *(Left)*
Charcoal on Paper
98,5 × 65,5 cm
1966

5



Detail above

Dumile Feni was primarily a graphic artist, working almost entirely in monochrome. He was also an exceptionally gifted sculptor and many of his drawings, executed entirely in a linear and expressionistic fashion, have a profound sculptural quality. His subjects are frequently distorted in order to express his emotions, hardships and ideas during the time of apartheid.

6

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4.1 Refer to **Image F** on page 7. Evaluate and discuss how Feni's expressionistic style and choice of subject matter reflect the political conflict in South Africa in 1966. (4)

4.2 Select **TWO** relevant **South African artworks (circa. 1950–1994)** by **TWO** *different* artists whose work reflects the political conflict experienced at the time through their choice of subject matter and expressionistic style.

For **EACH** of the **TWO** selected South African artworks, provide the name of the artist and the title of the artwork and a brief description.

(Please Note: you may also discuss artists who emerged from formal and informal Art Centres during the 1950s and onwards.) (4)

4.3 For **EACH** selected artwork, analyse how the artist's choice of subject matter and expressionistic style reflects the political conflict of the time. (10)

4.4 Explain why artists who challenged the South African government during this time could not be completely open about their political views in their work. (2)

[20]

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QUESTION 5 CONTEMPORARY SOUTH AFRICAN ART (POST–1994)

Look at **Image G** below, read the accompanying text and write an essay in response.

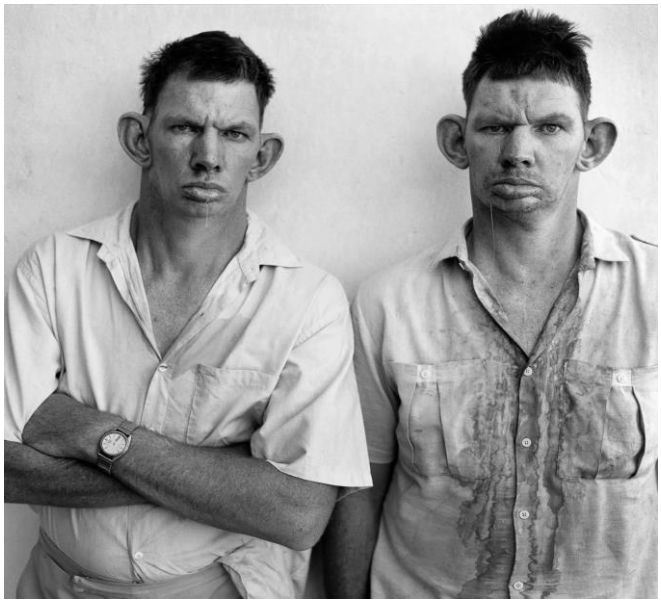

Image G
Roger Ballen
Dresie and Casie, Twins, Western Transvaal
Photograph
1993

Photographer Roger Ballen began taking photographs while working in his capacity as a geologist in South Africa. Because of his job, Ballen was able to visit nearly every small village and town across South Africa, which is how he was able to capture images of inhabitants living on the edge of society. For example, *Dresie and Casie* **(Image G)** lived in Western Transvaal, now known as North West.

At the beginning of his career, his photographs took on a more documentary nature and could be described as a form of ***public history*** for future generations.

7

Write an essay of approximately **FOUR** pages in which you evaluate the extent to which South African contemporary artists' work could be considered a form of *public history* for future generations.

Select **THREE** Contemporary South African artists and **ONE** artwork by each selected artist to develop and substantiate your argument. If you are discussing a specific collection of an artist's work, clearly name and describe it. ***

****You may choose to discuss Roger Ballen but not the photograph represented by Image G.***

Mark allocation for Question 5	
3 artists	6 marks
3 titles with brief descriptions of works	
Relevant facts *(Please note: Write 6 facts to earn 4 marks per discussion of each artwork.)*	12 marks
Development of argument	12 marks

[30]

Total: 100 marks

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REFERENCES

QUESTION 1

1. Image A, empirical data and text taken from Art Chicago Institute. Available [Online] at: <https://www.artic.edu/exhibitions/9324/bisa-butler-portraits>
Accessed on the 15th of May 2022.
2. Image B, empirical data and text adapted from: 154. Available [Online] at: <https://www.1-54.com/london/artists/boehm-marion> Accessed on the 12th of May 2022.

QUESTION 2

3. *Red Composition* taken from Mutual Art. Available [Online] at: <https://www.mutualart.com/Artwork/Red-Composition/BF53A2BDC978DDC2> Accessed 10 May 2022. Information pertaining to Red Composition taken from NNY 360.
Available [Online] at: <https://www.nny360.com/artsandlife/artsandentertainment/syracuse-everson-museum-s-pollock-painting-sells-for-12-million/article_2561e504-f2f2-5dd9-9249-4b858c4adbc6.html> Accessed 10 May 2022.
The image of Andy Warhol's *Shot Blu Sage Mariliyn* was obtained from PENTA.
Available [Online] at: <https://www.barrons.com/articles/andy-warhols-shot-sage-blue-marilyn-sets-a-record-selling-for-195-million-01652145121> Accessed 8 May 2022.

QUESTION 3

4. Text adapted from and image taken from My Modern Met.
Available [Online] at: <https://mymodernmet.com/huang-yong-ping-serpent-d-ocean>
Accessed 10 April 2022.

QUESTION 4

5. Image F taken from Lot Search. Available [Online] at: <https://www.lotsearch.net/lot/dumile-feni-south-african-1942-1991-mother-and-child-1966-charcoal-on-49005858?perPage=50>
Accessed 9 February 2022.
6. Text adapted from Revisions. Available [Online] at: <http://revisions.co.za/biographies/dumile-feni/#.YodNP6hBzIU> Accessed 6 February 2022.

QUESTION 5

7. Text and Images taken and adapted from Public Delivery.
Available [Online] at: <https://publicdelivery.org/roger-ballen-twins>
Accessed 3 May 2022.

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