



B O A R D O F S T U D I E S
NEW SOUTH WALES

2003

**HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE
EXAMINATION**

English Extension 1

General Instructions

- Reading time – 5 minutes
- Working time – 2 hours
- Write using black or blue pen

Total marks – 50

Attempt TWO questions from the SAME module

Module A: Genre

Pages 2–4

50 marks

- Attempt Question 1
- Attempt ONE question from Questions 2–4

OR

Module B: Texts and Ways of Thinking

Pages 5–8

50 marks

- Attempt Question 5
- Attempt ONE question from Questions 6–8

OR

Module C: Language and Values

Pages 9–12

50 marks

- Attempt Question 9
- Attempt ONE question from Questions 10–12

Module A: Genre
50 marks

You must attempt TWO questions from the SAME module

Attempt Question 1
Attempt ONE question from Questions 2–4
Allow about 1 hour for each question

Answer each question in a SEPARATE writing booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the conventions of the genre and the ideas and values associated with the genre
 - sustain an extended composition appropriate to the question, demonstrating control in the use of language
-

Question 1 is compulsory for Module A, and you must indicate in your answer which Elective you have studied.

The Electives for this module are:

- **Elective 1: Revenge Tragedy**
- **Elective 2: Crime Fiction**
- **Elective 3: The Essay**

Question 1: Genre (25 marks)

Genre sets a framework of conventions.

How useful is it to understand texts in terms of genre? Are texts more engaging when they conform to the conventions, or when they challenge and play with the conventions?

In your answer, draw on your knowledge of at least TWO of the prescribed texts from your Elective, as well as other texts of your own choosing.

The prescribed texts for each Elective are listed on page 3.

Elective 1: Revenge Tragedy

The prescribed texts are:

- **Drama** – Euripides, *Medea*
– Cyril Tourneur, *The Revenger's Tragedy*
– Pierre Corneille, *The Cid*
- **Film** – Fred Zinnemann, *High Noon*

Elective 2: Crime Fiction

The prescribed texts are:

- **Film** – Howard Hawks, *The Big Sleep*
- **Prose Fiction** – David Guterson, *Snow Falling on Cedars*
– P. D. James, *The Skull Beneath the Skin*
- **Drama** – Tom Stoppard, *The Real Inspector Hound*

Elective 3: The Essay

The prescribed texts are:

- **Nonfiction** – Michel de Montaigne, *The Essays: A Selection*
 - * *We reach the same end by discrepant means*
 - * *On the Cannibals*
 - * *On the lame*
 - * *On experience*
- Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*
- George Orwell, *The Penguin Essays of George Orwell*
 - * *Why I Write*
 - * *Notes on Nationalism*
 - * *Good Bad Books*
 - * *The Sporting Spirit*
 - * *Politics and the English Language*
 - * *Writers and Leviathan*
- **Media (TV)** – Betty Churcher, *Betty Churcher's Take 5*

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the conventions of the genre and the ideas and values associated with the genre
 - sustain an extended composition appropriate to the question, demonstrating control in the use of language
-

Question 2 — Elective 1: Revenge Tragedy (25 marks)

‘What’s done is done.’

Imagine you are a central character in one of the prescribed texts. Write a reflection on what you think has been achieved or not achieved, and whether it was worth it.

In your response, you should draw on your knowledge and understanding of the conventions of revenge tragedy.

OR

Question 3 — Elective 2: Crime Fiction (25 marks)

‘You’ve stolen my character!’

Imagine you are a central character in one of the prescribed texts. You resent the way your character has been manipulated by the composer. Write a reflection on how you think things could have unfolded.

In your response, you should draw on your knowledge and understanding of the conventions of crime fiction.

OR

Question 4 — Elective 3: The Essay (25 marks)

‘Let me tell you!’

Imagine you are one of the essayists studied in this Elective. Write a reflection on the criticism that your essays are self-indulgence masquerading as objective reason.

In your response, you should draw on your knowledge and understanding of the conventions of the essay.

Module B: Texts and Ways of Thinking
50 marks

You must attempt TWO questions from the SAME module

Attempt Question 5

Attempt ONE question from Questions 6–8

Allow about 1 hour for each question

Answer each question in a SEPARATE writing booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of how particular ways of thinking have shaped and are reflected in texts
 - sustain an extended composition appropriate to the question, demonstrating control in the use of language
-

Question 5 is compulsory for Module B, and you must indicate in your answer which Elective you have studied.

The Electives for this module are:

- **Elective 1: The Individual and Society**
- **Elective 2: Postmodernism**
- **Elective 3: Retreat from the Global**

Please turn over

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of how particular ways of thinking have shaped and are reflected in texts
 - sustain an extended composition appropriate to the question, demonstrating control in the use of language
-

Question 5: Texts and Ways of Thinking (25 marks)

The texts in this module represent various forms of resistance to the mainstream.

How does this resistance make itself heard?

In your answer, draw on your knowledge of at least TWO of the prescribed texts from your Elective, as well as other texts of your own choosing.

The prescribed texts for each Elective are listed below.

Elective 1: The Individual and Society

The prescribed texts are:

- **Media** – Simon Langton, *Pride and Prejudice*
- **Prose Fiction** – Henry James, *The Portrait of a Lady*
 - Elizabeth Gaskell, *North and South*
- **Drama** – Henrik Ibsen, *A Doll's House*
- **Poetry** – Robert Browning, *Browning: Selected Poems*
 - * *Meeting at Night*
 - * *Parting at Morning*
 - * *My Last Duchess*
 - * *The Laboratory*
 - * *Porphyria's Lover*
 - * *The Bishop Orders his Tomb at Saint Praxed's Church*
 - * *Andrea del Sarto*

Elective 2: Postmodernism

The prescribed texts are:

- **Prose Fiction** – A. S. Byatt, *Possession*
 - John Fowles, *The French Lieutenant's Woman*
- **Drama** – David Williamson, *Dead White Males*
- **Film** – Sally Potter, *Orlando*

Elective 3: Retreat from the Global

The prescribed texts are:

- **Prose Fiction** – E. Annie Proulx, *The Shipping News*
 - Keri Hulme, *The Bone People*
 - Alistair MacLeod, *The Lost Salt Gift of Blood*
- **Poetry** – Seamus Heaney, *Selected Poems*
 - * *Digging*
 - * *Personal Helicon*
 - * *Blackberry-Picking*
 - * *Requiem for the Croppies*
 - * *The Tollund Man*
 - * *Funeral Rites*
 - * *Punishment*
- **Film** – Rob Sitch, *The Castle*

Please turn over

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of how particular ways of thinking have shaped and are reflected in texts
 - sustain an extended composition appropriate to the question, demonstrating control in the use of language
-

Question 6 — Elective 1: The Individual and Society (25 marks)

‘How dare you?’

Imagine you are the composer of one of the prescribed texts. Your contemporaries have criticised you for creating characters who are in various ways unrealistic in their ambitions and aspirations. Write a reflection in your personal journal of what you were aiming to achieve in your creation of such characters.

In your response, you should draw on your knowledge and understanding of the individual and society.

OR

Question 7 — Elective 2: Postmodernism (25 marks)

‘What on earth were you thinking?’

Imagine you are the composer of one of the prescribed texts. You have been accused by a hostile newspaper columnist of producing work with no popular appeal, of being intellectually pretentious, of being a smart Alec, of wasting people’s time.

You have been offered the right of reply in that newspaper. Explain as clearly as you can, for a general readership, what you were aiming to do in your work.

In your response, you should draw on your knowledge and understanding of postmodernism.

OR

Question 8 — Elective 3: Retreat from the Global (25 marks)

Imagine you are the composer of one of the prescribed texts. You have been asked to write a feature article for a magazine about modern life. The article is to be titled ‘Retreat? What from? Where to?’

Write your article.

In your response, you should draw on your knowledge and understanding of the retreat from the global.

Module C: Language and Values

50 marks

You must attempt TWO questions from the SAME module

Attempt Question 9

Attempt ONE question from Questions 10–12

Allow about 1 hour for each question

Answer each question in a SEPARATE writing booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the ways in which language shapes and reflects culture and values
 - sustain an extended composition appropriate to the question, demonstrating control in the use of language
-

Question 9 is compulsory for Module C, and you must indicate in your answer which Elective you have studied.

The Electives for this module are:

- **Elective 1: Acts of Reading and Writing**
- **Elective 2: The Language of Sport**
- **Elective 3: Gendered Language**

Question 9: Language and Values (25 marks)

‘Language at its most vital compels us to feel its potential for conveying and transforming culture and values.’

To what extent has this been the case in your study of the texts in your Elective?

In your answer, draw on your knowledge of the compulsory text, at least ONE of the other prescribed texts, and other texts of your own choosing.

The prescribed texts for each Elective are listed on page 10.

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the ways in which language shapes and reflects culture and values
 - sustain an extended composition appropriate to the question, demonstrating control in the use of language
-

Elective 1: Acts of Reading and Writing

The prescribed texts are:

- **Nonfiction** – Alberto Manguel, *A History of Reading* – **Compulsory text**
- **Prose Fiction** – Italo Calvino, *If on a winter's night a traveller*
– Fay Weldon, *Letters to Alice*
- **Multimedia** – Shelley Jackson, *Patchwork Girl*

Elective 2: The Language of Sport

The prescribed texts are:

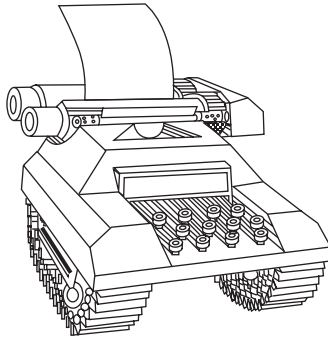
- **Prose Fiction** – Nick Coleman and Nick Hornby (eds), *The Picador Book of Sports Writing* – **Compulsory text**
- **Media** – John Clarke and Ross Stevenson, *The Games*
- **Film** – Leon Gast, *When We Were Kings*
- **Nonfiction** – John Feinstein, *A Good Walk Spoiled: Days and Nights on the PGA Tour*

Elective 3: Gendered Language

The prescribed texts are:

- **Nonfiction** – Deborah Tannen, *You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation* – **Compulsory text**
- **Poetry** – John Tranter, *The Floor of Heaven*
- **Drama** – William Shakespeare, *Twelfth Night*
- **Film** – Shekhar Kapur, *Elizabeth*

Question 10 — Elective 1: Acts of Reading and Writing (25 marks)



Typewriters, like tanks, are agents of power

The illustration above is for an opinion piece in a daily newspaper. Your task is to write the accompanying article.

In your response, you should draw on your knowledge and understanding of acts of reading and writing.

OR

Question 11 — Elective 2: The Language of Sport (25 marks)



The illustration above is for an opinion piece in a daily newspaper about sport and challenge. Your task is to write the accompanying article.

In your response, you should draw on your knowledge and understanding of the language of sport.

OR

Please turn over

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the ways in which language shapes and reflects culture and values
 - sustain an extended composition appropriate to the question, demonstrating control in the use of language
-

Question 12 — Elective 3: Gendered Language (25 marks)



Jacky Fleming, Leeds Postcard L601, 'Call me old fashioned'.

The illustration above is for an opinion piece in a daily newspaper. Your task is to write the accompanying article.

In your response, you should draw on your knowledge and understanding of gendered language.

End of paper