



BOARD OF STUDIES  
NEW SOUTH WALES

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

2000

ENGLISH

2 UNIT GENERAL

PAPER 2

RESPONSES TO LITERATURE

*Time allowed—Two hours  
(Plus 5 minutes reading time)*

**DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Attempt THREE questions, ONE from Section I and TWO from Section II.
- Attempt only ONE Poetry, ONE Fiction, and ONE Drama question.
- Tick the question(s) (Poetry, Fiction, or Drama) that you will answer in each Section.

	<i>Section I</i>	<i>Section II</i>
Poetry		
Fiction		
Drama		

- All questions are of equal value.
- Allow about 40 minutes for each question.
- Answer each question in a SEPARATE Writing Booklet.
- You may ask for extra Writing Booklets if you need them.

## SECTION I

Attempt ONE question.

Answer the question in a SEPARATE Writing Booklet.

Allow about 40 minutes for this question.

EITHER

### QUESTION 1 Poetry

In what ways do poets use language to communicate ideas and feelings?

In your answer, write about TWO poems, ONE from *each* poet you have studied from the list below.

Judith Beveridge, 'The Domesticity of Giraffes'  
 'Orb Spider'  
 'Streets of Chippendale'  
 'The Two Brothers'  
 'Fox in a Tree Stump'

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, 'Frost at Midnight'  
 'This Lime-Tree Bower my Prison'  
 'The Eolian Harp'  
 'Kubla Khan'

Robert Frost, 'Out, Out-'  
 'Fire and Ice'  
 'Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening'  
 'The Road Not Taken'  
 'Mending Wall'  
 'After Apple-Picking'

Robert Gray, 'Diptych'  
 'The Meatworks'  
 'Late Ferry'  
 'Flames and Dangling Wire'  
 'North Coast Town'  
 'Journey: The North Coast'

OR

**QUESTION 2 Fiction**

In what ways do novelists use time and place to explore their ideas?

In your answer, refer to the TWO novels you have studied from the list below.

Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*  
Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*  
David Guterson, *Snow Falling on Cedars*  
Christopher Koch, *Highways to a War*

OR

**QUESTION 3 Drama**

In what ways do playwrights use dramatic techniques to present their ideas in the TWO plays you have studied from the list below?

Arthur Miller, *The Crucible*  
William Shakespeare, *Macbeth*  
Sophocles, *Antigone*  
Katherine Thomson, *Diving for Pearls*

**Please turn over**

**SECTION II**

Attempt TWO questions, each from a different Part.

Answer each question in a SEPARATE Writing Booklet.

Allow about 40 minutes for each question.

**PART A—POETRY**

If you attempted the Poetry question in Section I, do NOT attempt a question from this Part.

EITHER

**QUESTION 4 Bruce Dawe**

How does Dawe bring together gladness and grief in his poetry?

In your answer, refer to TWO of the poems set for study.

OR

**QUESTION 5 Ted Hughes**

How does the poetry of Ted Hughes show that the most frightening things can also be the most beautiful?

In your answer, refer to TWO of the poems set for study.

OR

**QUESTION 6 Wilfred Owen**

How does Owen's poetry combine pity and anger?

In your answer, refer to TWO of the poems set for study.

OR

**QUESTION 7 Kenneth Slessor**

Discuss how the poetry of Kenneth Slessor appeals to both the mind and the senses.

In your answer, refer to TWO of the poems set for study.

OR

**QUESTION 8 Debbie Westbury**

Discuss how the poetry of Debbie Westbury creates a meaningful relationship between the past and the present.

In your answer, refer to TWO of the poems set for study.

OR

**QUESTION 9 Judith Wright**

Discuss how the poetry of Judith Wright is concerned with the conflict between nature and people.

In your answer, refer to TWO of the poems set for study.

**Please turn over**

**PART B—FICTION**

If you attempted the Fiction question in Section I, do NOT attempt a question from this Part.

EITHER

**QUESTION 10 Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart***

How does Achebe explore differing ideas of justice in *Things Fall Apart*?

OR

**QUESTION 11 J. G. Ballard, *Empire of the Sun***

Discuss the view that in *Empire of the Sun* ‘war ruins everything it touches’.

OR

**QUESTION 12 Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations***

‘What happens to Pip is the result of luck, not wisdom or planning.’

What do you think?

OR

**QUESTION 13 Christopher Koch, *The Year of Living Dangerously***

‘*The Year of Living Dangerously* explores human weaknesses and limitations.’

What do you think?

OR

**QUESTION 14 John Le Carré, *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold***

‘In the novel, *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*, deception proves to be more powerful than love.’

What do you think?

OR

**QUESTION 15 Ruth Park, *Harp in the South***

‘Ruth Park’s novel is about losing, not winning.’

What do you think?

OR

**QUESTION 16 Amy Tan, *The Joy Luck Club***

Discuss the view that *The Joy Luck Club* shows that 'people cannot escape the past'.

OR

**QUESTION 17 Jane Yolen, *Briar Rose***

Discuss how the fairytale is used to explore the relationship between the present and the past in *Briar Rose*.

**Please turn over**

**PART C—DRAMA**

If you attempted the Drama question in Section I, do NOT attempt a question from this Part.

EITHER

**QUESTION 18 Jennifer Compton, *Crossfire***

‘I’m so tired of being stuck in the middle and caught in the crossfire.’

To what extent does this statement reflect the play’s view of women?

OR

**QUESTION 19 Michael Gow, *Away***

How does Gow show the power of nature and of love in *Away*?

OR

**QUESTION 20 Ray Lawler, *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll***

‘*Summer of the Seventeenth Doll* is about the conflict between love and friendship.’

Discuss.

OR

**QUESTION 21 John Misto, *The Shoe-Horn Sonata***

How does Misto try to make *The Shoe-Horn Sonata* an engaging play?

OR

**QUESTION 22 William Shakespeare, *Much Ado About Nothing***

‘*Much Ado About Nothing* is a play about rivals, not a play about lovers.’

What do you think?

OR



**QUESTION 23 George Bernard Shaw, *Pygmalion***

‘Eliza’s most valuable lesson is that she has little to learn from Higgins.’

What do you think?

OR

**QUESTION 24 Baz Luhrmann and Craig Pearce, *Strictly Ballroom***

Are we meant to laugh at or feel sympathy for the characters in *Strictly Ballroom*?

**End of paper**

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