



HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

1995

ENGLISH

2/3 UNIT (COMMON)

RESOURCES AND USES OF ENGLISH  
AND  
SHAKESPEARE  
(*King Lear*)

*Time allowed—Two hours  
(Plus 10 minutes' reading time)*

**DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Attempt ALL questions.
  - Part A**
    - Question 1. Reading Task** (15 marks)  
Allow about 40 minutes for this question.
    - Question 2. Writing Task** (15 marks)  
Allow about 30 minutes for this question.
  - Part B**
    - Question 3. Shakespeare, *King Lear*** (20 marks)  
Allow about 50 minutes for this question.
- Answer each question in a *separate* Writing Booklet.
- You may ask for extra Writing Booklets if you need them.

**PART A—RESOURCES AND USES OF ENGLISH****Marks****QUESTION 1. Reading Task** (15 marks)

Use a *separate* Writing Booklet.

Attempt parts (a), (b), and (c).

Allow about 40 minutes for this question.

- (a) Both the photograph and the piece of writing below are a record of a family celebration. **4**

In what ways does the passage 'Bloodlines' support the happy image in the photograph, and in what ways does it suggest something different?

**BLOODLINES**

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QUESTION 1. (Continued)

Marks

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BETH SPENCER

**Question 1 continues on page 4**

## QUESTION 1. (Continued)

Marks

- (b) In the following poem, 'In Black and White', how is the passage of time suggested? 4

## IN BLACK AND WHITE

In the photograph  
 taken ten years ago  
 you are in your garden.  
 It's high summer, the vines  
 in full foliage, the orange trees  
 mere saplings—they shade  
 the entire garden now and  
 their fruit succulent and sweet  
 just as you predicted.  
 The photograph is black and  
 white and I can't remember  
 the colour of your dress—  
 a flower print, buttons down  
 the front. There is laughter  
 in your eyes but the thick brows  
 cast a shadow. Your teeth show  
 white and symmetrical through  
 the half open lips, (what was it you  
 were saying?) Your hands, webbed with  
 prominent veins as mine are now, clasp  
 the small hands of my one-year-old  
 daughter who struggles  
 to steady herself on her chubby  
 bowed legs on the gravel  
 garden path—she's grown  
 lovely, and people say she takes  
 after you and after your mother  
 and her legs are long  
 and slender, as you said they'd be.  
 Brushing my hair this morning  
 I saw her in the bathroom mirror  
 painting her eyelids—her face moist  
 impatient, behind mine.

ELENI FOURTOUNI

'Watch the flame', Eleni Fourtouni, Thelphini Press 1983.

QUESTION 1. (Continued)

**Marks**

- (c) In the following passage, 'Chinese New Year, 1955', how does the writer use language to express a sense of family celebration?

**7**

CHINESE NEW YEAR, 1955

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**QUESTION 2. Writing Task.** Use a *separate* Writing Booklet.

**Marks**

Allow about 30 minutes for this question.

**15**

‘I should take a photo, while I’ve got you all together.’

Write about 300–500 words, using this sentence somewhere in your answer.

You may write in any form you choose.

## **PART B—SHAKESPEARE**

**QUESTION 3. *King Lear*.** Use a *separate* Writing Booklet.

**20**

Allow about 50 minutes for this question.

‘*King Lear* distresses us by its display of the emptiness and disorder of human life. Yet we are moved by the persistent attempts to reclaim order from disorder.’

Discuss the complex nature and effect of tragedy as it unfolds in *King Lear*.

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