



NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION  
NOVEMBER 2012

**ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE: PAPER II**

Time: 3 hours

100 marks

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**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, **ONE** question must be answered on the Shakespearean text and **ONE** question on the novel. In Section B, Question 4 is compulsory, then answer **ONE** question from Question 5.
  4. Ensure that you number your questions as indicated on the question paper.
  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. You may answer the questions in whatever order you wish, but number your answers exactly as the questions are numbered.
  6. Do not hesitate 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.
  7. Be guided by the number of marks allocated to each question. Aim at concise answers that give relevant information.
  8. Answers must be written in the Answer Book supplied.
  9. It is in your own interest to write legibly and to present your work neatly.
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**SECTION A LITERATURE****SHAKESPEARE: *HENRY V*****QUESTION 1**

Write a **mini-essay** in which you **assess** whether Henry is presented as a 'superhero', antihero or both.

- Carefully consider the visual and the **THINKING POINTS** (reproduced below), which might assist you formulate your ideas about the role of Henry in the play.
- Your knowledge of *Henry V* and your ability to plan, structure and substantiate your stance will be assessed.
- The length of your response should be approximately **400 – 450 words** in length. **Only the first 500 words of lengthy essays will be marked.**
- **Please provide a word count at the end of your essay.**
- Remember that your response must be preceded by a **ONE-page plan** of what you intend to argue in your essay. The plan must provide a **detailed summary** of content and argument, as well as give an indication of **how** you will structure your essay.

**THINKING POINTS:**

# The term '**Superhero**' or '**super man**' draws on the idea of '**ÜBERMENSCH**' developed by German philosopher Nietzsche. According to Nietzsche, the **Übermensch** is a person who has an extraordinary talent to be more than expected and by so doing, he transcends the boundaries of social class, creeds and nationalities. For Nietzsche, the **Übermensch** should, by his actions and thoughts, affect history indefinitely.

[<[www.stanford.edu/jour](http://www.stanford.edu/jour)>]

# Kenneth Branagh (Shakespearean actor and director of the superhero film *Thor*) said in an interview: "Shakespeare wrote about Henry V centuries after his reign, and turned the king into a type of super hero who transformed a nation."

[<[www.irishcentral.com](http://www.irishcentral.com)>]

# The Hudson Shakespeare Company comments that "the play is a mordant (scathing) commentary on politics and war, in which Henry is a Machiavellian militarist, a cold-blooded, power-hungry hypocrite who uses religion to justify the horrors of an unnecessary war."

[<[www.hudsonshakespeare.org](http://www.hudsonshakespeare.org)>]



**SECTION A            NOVELS*****THE TENANT OF WILDFELL HALL* or *THE NATIVE COMMISSIONER*****QUESTION 2            *THE TENANT OF WILDFELL HALL***

- Write a literary essay on **ONE** of the following topics.
- Your essay should be approximately **600 words in length**.
- **Close and relevant** reference to the texts in question is **essential**.

Answer **EITHER** 2.1 **OR** 2.2

- 2.1 Diane Yaeger, in her book entitled *Art for Humanity's Sake: The Social Novel as a Mode of Moral Discourse*, writes:

Novels alter perceptions and responses; they push back moral horizons and contribute to the creation of a social conscience. They expose complexity and ask questions like: are they more than entertainment?

Carefully **consider** Diane Yaeger's discussion on **the role of the novel**. Examine where the conclusion of *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* places the reader in the 'creation of a social conscience'.

[30]

**OR**

- 2.2 It has been argued that *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* is much more than a love story; it raises questions about the relationship between the sexes. It reveals that men could be categorised, according to their treatment of women, as those who use the law to oppress and silence women and those who use the law to protect them.

Argue whether this interpretation may be seen to be **an oversimplification** of the central concerns of *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*.

[30]

**OR**

**QUESTION 3**      ***THE NATIVE COMMISSIONER***

- Write a literary essay on **ONE** of the following topics.
- Your essay should be approximately **600 words in length**.
- **Close and relevant** reference to the texts in question is **essential**.

Answer **EITHER** 3.1 **OR** 3.2

- 3.1 Diane Yaeger, in her book entitled *Art for Humanity's Sake: The Social Novel as a Mode of Moral Discourse*, writes:

Novels alter perceptions and responses; they push back moral horizons and contribute to the creation of a social conscience. They expose complexity and ask questions like: are they more than entertainment?

Carefully **consider** Diane Yaeger's discussion on **the role of the novel**. Examine where the conclusion of *The Native Commissioner* places the reader in the '**creation of a social conscience**'.

[30]

**OR**

- 3.2 Professor Michael Titlestad (University of the Witwatersrand) argues that in *The Native Commissioner*, George Jameson, who is the Native Commissioner, lives in two worlds: the world of the supremacist **and** the world of the oppressed and becomes both oppressor **and** oppressed.

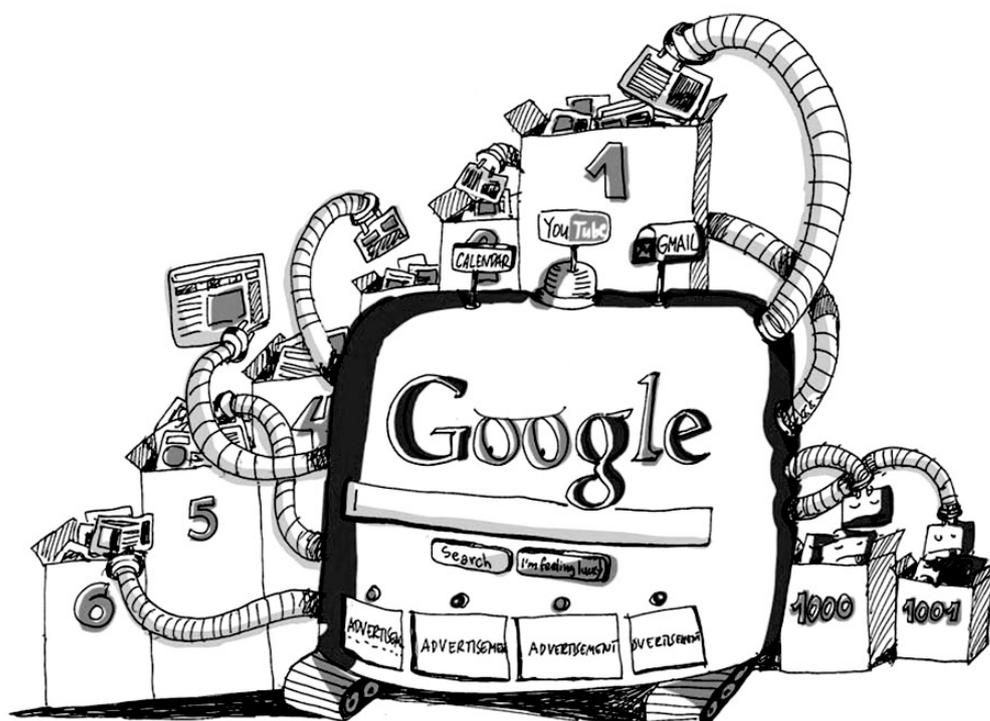
Argue whether this interpretation may be seen to highlight the complex richness of who George Jameson actually is.

[30]

**60 marks**

**SECTION B TRANSACTIONAL WRITING: SHORT PIECES**

- Answer **TWO** of the following questions.
- **NOTE: You must answer QUESTION 4 (WHICH IS COMPULSORY) and then answer EITHER QUESTION 5.1 OR 5.2.**
- The body of your response should be approximately **250 – 300 words in length.**
- Remember to pay attention to the **register** and **purpose** of your text.
- It will be essential to ensure that the **appropriate format** is used.

**QUESTION 4****THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY****GOOGLE MAKES YOU USE YOUR BRAIN LESS!**

Everybody Googles at some time or another: in fact people are so efficient in their Googling skills that they seem to reach for their search engine before using their brainpower.

I think I know what's going on. For more than a decade now, I've been spending a lot of time online, searching and surfing and sometimes adding to the great databases of the Internet. The Web has been a godsend to me as a writer. Research that once required days in the stacks or periodical rooms of libraries can now be done in minutes. Even when I'm not working, I'm as likely as not to be foraging in the Web's info-thickets' reading and writing emails, scanning headlines and blog posts, watching videos and listening to podcasts, or just tripping from link to link to link.

For me, as for others, the Net is becoming a universal medium, the conduit for most of the information that flows through my eyes and ears and into my mind. The advantages of having immediate access to such an incredibly rich store of information are many. But rather than using my brain, I merely log on and there it is. What has happened to good old-fashioned thinking and creating? In fact I can pass off a whole lot of ideas as my own because if I search long enough on Google, I will certainly find it. Pity Google wasn't around when I was at school!

[Source: <Guardianuk.com>]

As a matriculant, you have been vocal about your concern that Google encourages plagiarism. You believe that information is too easily accessible, thus minimising intellectual stretch. Your views have attracted attention and you have been invited to present them on *Carte Blanche*, a television investigative magazine show. Derek Watts will conduct the interview and will ask **five leading questions**. Write the transcript of the interview, reflecting the questions and your response.

[20]

**AND**

**QUESTION 5**

Answer **EITHER 5.1 OR 5.2** on page 8.

5.1 Refer to the visual and the article below.

Write an **editorial** for *The Sunday Independent*, which addresses the global tragedy of famine and malnutrition. The editorial should point to the ethical standpoint that famine statistics reflect the need for a new focus on dispelling (dismissing) complacency. You may not 'cut and paste' from the supplied article, but you should rather use the article to formulate your views.



**Children are particularly vulnerable when food gets scarce. The famine has already claimed thousands of lives.**

No one really knows how many people are malnourished. The statistic most frequently cited is that of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, which measures 'undernutrition'. The most recent estimate, released in October 2010 by FAO, says that 925 million people are undernourished. As the figure below shows, the number of hungry people has increased since 1995 – 97, though the number is down from last year. The increase has been due to three factors: 1) neglect of agriculture relevant to very poor people by governments and international agencies; 2) the current worldwide economic crisis, and 3) the significant increase of food prices in the last several years which have been devastating to those with only a few dollars a day to spend. 925 million people are 13.6 percent of the estimated world population of 6.8 billion. Nearly all of the undernourished are in developing countries.

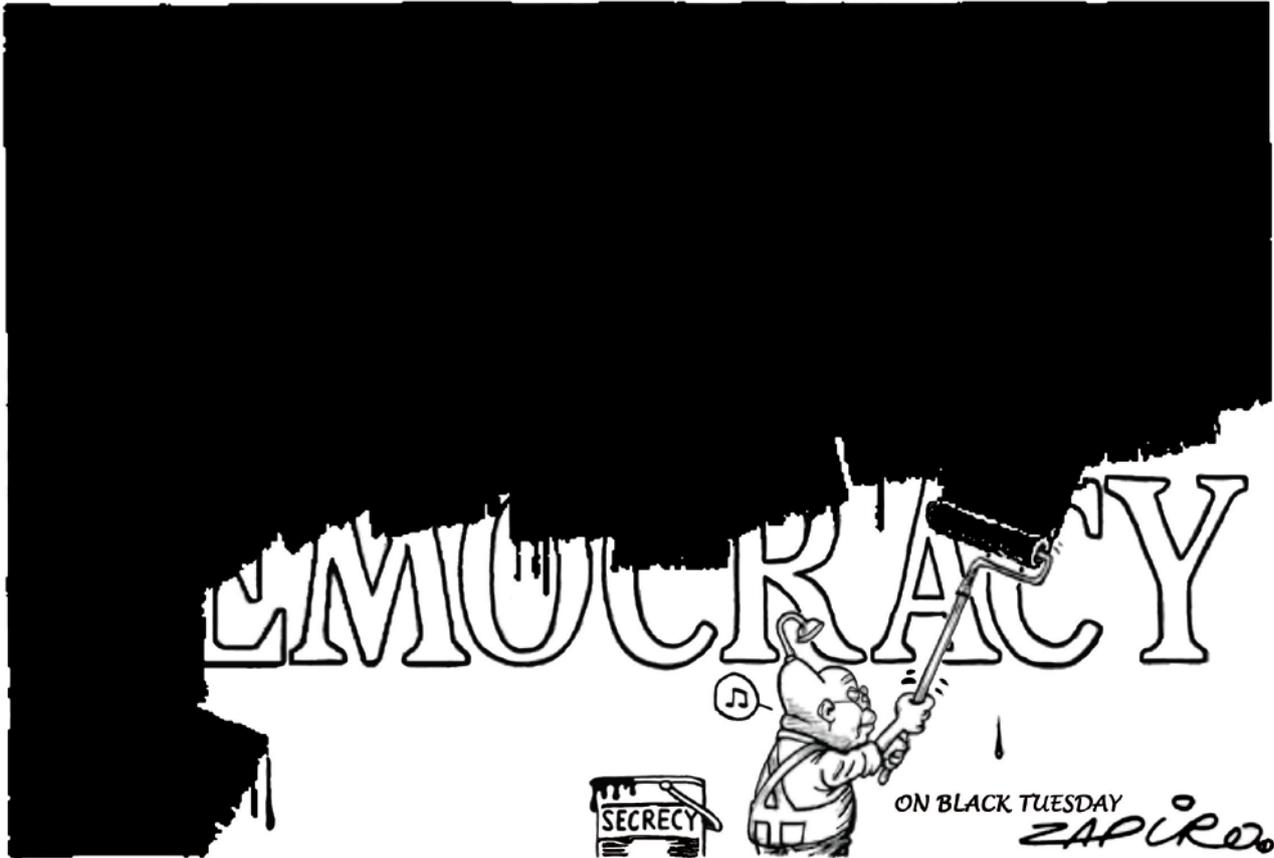
**Number of hungry people, 1969 – 2011** (Source: FAO): In round numbers there are 7 billion people in the world. Thus, with an estimated 925 million hungry people in the world, 13.1 percent, or almost 1 in 7 people are hungry.

[Food and Agricultural Organisation: United Nations]

**[20]**

OR

- 5.2 Study the following cartoon and read the description and background of the cartoon as provided on <www.zapiro.com>. Write an **obituary** on **democracy** which would appear in the *Mail and Guardian*.



**Person in the cartoon:** Jacob Zuma

**Description and Background of Cartoon**

Mass protests were planned as the controversial Protection of Information Bill (POIB) (also known as Secrecy Bill) was put to a vote in Parliament's National Assembly in Cape Town. If the Secrecy Bill becomes law, state information may be classified 'in the interest of national security' and anyone publishing such information, including journalists and whistle-blowers, could face a 25-year jail sentence. It will be illegal to make secret state information public, even if it exposes serious corruption or crime. We are told repeatedly that this law will close down investigative journalism and prevent the media from reporting on government wrongdoing. Due to the exclusion of a public interest defence, various civil rights organisations, interest groups, opposition parties and including Cosatu the government's partner have threatened to fight the proposed act in the Constitutional Court.

[<www.zapiro.com>]  
[20]

**40 marks**

**Total: 100 marks**