 Sample examination materials

Sample questions

English as an additional language or dialect (EAL/D)

Paper 2

Disclaimer – This sample examination was guided by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) sample examination materials, assessment and reporting advice and examination specifications. The paper models the style and range of questions that could be asked of students in the High School Curriculum (HSC).

General instructions

* Reading time – 5 minutes
* Working time – 1 hour
* Write using black pen

Total marks: 40

Section I – 20 marks

Attempt example A or B

* Allow about 30 minutes for this section

Section II – 20 marks

Attempt example A or B or C

* Allow about 30 minutes for this section

Section I – Module B: language identity and culture

20 marks

Attempt example A or B

Allow about 30 minutes for this part

Your answers will be assessed on how well you:

* demonstrate understanding of how language is used to express cultural identity
* organise, develop and express ideas using language appropriate to audience, purpose and form

Example A (20 marks)

How does the language used in your prescribed text express the complexities and subtleties of personal, social and cultural identity?

In your response, refer to your prescribed text and one related text of your choice.

This is a generic question for all prescribed texts.

Example B (20 marks)

‘Swallow the Air’ is described as ‘an unforgettable story of living in a torn world and finding the thread to help sew it back together’

Consider the impacts this text has had on shaping individuals’ or communities’ sense of identity. In your response, refer to at least two key chapters in the novel and the above quotation.

The question will inform students of the level of textual reference and detail required.

Example B is specific to a prescribed text.

The prescribed texts for section I

| Criteria | Content |
| --- | --- |
| Prose fiction | Tara June Winch ‘Swallow the Air’ |
| Drama | Ray Lawler ‘Summer of the Seventeenth Doll’ or Alana Valentine ‘Shafana and Aunt Sarrinah’ |
| Poetry | Adam Aitken; Boey Kim Cheng and Michele Cahill (eds) ‘Contemporary Asian Australian Poets’  The prescribed poems are:   * Merlinda Bobis ‘This is where it begins’ * Eileen Chong ‘My Hakka Grandmother’ * Ee Tiang Hong ‘Some New Perspectives’ * Ouyang Yu ‘The Double Man’ * Jaya Savige ‘Circular Breathing’ * Maureen Ten (Ten Ch’in Ü) ‘Translucent Jade’   or  Langston Hughes  The prescribed poems are:   * The Negro Speaks of Rivers * Aunt Sue’s Stories * A song to a Negro Wash-woman * I, too * The Weary Blues * Theme for English B * Night Funeral in Harlem |
| Nonfiction | Lily Chan ‘Toyo’ |
| Film | Rolf de Heer ‘Ten Canoes’ |
| Media | Janet Merewether ‘Reindeer in my Saami Heart’ |

Section II – module C: close study of texts

20 marks

Attempt example A or B or C

Allow about 30 minutes for this part

Your answers will be assessed on how well you:

* demonstrate understanding of a text’s distinctive qualities and how these shape meaning
* organise, develop and express ideas using language appropriate to audience, purpose and form

Example A (20 marks)

Analyse how the conventions of your prescribed text have been manipulated by the composer in order to achieve particular effects.

This is a generic question for all prescribed texts.

Example B (20 marks

‘We accept the reality of the world with which we’re presented’ - Christof ‘The Truman Show’

Using the above quotation as a starting point for your response, examine how the director of ‘The Truman Show’ portrays people, ideas and events in the text.

Example B is specific to a prescribed text.

Example C (20 marks)

Emma Jones is said to be a new voice worth following. To what extent do you agree with this statement? Refer to the poetic voice and an understanding of the way content and form shapes understanding of the world.

Example C is specific to a prescribed text.

The prescribed texts for section II are:

| Criteria | Content |
| --- | --- |
| Prose fiction | Ray Bradbury ‘Fahrenheit 451’ or Jhumpa Lahiri ‘The Namesake’ |
| Drama | Michael Gow ‘Away’ or Scott Rankin Namatjira from ‘Namatjira & Ngapartji Ngapartji’ – Two plays by Scott Rankin |
| Poetry | Emma Jones ‘The Striped World’  The prescribed poems are:   * Waking * Farming * Tiger in the Menagerie * Window * Equator * Hush Painted Tiger |
| Nonfiction | Raymond Gaita ‘Romulus, My Father’ |
| Film | Peter Weir ‘The Tuman Show’ |
| Media | Lucy Walker ‘Waste Land’ |

End of sample questions.