# SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION



# FEBRUARY / MARCH 2007

HISTORY OF THEATRE, COSTUME AND LITERATURE SG

**Second Paper** 

612-2/2 E

HISTORY OF THEATRE etc SG: Paper 2



X05



4 pages

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## GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

HISTORY OF THEATRE, COSTUME AND LITERATURE SG (Second Paper)

TIME: 21/2 hours

**MARKS: 120** 

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer FOUR questions.
  - TWO questions from Section A, and
  - TWO questions from Section B.
- Ensure that your answers are numbered in accordance with the numbers on the question paper.

## SECTION A TWENTIETH CENTURY LITERATURE

Answer any TWO questions from this section.

#### QUESTION 1 WAR POETS

"...Recent Hollywood feature films that deal with the topic of warfare, seem to protest rather than promote the necessity of war..."

Write a concise essay in which you discuss the poetry of THREE war poets who in your view, protest against the atrocities of war.

(30)

#### QUESTION 2 SYLVIA PLATH

"...It only stands to reason that the poet is not perceived as separate from her work, and that, in most instances, there would exist a direct relationship between the poet, her life and the written word ... this is also true of Sylvia Plath..."

Write an essay in which you either agree or disagree with the above statement. In your answer, you must refer to at least THREE of Plath's poems to substantiate your claims.

10x3= **(30)** 

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#### QUESTION 3 EDWARD ALBEE

"...In Edward Albee's Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? the stage is dominated by seemingly sophisticated characters who thrive on power games and lies, but moreover, who indulge in unexpected verbal and physical violence..."

Write an essay in which you explore the following:

- The lies that exist between George and Martha
- ♦ The lies that exist between Nick and Honey
- ◆ The "unexpected verbal and physical violence" that arise between the two couples

(30)

## QUESTION 4 HAROLD PINTER

"... Harold Pinter's plays often display an oppressive sense of menace..."

Discuss this statement by referring to:

4.1 Moments in the play that contribute to the atmosphere of menace created on stage.

(20)

4.2 The ways in which the characters in *The Birthday Party* are instrumental to creating the menacing environment.

(10)

(30)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A: [60]

## **SECTION B**SOUTH AFRICAN LITERATURE

Answer any TWO questions from this section.

## QUESTION 5 DOUGLAS LIVINGSTONE

"...Douglas Livingstone's poetry is a synthesis of dramatic contrasts and opposites. He juxtaposes images of beauty, compassion and tranquillity with those that evoke the brutal savagery inherent in the primitive instinct for survival..."

Discuss the validity of this statement by referring to at least THREE of his poems to substantiate your claims.

3x10= (30)

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#### QUESTION 6 ATHOL FUGARD

You have decided to direct Athol Fugard's *The Road to Mecca*. At your first rehearsal, you have to brief your actors on what you regard as the most important information in terms of understanding the characters involved.

Write an essay in which you discuss TWO of the characters who appear on stage. You must refer to suitable examples from the play to illustrate your interpretation of these characters.

(30)

## QUESTION 7 GCINA MHLOPE

The school newspaper has asked you, as a Grade 12 drama learner, to give your opinions on the suitability of staging Gcina Mhlope's *Have you seen Zandile?* at your school's annual play festival.

Write down your ideas in preparation for the interview by answering the following questions:

7.1 Will the themes, characters or events in Mhlope's play appeal to the learners at your school? (15)

(5)

7.3 Compare TWO characters from the play in terms of how they will appeal to

What, in your opinion, is the most important message of the play?

7.2

audiences today.

(10)

(30)

## QUESTION 8 ZAKES MDA

"... Zakes Mda is credited as being one of the most prolific literary voices to have come from South Africa".

Write an essay in which you explain why you feel *Ways of Dying* should be essential reading in the study of modern South African Literature. You must structure your response in accordance with the following guideline:

• Why you regard ANY of the themes as important to a young South African reader (10)

• Your personal response to any of the character relationships in the novel (15)

The reasons you would give as to why this novel should be read by all South African school learners

(30)

(5)

**TOTAL FOR SECTION B: [60]** 

**TOTAL: 120** 

**END**