basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

ENGLISH SECOND LANGUAGE P3
STANDARD GRADE
2012
MEMORANDUM

MARKS: 80

This memorandum consists of 6 pages.

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

2012 -06- 2 5
PRIVATE BAG X 110
PRETORIA 0001
PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

Copyright reserved
INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

1. **OBJECTIVITY:** Markers should understand that objectivity is very important in the marking of extended and transactional writing. The aim is to assess the candidates' ability to communicate in writing and not their background, political affiliation and/or religion. The piece of work should be read from the candidate's point of view and may include figurative interpretations of the topic or fantasy. If a marker feels that any piece of writing is offensive or problematic, he/she should consult with the senior marker rather than give a biased mark.

2. **SELECTION OF TOPIC:** Markers should not assume that a piece of writing that is not obviously related to the topic is pre-learnt. They should allow for creativity and a variety of interpretations that do not necessarily appear in the memo. In case of doubt, senior markers should be consulted.

3. **ASSESSMENT:** All pieces of writing are marked according to the Umalusi grid provided. All markers should indicate clearly how they have arrived at the mark by using a letter and number code, e.g. 'E6', 'E' representing the category awarded for content and '6' representing the category awarded for language BEFORE recording the final mark. Markers should indicate ALL errors. All penalties and drops in category should be clearly indicated.

4. **PRESENTATION:** Assessment should not be unduly biased by poor presentation. Candidates who use capital letters throughout the piece of writing should be judged individually, as in certain instances, they are fully aware of sentence construction and indicate the beginning of a sentence by enlarging the first letter. A maximum of 10% may be deducted from the total mark obtained out of 80, and this should be indicated on the cover of the script. The penalty should only be applied if the meaning is seriously affected by the use of capitals. If in doubt, consult with the senior marker.
SECTION A: EXTENDED WRITING

- All essays are marked out of 40 according to the approved Umalusi grid.

- If the candidate does not supply a title, one (1) mark should be deducted from the final mark. The deduction should be indicated at the top and again next to the final mark.

- When an essay is too long, markers are expected to mark the full essay. There will be no specific penalty, as candidates will be penalised for repetition and lack of planning. Markers should indicate at the bottom: 'Essay too long.'

- When an essay is too short, the grid can be used to penalise it.
  The essay should be assessed in the usual way using the following guideline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>150 to 200 words</td>
<td>no higher than E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 to 150 words</td>
<td>no higher than F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 to 100 words</td>
<td>no higher than G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fewer than 50 words</td>
<td>no higher than H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

  Indicate at the bottom: 'Essay too short'.

Note that where a candidate has written a powerful, yet short piece, it should be passed on to the Senior Marker for assessment.

- Markers should not hesitate to reward excellent writing. An 'A' essay should be outstanding. Markers should be guided by the grid.

- Markers should only award an 'H' and '8/9' on the grid if the essay is totally irrelevant or unintelligible.

- One category should be dropped for language if the essay has no paragraphs.

- Only the errors and not the entire sentence or paragraph should be underlined.

- Ticks must be used to indicate commendable ideas and/or excellent language use.
QUESTION 1: A COOL MILLION (Descriptive/expository)

- Candidates may approach the topic from a descriptive or expository angle.
- Candidates may write in the first person or third person.
- Accept if candidates use simple forms (I will by a house).
- If candidate writes the essay in the past tense and indicates what he/she did, drop one content category.
- Essay must reflect what the candidate would do with a million rand.
- It should be clear that the candidate has understood that the money must be used within a one-year period.

QUESTION 2: IT IS SO MUCH EASIER TO GET ALONG WITH ...
(Disursive/Argumentative/Expository)

- Opinion of the candidate must be evident in the discussion.
- The candidate can choose one side of the argument and motivate his/her opinion, giving reasons, or can give both sides of the argument but must come to a firm conclusion.
- The conclusion should sum up the writer’s point of view.

QUESTION 3: A STORY FROM MY CHILDHOOD (Narrative)

- Story must relate an incident from his/her childhood that made friends and family laugh or a story that got him/her into trouble.
- The story will most likely be told in the first person.
- Story should have a suitable introduction and conclusion.

QUESTION 4: VISIT SUNNY SOUTH AFRICA (Descriptive/Expository)

- Candidate should explain why South Africa is worth visiting.
- At least three main reasons should be discussed and expanded on.
- Candidate should mention places worth visiting.

QUESTION 5: STORY ABOUT A PICTURE (Narrative)

- Candidate is expected to write a story that bears some relation to the picture.
- The link between the picture and the story must be clear.
- The essay can be in the first or the third person.
- Candidate must provide a title. Deduct one mark from the total if this is not done.

TOTAL SECTION A: 40

SECTION B: SHORTER PIECES OF WRITING

- Mark according to the approved Umalusi grid out of 20 marks.
- Answers should be between 120 and 150 words in length.
- Candidates who write too little will penalise themselves in terms of content.
- In transactional writing tone, register, style and structure are as important as language and content. Individual requirements are indicated in each question below.
- Individual requirements are dictated in each question below.
QUESTION 6: FRIENDLY LETTER

- It should be clear from the letter that the writer fulfils the role of an Agony Aunt.
- The advice given must reflect the candidate's understanding of the problem outlined in the letter given in the question paper (mother's illness which impacts on the friend's studies).
- Focus on the content of the letter and do not penalise format.

[20]

QUESTION 7: DIALOGUE

- The conversation should clearly reflect the picture given in the question paper (a female adult speaking to a boy about littering) (It is also possible that when the lady speaks to the boy he throws his cold drink into the air in fright.)
- A satisfactory conclusion should round off the dialogue.
- The dialogue should include the speakers' names, followed by a colon (:) and the speech should be in block format. Speech should not be enclosed in inverted commas.
- If included, instructions for movement of the characters or facial expressions, etc. should be bracketed and in the present tense.
- Incorrect structure should be penalised as follows:
  - No names of speakers = -1
  - Use of inverted commas = -1

Deduction: Maximum 2 marks for format only.
Indicate the deduction next to the error and again next to the total.

[20]

QUESTION 8: SPEECH

- Candidate is expected to write a speech in which he/she addresses an audience at the 80th birthday party of the grandmother.
- The candidate is likely to congratulate the grandmother and wish her well but may also relate incidents from the past.
- The speech should be written in paragraph form.
- Speech must have a suitable introduction and conclusion.

[20]

TOTAL SECTION B: 20

SECTION C: OTHER SHORTER PIECES OF WRITING

- Mark according to the approved Umalusi grid out of 20 marks.
- Length will be determined by the mark allocation and the content to be covered.
- Candidates who write too little will penalise themselves in terms of content.
- In transactional writing tone, register, style and structure are as important as language and content. Individual requirements are indicated in each question below.
- Individual requirements are dictated in each question below.
QUESTION 9: NEWSPAPER REPORT

- Report must have a heading. If no heading, deduct 1 mark.
- The report can be narrative and/or descriptive and should relate what happened during the storm.
- Tone and register should be factual.

[20]

QUESTION 10: MESSAGE

- The message should reflect the following:
  o Why the plans for the party have changed.
  o Details about the party.
  o Clear directions to the venue.
- Do not penalise if candidates use a letter format.

[20]

QUESTION 11: PARAGRAPH

- Candidate must write a paragraph in which he/she gives views on who the worst drivers are.
- There should be a topic sentence, supporting ideas and a concluding sentence.
- Possibilities are suggested in the cartoons but candidates may choose a category of drivers other than those shown.
- Candidate must motivate his/her point of view.
- Appropriate examples of what these drivers do should be given.

[20]

QUESTION 12: FAX

- Content of the fax should include information such as:
  o The date and time of the wedding.
  o The number of people who will attend.
  o Furniture and sound equipment needed.
  o The caterer's needs.
  o Parking arrangements for guests.
- The list above is not exclusive or exhaustive.
- Do not penalise the candidate if details are bulleted and a list format is used.
- A paragraph format is also acceptable.

Incorrect structure should be penalised as follows:

Deductions:
  o Recipient (-1)
  o Sender (-1)
  o Fax number (-1)
  o Number of pages (-1)

Maximum deduction of 2 marks.

[20]

TOTAL SECTION C: 20
GRAND TOTAL: 80