



education

Department:
Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

ENGLISH SECOND LANGUAGE P3

HIGHER GRADE

MAY/JUNE 2008

MEMORANDUM

MARKS: 80

This memorandum consists of 8 pages.

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 rather consult with the senior marker 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.
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.

Senior Certificate Examination
Memorandum**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 that piece of work. The essay should be assessed in the usual way using the following guideline:
 - 150 to 200 words - no higher than E
 - 100 to 150 words – no higher than F
 - 50 to 100 words – no higher than G
 - Fewer than 50 words – no higher than HIndicate 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.

Senior Certificate Examination
Memorandum**QUESTION 1: PROUDLY SOUTH AFRICAN (Discursive)**

- Candidate must discuss what makes him / her proud to be a South African.
- Candidate must mention and discuss at least three aspects of the following: the natural beauty, climate, sport, cultural achievements and the progress South Africa has made in the last few years.
- Candidates should be given credit for considering other aspects (not mentioned in the topic) that contribute to making him or her proud of being South African.

QUESTION 2 : CONFLICT CANNOT BE RESOLVED THROUGH VIOLENCE (Argumentative)

- Context of essay may be based on what happens in workplace / home / sports field / school / everyday life.
- Candidate may explain / describe and give reasons to prove his/her point of view.
- Candidate may give advice arising out of his/her stand-point and this should be credited.

QUESTION 3: WHILE I WAS SITTING ON THE BUS ... (Descriptive)

- Candidate must describe at least two people who were on the bus.
- Description may include the physical characteristics of the person.
- Description should include an imaginary perception of the people' s past, what they did for a living, and where they were going, etc.

QUESTION 4: MISSING (Narrative)

- The story may be written in first / third person narrative.
- Candidate must have the element of “missing” as the central theme of the essay.
- Markers should be aware that there may be surprising twists in more creative essays.
- Markers must be open-minded and consider all stories, a variety of responses and even the unusual.

QUESTION 5: MY IDEA OF A GOOD LIFE (Descriptive/Personal/ Reflective/ discursive)

- Candidate must include: status, money, health and family love in their discussion.
 - Markers must be aware that the candidate's idea may be different to the marker's idea of a good life.
 - Other points which may be included to support candidate's argument. These may include: religion, job satisfaction, friendship, etc.
 - Markers must be open-minded and accept a reasonable response.

TOTAL SECTION A: 40

SECTION B: Shorter Pieces of writing

- Mark according to the approved Umalusi grid out of 20 marks.
- In transactional writing tone, register, style and structure are as important as language and content.
- Individual requirements are dictated in each question below.

QUESTION 6: Dialogue

- The content must reflect an interchange of ideas clearly expressing a sense of dissatisfaction on the one hand and a response that pacifies or disregards the complaint.
- The subject matter must be about the escalating food prices.
- Register and tone may be friendly / colloquial or argumentative and conflict driven. Style semi-formal.
- Deductions for format of dialogue
 - If not in play form = -1
 - Use of inverted commas = -1
 - Colons must appear and character names must be used, otherwise = -1.

Deduction: maximum 2 marks for format only.

Indicate the deduction next to the error and again next to the total.

QUESTION 7: Report – building burning down

- The report must be written using the sub-headings provided.
- Tone and register should be factual and formal.
- Candidates must describe details of what he / she saw and heard, including time frames and sequence of events.
- Content should reflect the serious nature of the subject matter.
- Incorrect structure should be penalised as follows:
 - Not using first person = -1
 - Sub-headings missing = -1

Deduction: Maximum 2 marks for format only.

Indicate the deduction next to the error and again next to the total.

SECTION C: Other shorter pieces of writing

- Where the question has only one section, mark it out of 20 according to the 20 mark grid (Umalusi). Note: penalties may total up to a max. of 2 marks.
- Where the question counts 10 marks, mark each part separately out of 10, then minus the penalty (max. -1) if necessary, then add the marks for a mark out of 20. Follow this guideline to ensure accuracy in totaling of marks.
- Drop a category vertically if instructions regarding length are not adhered to.
- Mark only one question, i.e. if 2 parts from 2 different are answered, mark only the first one and cancel the second answer by crossing it out.
- In transactional writing tone, register, style and structure are as important as language and content. Individual requirements are dictated in each question below.

QUESTION 9.1 Formal invitation

- Accept the following formats: letter format or formal invitation format.
- Date, time, occasion, venue, host, name of recipient and purpose of invitation (make a speech) must appear.
- If candidate includes reasons for inviting that particular person (interest in environment) he/she should be credited for this deeper insight.

QUESTION 9.2 Programme for the day

- Programme format should be used: i.e. each event recorded one below the other
- Relevant detail of each activity between nine and one o'clock must be presented.
- Credit creative / innovative / relevant programme items.

QUESTION 10 Analysis of a Graph

- Paragraph format must be used.
- Register, style and tone could be formal or informal.
- The content must indicate the change in trends:
 - increase in women and children attending the game
 - decline in men attending the game.
- Greater detail which includes consistency in 2004 and 2006 of the numbers of men attending the game must be credited.

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QUESTION 11 Memorandum

- Paragraph format must be used with the sub-headings as a guide.
- Marker must be aware that response may come from candidate as a learner / staff member / parent which will affect the nature of the response.
- Mention must be made of the suggested changes to school uniform, discipline and school fees.
- Reasons must be furnished along with each change.

TOTAL SECTION C: 20

GRAND TOTAL: 80