

2012 TRIAL HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

English (Standard) and English (Advanced) Paper 1 – Area of Study

PM MONDAY 30TH JULY

Staff Involved:

SZA	LB	AKB	CMB
MDD	KLF	AXH	AMH
RIH*	AKM	MZM	BDM
JKR*	MJS	LAS	SDS*
SAT	JFT		

380 copies

General Instructions

- Reading time 10 minutes
- Working time 2 hours
- Write using blue or black pen
- Use a NEW answer booklet for each section
- Write your Barker Student Number on the front of each answer booklet

Total marks - 45

Section I

Pages 2 - 7

15 marks

- Attempt Question 1
- Allow about 40 minutes for this section.

Section II

Page 8

15 marks

- Attempt Question 2
- Allow about 40 minutes for this section.

Section III)

Page 9

15 marks

- Attempt Question 3
- Allow about 40 minutes for this section.

Section I 15 marks Attempt Question 1 Allow about 40 minutes for this section

Answer the questions in the booklet provided. Extra booklets are available if required.

In your answer you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the way perceptions of belonging are shaped in and through texts
- describe, explain and analyse the relationship between language, text and context

Question 1 (15 marks)

Examine **Texts one**, **two**, **three** and **four** on the following pages carefully and then answer the questions on page 7.



Question 1 continues on page 4

Let's celebrate our sense of belonging

There is at least one group of people for whom Australia Day represents more than just a day off work. Every Australia Day features ceremonies conferring Australian citizenship on thousands of immigrants representing the culmination of their new commitment to this country.

Last year, I went to Sydney's Hyde Park to observe one of these ceremonies. The mood was buoyant. A large crowd gathered before the stage. When the new citizens took their oath of loyalty, all citizens present joined in pledging "my loyalty to Australia and its people, whose democratic beliefs I share, whose rights and liberties I respect, and whose laws I will uphold and obey". Everyone then sang Advance Australia Fair. I can think of no better way for Australians, new and old, to come together and celebrate our fraternal bonds. After all, it can be easy for many of us to take our membership of the community for granted. Whether they have fled from persecution or wars in their homelands, or have merely sought better opportunities in life, all of our new citizens have made this land their home in search of a new start. Theirs is an experience that should inspire us all. Our national day, Australia Day, should be a day for renewal and reflection. Renewing our national bonds, reflecting on what it means to be Australian; this whole business can only be complex. The importance of citizenship needs to be restored in our discussions of our Australian identity.

Much of the need concerns the recent resurgence of Australian patriotism. Unlike many others, I believe this is a welcome development, but only in so far as it motivates Australians to be more generous towards their fellow citizens and more willing to work for the common good. Alas, much of the new patriotism has been something less than virtuous. Since the 2005 riots in the Sydney suburb of Cronulla, self-styled patriots have laid claim to symbols such as the national flag and the Southern Cross. There is little that distinguishes their love of country from a deeply troubling, narcissistic racism. Can a greater emphasis on citizenship help take the edge off such aberrant patriotism, while still providing the foundation for authentic social cohesion? It can only be a good thing to remind us that it is a commitment to our democratic national community — not to some race, ethnicity or religion — that counts the most.

Even so, many sceptics believe that defining our identity in terms of civil and political rights and responsibilities involves something too abstract, too sterile. No one, the argument goes, can get excited about citizenship. The true meaning of being Australian lies in loving our sunburnt country, having a good time, playing sport, going to the beach, firing up the barbecue. The flaws of such an approach are obvious. It would reduce Australia to a beach-loving cultural lifestyle enclave. There would be little, besides perhaps cricket, which would set it apart from California.

The Australian civic tradition is worth celebrating. We are one of the oldest and most stable democracies in the world. We have a deeply ingrained sense of equality. A fair go, egalitarianism and mateship reflect a genuine ethos for how we should conduct our lives together. Ultimately, it is values that define us: values that are democratic as well as definitively Australian. These are the values against which our collective progress should be judged. Today in Canberra, as I watch happy immigrants pledging their loyalty, I will know this is what they are joining. Not a lifestyle but a national tradition. They are joining us not as the adopted sun-kissed children of the southern sky but as fellow citizens.

Tim Soutphommasane

Barbecue

Which of us will one day sit alone In that last isolation nothing mends Remembering a long-lost afternoon And a casual gathering of friends?

The women, milky-breasted, beautiful, Watching their children toddle on the grass . . . The men, skylarking with a bat and ball Until the Sunday sun begins to pass . . .

Decades on, this sun will re-emerge With aching clarity in someone's mind. To shake and grieve them in their senile age And shine the brighter when the eyes are blind.

For one amongst us will outlive the rest And weep to think, perhaps at ninety-five About this knife-edged brilliance of the past When all of us were alive and happy.

And so, my friends, let's cling together now Against the future that we cannot see. Let's love each other for we cannot know Who that condemned survivor is to be.

Peter Kocan

Question 1 continues on page 6

Text Four — **Essay Extract**

[Andrew Bolt is a columnist for the Melbourne *Herald-Sun* newspaper. In an article in 2009 he argued that many fair-skinned people claimed falsely to be Aboriginal for political or financial gain.]

Why didn't you ring their mothers?

I am one of Andrew Bolt's disappointments. I didn't know I had offended him until a friend sent me a copy of the column he had written in which he had pilloried me for *deciding* to be black. People expect me to be outraged but my inclination is to wish I could have a yarn with Bolt over a beer.

I can see Bolt's point and the frustration of many Australians when pale people identify with an aboriginal heritage. The people he attacked for this crime, however, had, for him, an unfortunate thing in common: their credentials were impeccable. If I had been part of the group who had taken Bolt to court for impugning their heritage he would have had a field day. My mother's dead, and even if she had been alive she knew precious little about her heritage. He would have found that my cousin had discovered the woman we *thought* was our aboriginal ancestor was, in fact, born in England. Having got that far I hope he would have delved deeper and found that both my mother's and father's families had an aboriginal connection. I was amazed to find that the families knew each other in Tasmania years before my father met my mother at Melbourne Baptist church. But was it an accident? The two families lived close to each other in Melbourne and in Tassie, and had aboriginal neighbours in both places. Aborigines signed as witnesses to their weddings, and various members of both families went back and forth across Bass Strait to marry back into the other family.

I'm sure Bolt would find it fascinating. It mirrors the turbulence of post-colonial Australia and explains why so many Australians have a black connection. Why should I deny them, I would plead, they fascinate me. My great-grandfather died two streets from where I lived and I never heard anyone in my family mention his name. His mother had a traditional aboriginal name. Aren't you intrigued by that, Andrew?

I'm not saying my ancestors whispered ancient secrets in my ear or passed on secret knowledge; but I'd like to explain to Bolt that my mother told me to watch and listen to the land and respect the fact that we do not command the earth. I'm not sure if that is aboriginal thought or just her general modest decency.

My insight into aboriginal Australia is as abbreviated as my heritage has allowed. It is as if I have been led at night to a hill overlooking country I have never seen. I am blindfolded but at dawn the cloth is removed, for one second, then put back on. I'm asked to describe that country. An impression is what you would get in that second. Detail? Very little. You would be left with a feeling of the country's nature and for the rest of your life you would be searching the span of a second's memory. An impression. A shallow base from which to lecture others.

I reckon Bolt and I would have a terrific yarn. He came from Holland as a child and learnt to be an outsider too. I reckon I'd be fascinated by his childhood, how he coped as an alien. I could talk to Bolt easily and without the least rancour because I think it's reasonable for Australia to know if people of pale skin identifying as aborigines are fair dinkum. No one likes an imposter. What I'd like to say to Bolty – because surely we'd be on nickname terms by then – Bolty, I'd say, why didn't you ring their mothers?

Bruce Pascoe

In your answer you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the way perceptions of belonging are shaped in and through texts
- describe, explain and analyse the relationship between language, text and context

Question 1 (continued)				
Text one — Advertisement				
(a) Explain how one visual feature of this advertisement supports an idea communicated by the written text.	2			
Text two — Prose extract				
(b) Which aspect of belonging to Australia does Soutphommasane argue is worth celebrating	g? 2			
Text three — Poem				
(c) How does Kocan express the value of community?	3			
Text four — Essay extract				
(d) How does this extract from Pascoe's essay explore the relationship between understanding and acceptance?	3			
Texts one, two, three and four				
(e) Compare the perspectives on belonging offered by any TWO of these texts.	5			

End of Question 1

End of Section I

Section II

15 marks Attempt Question 2 Allow about 40 minutes for this section

Answer the question in the booklet provided. Extra booklets are available if required.

In your answer you will be assessed on how well you:

- express understanding of belonging in the context of your studies
- organise, develop and express ideas using language appropriate to audience, purpose and context

Question 2 (15 marks)

Use one of the following quotations in the opening paragraph of an imaginative response which explores ideas about community.

- "everyone belongs"
- "theirs is an experience that should inspire"
- "she knew precious little about our heritage"
- "in that last isolation nothing mends"

End of Question 2

End of Section 2

Section III

15 marks Attempt Question 3 Allow about 40 minutes for this section

Answer the question in the booklet provided. Extra booklets are available if required.

In your answer you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the concept of belonging in the context of your study
- analyse, explain and assess the ways belonging is represented in a variety of texts
- organise, develop and express ideas using language appropriate to audience, purpose and context

Question 3 (15 marks)

"An individual's connection with a community can deepen or restrict their sense of belonging."

Discuss this view with reference to your prescribed text and ONE other related text of your own choosing.

The prescribed texts are:

•	Prose Fiction	_ _ _ _	Amy Tan, <i>The Joy Luck Club</i> Jhumpa Lahiri, <i>The Namesake</i> Ruth Prawer Jhabvala, <i>Heat and Dust</i> Raymond Gaita, <i>My Father</i>	
•	Drama	_	Arthur Miller, <i>The Crucible</i>	
•	Film	_	Baz Luhrmann, Strictly Ballroom	
		_	Rolf De Heer, Ten Canoes	
•	Shakespeare	_	William Shakespeare, As You Like It	
•	Poetry * * * * * *	_	Peter Skrzynecki, Immigrant Chronicle Feliks Skrzynecki * St Patrick's College Ancestors * 10 Mary Street Migrant Hostel * Post Card In the Folk Museum	
	_ * * * * *		Emily Dickinson, Selected Poems 66 This is my letter to the world 82 I had been hungry all the years 127 A narrow fellow in the grass 154 A word dropped careless on the page 161 What mystery pervades a well? 181 The saddest noise, the sweetest noise	
	_		Steven Herrick, The Simple Gift	

End of Paper