

St. George Girls High

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE
TRIAL EXAMINATION

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

General Instructions

- Reading time – 10 minutes
- Working time – 2 hours
- Write using black or blue pen

Total marks – 45

Section I Pages 2-6

15 marks

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

Section II Page 7

15 marks

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

Section III Page 8

15 marks

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

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

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 and three** and answer the questions on page 7.

Text 1 - Image



Text 2 – Blog extract

*Et in Urbia Ego**

ITINERANT NEW YORKER **ALI LEMER** HAS LIVED IN CITIES ON THREE CONTINENTS. WHERE'S HOME? SHE ASKS IN THE ONLINE JOURNAL LOST IN TRANSIT.

1 May 2006

The City Kid

I'm what's known as a city kid. I'm not an expat by country or nation, but by metropolis: a New Yorker living in Melbourne, not an American living in Australia. Hey, I like visiting the countryside, but I could only ever live in a big city. That's just who I am. I really don't think I could ever live anywhere with fewer than a million people, and even that would be on the sleepy side for my taste. I've lived in a few cities by now – for those of you keeping score, I've spent the past five years moving between four cities on three continents.

A lot of people tell me they wish they could travel as much as I do, and yet I haven't been traveling – I've been moving. They're not the same at all. When you travel, you define things by how different they are from your home; you seek out the exotic. When you move, you have to remake your home in an entirely new place, so you find yourself looking for all the ways that things are the same. So when I look back on the four cities I've lived in since 2000 – New York, Chicago, Prague and Melbourne – what strikes me is not how different they are, but how similar.

In New York and Prague, I lived right in the middle of things, on city streets, in apartments in multi-storey buildings, often with shops right on the ground floor. I had no car (except as occasionally borrowed from my father or a friend), and had to go everywhere on public transport, which was only a couple of blocks away. To go shopping, I walked to the supermarket with a wire cart and pushed the groceries home in it. I did the laundry in the coin-operated washers and dryers in the basement of the

building. My garbage went into the bins in the building, and a superintendent put them out for collection, whenever that was.

In Chicago (previously) and Melbourne (currently), though, I live in a neighborhood a bit further out on the fringes, with the entire floor of a small building, or in the case of Melbourne, my own terrace house. In both places, I've had a backyard, and private outdoor areas to sit, and places to grow plants - I even started my first herb garden here. I have a car, with either my own spot or plenty of room out front. I take public transport to school, but end up using the car at night or for longer distances, and I drive to the supermarket and bring the groceries home in the trunk. I have my own washing machine, and I hang my clothes out to dry on a line out back. I collect my own garbage, put it in the bin, and wheel it to the curb every Monday night.

That's right, I hang my washing up on a line and put the garbage out myself.

I even clipped some fresh thyme for dinner last night. Compared with how I was raised, sometimes I feel like I'm practically a farmer. But while my suburban (well, 'inner suburban') lives have definitely been more comfortable in many ways compared to my urban ones, they haven't been as exciting. I have a nicer, bigger place here than in Prague or New York, but I'm also further away from the exciting neighborhoods, and I end up spending a lot more time holed up at home.

It's a common convention that living in the city is a more immature phase that people go through before wising up and moving out to the suburbs, that whole 'settling down and mellowing out' thing. As a city kid who loved living in Manhattan, I always hated that idea, that a life lived in the city could only be an attenuated one, something to be borne only until you got married and could finally move out to Long Island or Westchester. And yet part of me also feels torn at the idea of giving up my 2BR house for US\$750 a month to go back to NYC and pay twice that for a 300 sq. ft. studio shoe box. I like having warmer, California-like weather where I can wear flip-flops more than half the year, and yet I miss cuddling up to my steam-heat radiator and watching a huge blizzard drape the city streets in a foot of soft snow. I miss the electric lifestyle of a huge

metropolis, having all the shops, bars and restaurants I could want within walking distance of my front door, being able to get any kind of food delivered in twenty-five minutes, hopping on and off the subway to get me downtown in ten minutes or less; and yet I also like hearing birds sing in the trees outside my window every day, and eating lunch out back on a sunny afternoon, and being able to look up and see stars at night as I cross the railroad tracks on my walk back from the tram.

So what's the next option? I have to wonder where I can go that's not too hard and not too soft – but 'just right' – outside of a fairy tale.

* This made up Latin phrase can be roughly translated as 'I exist in cities'.

Text 3 – Prose extract

From *Vertigo* by Amanda Lohrey

This house. This house is their kingdom. It's as if they were dispossessed of this house at birth and have at last reclaimed their entitlement. Instead of being confined to a boxed-in apartment they are free now to roam through its many rooms, to experience the joy of nooks and alcoves, not to mention their favourite hang-out, the wide veranda. In the city they had a small balcony off their apartment, but it wasn't the same. You looked out to a smoggy curtain across the built-up sky or down a long drop to the bitumen road below. You were not earthed. What you desired was a space between two worlds, that dream-like threshold where you are neither in nor out but floating in a cradle of space, but you wanted also at any moment to be able to step off the veranda and onto firm ground. You were an earth animal, not a bird; you did not want to nest in the sky.

And the boy, too, loves the veranda; he likes to run the full length of it, trailing a long stick behind him that makes a loud, rackety clattering sound. Along the south corner Luke has strung up a rainbow-striped hammock and sometimes they look out on a still

day and see the hammock swinging wildly and they know that the boy is enveloped in its folds.

In the city Luke rented a one-room office in a renovated warehouse while Anna worked from home in a tiny second bedroom overlooking a grimy fire-escape. Here, Luke has only to climb a let-down ladder to his sun-struck eyrie in the roof, a glassed-in attic he has converted into an office, while Anna retires to the back sunroom where she can look west to the smoky blue hills. He rises early, she tends to sleep in, but on all other fronts they observe a strict discipline.

They even take their coffee breaks separately because it would be too easy to lounge together in the shade of the veranda and drift for an hour into idle conversation. Often Luke will carry his coffee out to the rickety balcony off the attic, for it looks across to the ocean and here he can study the local surfers, those sleek wetsuited truants of the moment. He thinks of them as black birds of the surf, paddling out beyond the reef off Rittler's Point and riding the autumn swells in lithe, crouching postures so that they resemble some weird form of sea-bird looking for a kill.

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)

Marks

Text one – Image

(a) What aspect of belonging is highlighted in this text?
Explain your answer with reference to ONE visual feature.

2

Text two – Blog Extract

(b) Where is home for Ali Lemer?

1

(c) In what ways can the four cities that Lemer has lived in since 2000 be classified as similar?

2

(d) What is the tone of this extract? Why has the writer used this tone?

2

Text three – Prose Extract

(e) How does Lohrey create the sense of difference between Anna and Luke’s previous home and work spaces and their current seaside house?

3

(f) Why must Anna and Luke “observe a strict discipline”?

1

Texts one, two and three

(f) Each one of these three texts highlights various ideas about how where we live shapes our ideas about belonging. Which text do you think most effectively presents this idea? Explain your answer with detailed reference to your chosen text.

4

Section II

15 marks

Attempt Question 2

Allow about 40 minutes for this section

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
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Question 2 (15 marks)

You have been invited to contribute a piece of writing for ONE of the sections of a website about belonging.

The sections are:

1. The city/the country
2. Online communities
3. Personal stories

Choose ONE of the options below for your contribution.

(a) Compose a persuasive piece where you argue for the virtues of belonging to **EITHER** a city community **OR** a country community

OR

(b) Compose a blog entry with the title 'Right in the middle of things.'

OR

(c) Compose a short story with the title 'A space between two worlds.'

Section III

15 marks

Attempt Question 3

Allow about 40 minutes for this section

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
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Question 3 (15 marks)

Focus — Belonging

‘External forces and surroundings shape our attitudes and expectations, but what really defines us and shapes our essential sense of self is our inner sense of what we belong to.’

Write a response referring to representations of belonging in your texts.

In your response, refer to your prescribed text and ONE other related text of your own choosing.

The prescribed texts are:

- Prose Fiction - Amy Tan, *The Joy Luck Club*
 - Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake*
 - Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*
 - Ruth Praver Jhabvala, *Heat and Dust*
 - Tara June Winch, *Swallow the Air*
- Nonfiction - Raimond Gaita, *Romulus, My Father*
- Drama - Arthur Miller, *The Crucible: A Play in Four Acts*
 - Jane Harrison, *Rainbow’s End*
 - from Vivienne Cleven et al. (eds), *Contemporary Indigenous Plays*
- 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 of Emily Dickinson

- ❖ 66 This is my letter to the world
- ❖ 67 I died for beauty but was scarce
- ❖ 82 I had been hungry all the years
- ❖ 83 I gave myself to him
- ❖ 127 A narrow fellow in the grass
- ❖ 154 A word dropped careless on the page
- ❖ 161 What mystery pervades a well!
- ❖ 181 Saddest noise, the sweetest noise

- Steven Herrick, The Simple Gift