

2015

**HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE
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
Black pen is preferred
- Note all author names of unknown texts
are purely fictional, I have personally
composed of all the unseen texts.
- Meihua Gong©2015

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 Pages 9-10
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

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

- Demonstrate understanding of the way perceptions of discovery are shaped in and through texts.
 - Describe, explain and analyse the relationship between language, text and context.
-

Text One-Visual Text



Source: <http://cdn.onextrapixel.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/01-inspiring-hands-peculiar-storm.jpg>

SECTION I

15 marks

Attempt Question 1

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Text One-Visual Text



Source: <http://cdn.onextrapixel.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/01-inspiring-hands-peculiar-storm.jpg>

Question 1(continued)

Text two-Poem "Delicate Dreams" by Cassandra Hart

Visceral dreams, beautiful transformations,
Fold me up, there's at least a thousand possible configurations.
Inspire your imagination, utilise your delicate hands,
Celebrate your deftness, on this white canvas in beautiful blends.
Unknown paper crafter, capture your dreams in my skin,
Be they as delicate as feathers, or as intricate as a ballerina's spin.

A ruler caressed my back, comfortingly smooth,
Uncertain of the next move, the ruler skated with a unique groove.
The gentle tracing of a pencil, enraptured by a beautiful design,
An eraser wiped out tangential possibilities, without much resign.
Time slowly waltzed past, like the silent falling snow in a glass dome,
The final design finished, a prelude to a finale in a beloved home.

A thousand folds, like the folded dreams I filled in a jar of stars,
A creation evolved, shining brighter than any lighthouses afar.
Loving hands pampered, reshaped and redefined my once lifeless body,
Delighted by a breath of fresh air, a delight greater than driving an Audi.
Four sharp corners reformed, moulded into infinite curves,
A pair of deft hands, gave meaning to my life despite my previous reserves.

A crystal ball in shape, dreams crystallised like flowers in a paperweight,
All past folds and markings, cumulated life's treasures in one's fate.
A pair of scissors polished my aspirations, a skilful master realised my dreams.
A body strong and resilient, like trained gymnasts on their wooden beams.
Collect my lost fragments, scatter them to inspire innocent dreams,
A life reborn and a soul released, thank you for including me in your scheme.

Question 1 (continued)

Text three-Feature Article “Wear a tee and volunteer” by Jackie Barton

I was the last candidate anyone could think of to become a volunteer. After all, the recent Belle Gibson scandal where she was accused of faking cancer in order to sell inspirational health books would leave one skeptical of the difficulty of trusting strangers and genuine charity. Not to mention a recent Sydney Morning Herald article screamed the headlines “Take it from me, charity is out of control” would leave any reasonable person to question just how can we affirm what we are doing, even when we are willing to donate our own spare time, is genuine charity and truly transforming other people’s lives.

Indeed, even disregarding the recent bad publicity, a declining sense of philanthropy is often a prevalent characteristic of any capitalistic society. More than that, I had always been a reclusive person who studied studiously and ignored everything else seriously. Including the notion of volunteering. Back in high school, the most I did was knitting some blanket squares for a refuge, and even then, it was only really to fill up hours for a volunteering award my school had. And then, when I stepped into uni, it became easy to be overwhelmed with uni and work commitments to the point I can barely breathe above the never ending cascades of paper work that often left me feeling like an emotionless, depressed couch potato.

It was a chance encounter that introduced me to the Sydney Volunteering festivals. Now you may wonder, what is this Sydney Festival? You can’t miss it, it is those blue and white flags that decorates Sydney streets every January, and in recent years, in Parramatta as well. Or maybe you probably have missed it. After all, we all have very busy lives, and few of us have the leisure to wander around city streets and read promotional banners when often, we just want to escape the suffocating skyscrapers and retreat to our neatly manicured suburbia residences.

The short experiences of being a volunteer, has been transforming. Who could have thought a holiday from work, a passing question to a friend asking how they had planned to spend their holidays would have motivated me to embark on this transformative path. It is hard to encapsulate the entirety of the Sydney Festival volunteer experience, it is not just as simple as wearing a festival tee and cap. It is the unexpected friendships you form with people from all imaginable walks of life. It is the unforgettable experiences, like the time when I got soaked from head to toe on the waterfall swing in helping to celebrate the 16th birthday of a stranger, or the time when I twisted my ankle, wearing a poncho, handing out pamphlets with the threatening onset of thunder, or the time when I reunited with high school classmates on a volunteer shift.

It is really only through volunteering that I realized just how much we can do collaboratively to change our society into a better place, a more compassionate city, a hub for celebration of multiculturalism and genuine altruism. Sure, I still have my doubts when I sign up for volunteering these days, but I make sure I go with friends, I make the effort to check the organization’s credibility. But then, nothing in life is completely risk proof, what you get from life ultimately comes from what you put into it. As Steve Jobs once said, “The only way to do great work is to love what you do”.

Question 1 (continued)

Text 4-Interview extract with an Artist- Christina Wilson

C-Christina Wilson

A-Artist (Ben Farr)

C: How did you know you wanted to pursue art as a career? Was it simply a dose of talent with overwhelming passion or was it just something that you realized gradually?

A: Well, I started scribbling before I could talk on stick-it-notes with colours, so perhaps my interest arose from that point. I think it had something to do with my family, my Mum was a professional songwriter, Dad was a sculptor, and my older brother, Ben, he works as an architectural designer. So I was in a very nurturing, supportive, creative environment, so I can't really say whether either of your dichotomous suggestions are accurate, but perhaps it is a mixture of everything, talent, passion and support.

C: Was there at any point during your art career that made you doubted whether you were pursuing the right career? Particularly in a society where most people aspires to have a stable job with a regular income and working hours?

A: Not really, I believed in myself long before I had to confront any skeptics. I was already selling work during high school, so I knew I could make it big someday if I put in the effort, when and where that will happen, I don't know, but I know I am working towards it, stroke by stroke, painting by painting, day by day. Just because society constructs what the 'norm' is does not mean I have to fit in a generic mould. For me, the leap from my imagination to the actual painting is the norm, for me, spending most of my day thinking up new ideas for future works is the norm. I never felt the need to succumb to the pressure of blind social conformity, I construct my own norm, you can almost say.

C: How has working as a professional artist changed you in any way? In terms of say, personality wise or views on life?

A: It is interesting you brought this question up, because most people tend to just focus on what I think my work means/don't mean. I think it has been quite gradual, art as a whole has made me a lot more relaxed, more open to new ideas-whether it be cultural, social, scientific, and more curious about the world and the infinite potential of the human imagination. 'professional artist' is just an identity, in the end, I just see myself as an artist, period, there is no particular prestige, anyone can be an artist as long as they are committed to. Art helped me to see the light at the end of the dark tunnels I traverse through life and instilled a sense of serenity within me that is deeply needed, particularly when you get tied up with a lot of things.

C: How do you get your inspiration for your artworks? Do you travel a lot-after all, the diverse sceneries you depict-ranging from the majestic ancient structures in Rome to the modernized architecture of Beijing, seems to suggest very extensive and diverse adventures?

A: Actually, surprisingly, I just used the stories of other people travelling, add a dose of good old human imagination and transpose these integrated narratives with my own feelings and perceptions at different life periods as a multitude of colours on a canvas. It is an organic process, without definitive start or end, I don't have enough money to travel around the world, although that definitely is on my bucket list.

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

- Demonstrate understanding of the ways perceptions of discovery are shaped in and through texts
 - Describe, explain and analyse the relationship between language, text and context.
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Question 1 (continued)

Text one-Visual Text

- a) Select two aspects of the visual text and explain the power of one's imagination in allowing the individual to make new, unexpected discoveries. (2 marks)

Text two-Poem

- b) Analyse why the persona asserted: "Collect my lost fragments, scatter them to inspire innocent dreams, /A life reborn and a soul released, thank you for including me in your scheme." (2 marks)

Text three-Feature Article

- c) Discuss how a sense of curiosity and courage catalyzed the persona's embrace of a new experience which resulted in transformative personal discoveries that was fresh and intensely meaningful in diverse ways. (3 marks)

Text four-Interview Extract

- d) Evaluate the significance of the artist's decision to pursue art in a professional capacity and the range of personal, cultural and social contexts that have shaped this decisions which accumulated to profound realisations. (3 marks)

Texts one, two, three and four-Visual Text, Poem, Feature Article and Interview Extract

- e) As a part of facilitating the transition from Belonging to Discovery, the new area of study designated for HSC English for 2015-2020, a selection of related texts are incorporated into a booklet titled "Discovery-An Introspective Analysis". Critically assess which two texts out of the four above would be the most suitable for inclusion. (5 marks)

Section II

15 marks

Attempt Question 2

Allow about 40 minutes for this section

Answer the question on a NEW page.

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

- Express understanding of discovery in the context of your studies
- Organise, develop and express ideas using language appropriate to audience, purpose and context

Question 2(15 marks)

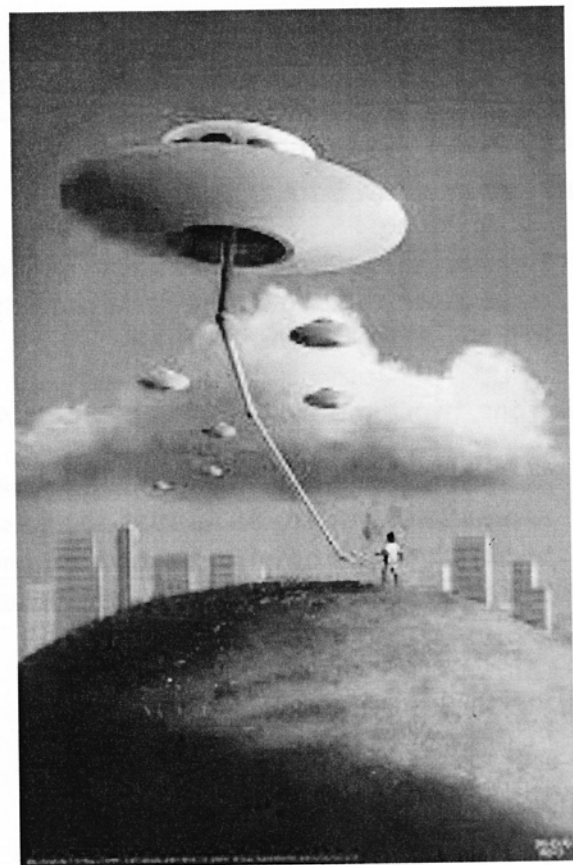
Compose a piece of imaginative writing highlighting how the reassessment of a discovery over time can have profound impacts for not only the individual, but also on the society. Specifically highlight how rediscoveries can impact on the individual in creative and physical ways.

Use one of the following pictorial stimuli as a main inspiration for your writing. Remember to indicate which stimuli you have chosen at the start of your writing piece.

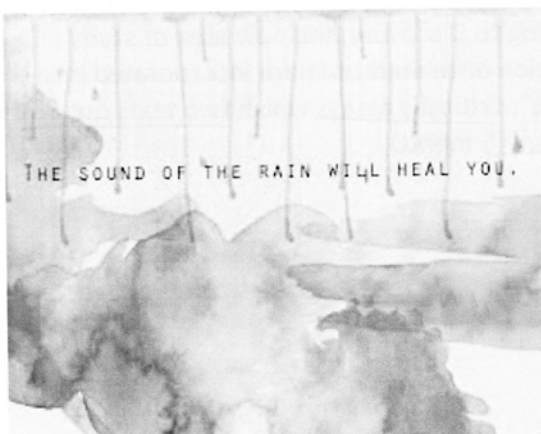
1.



2.



3.



Section III

15 marks

Attempt Question 3

Allow about 40 minutes for this section

Answer the question on a NEW page.

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

- Demonstrate understanding of the concept of discovery in the context of your study
 - Analyse, explain and assess the ways discovery 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)

“Undertaking a journey of discovery represents an opportunity to develop new understandings and renewed self-perceptions. Even if the objective of the journey may not be fulfilled, nevertheless discoveries can have the potential to be meaningful and stimulating in spiritual and intellectual ways.”

Evaluate this statement in relation to the representations of discovery within your prescribed text and ONE other related text of your own choosing.