



SPECIAL EXAMINATION: AUGUST 2016

COURSE CODE: ENG1A11/ENG1AA1 **MARKS:** 200

1. Dr J. Starfield
Dr S. Mngadi
Mr T. Tsehloane
2. Prof. C. MacKenzie

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3) PAGES

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF A CHOICE OF THREE (3) QUESTIONS: YOU MUST ANSWER TWO (2) QUESTIONS.
2. THIS PAPER IS THREE (3) HOURS IN LENGTH.
3. PLEASE ANSWER EACH QUESTION IN A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK, AND WRITE THE NUMBER OF THE QUESTION ON THE FRONT OF THE ANSWER BOOK.
4. EACH ESSAY THAT YOU WRITE SHOULD CONSIST OF FIVE PARAGRAPHS: AN INTRODUCTION, THREE BODY PARAGRAPHS AND A CONCLUSION.

QUESTION 1:

Can Themba, “The Suit”

He grinned and yawned simultaneously, offering his wordless Te Deum to whatever gods for the goodness of life; for the pure beauty of his wife; for the strength surging through his willing body; for the even, unperturbed rhythms of his passage through days and months and years – it must be – to heaven.

Write a five paragraph essay in which you discuss how Can Themba’s “The Suit” uses (a) narrative point of view and alternating focalisation, (b) characterization and (c) plot to highlight how Matilda and Philemon are both responsible for the tragic end of their once blissful marriage.

(100)

OR

QUESTION 2:

J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*

Anyway, I keep picturing all these little kids playing some game in this big field of rye and all. Thousands of little kids, and nobody’s around – nobody big, I mean – except me. And I’m standing on the edge of some crazy cliff. What I have to do, I have to catch everybody if they start to go over the cliff – I mean if they’re running and they don’t look where they’re going I have to come out from somewhere and *catch* them. That’s all I’d do all day. I’d just be the catcher in the rye and all. I know it’s crazy, but that’s the only thing I’d really like to be. I know it’s crazy.

(J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*, p. 156)

Discuss the ways in which the above passage captures the central preoccupations of Holden’s narrative in the novel as a whole.

(100)

OR

QUESTION 3:

Deon Meyer, *13 Hours*

Thirteen Hours introduces the character of Alexa Barnard to Benny Griessel's life. Write an essay in which you discuss the ways in which Alexa represents the most positive aspects of his development as a character, on the one hand, and the most negative, on the other.

Your essay should include comments on the following aspects of the novel:

- the great admiration Griessel has for Alexa's singing, and the role that music plays in his life;
- Alexa's addiction to alcohol and the effects of this on Griessel;
- the symbolic meaning of Lize Beekman's song "As jy vir liefde omdraai. If you turn around for love" (p. 407) when Griessel hears it at the end of his long day.

END OF PAPER