



## ***DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH***

**JUNE EXAMINATION 2018**

**COURSE:** ENGLISH 1A

**TIME:** 3 HOURS

**COURSE CODE:** ENG1A11 ENG1AA1

**MARKS:** 200

**EXAMINERS:** 1. Prof S Mngadi  
Ms D Labuschagne  
Mr T Tsheloane

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**THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF FOUR (4) PAGES**

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**Instructions:**

1. ANSWER ANY TWO (2) OF THE THREE GIVEN QUESTIONS.
2. PLEASE ANSWER EACH QUESTION IN A SEPARATE BOOKLET, AND WRITE THE NUMBER OF THE QUESTION ON THE FRONT OF THE EXAM BOOKLET.
3. EACH ESSAY MUST HAVE FIVE PARAGRAPHS: AN INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH, THREE PARAGRAPHS ON EACH OF THE NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES, AND A CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH. EACH OF THE BODY PARAGRAPHS MUST HAVE A CLEAR TOPIC STATEMENT THAT INDICATES WHAT THAT PARTICULAR PARAGRAPH IS GOING TO BE ABOUT.

**QUESTION 1: SHORT FICTION 1 – SHIRLEY JACKSON, “THE LOTTERY”**

**Carefully read the following extracts:**

The morning of June 27th was clear and sunny, with the fresh warmth of a full-summer day; the flowers were blossoming profusely and the grass was richly green. The people of the village began to gather in the square, between the post office and the bank, around ten o'clock; [...] there were only about three hundred people, the whole lottery took less than two hours, so it could begin at ten o'clock in the morning and still be through in time to allow the villagers to get home for noon dinner (Jackson 2014: 64). [...]

The lottery was conducted – as were the square dances, the teen club, the Halloween program – by Mr. Summers, who had time and energy to devote to civic activities (64). [...]

...the black box now resting on the stool had been put into use even before Old Man Warner, the oldest man in town, was born (65). [...]

The rest of the year, the box was put away, sometimes one place, sometimes another; [...] sometimes it was set on a shelf in the Martin grocery and left there (65). [...]

Although the villagers had forgotten the ritual and lost the original black box, they still remembered to use stones (71).

With reference to these extracts, write a five-paragraph essay in which you show how Shirley Jackson criticizes a blind adherence to outdated tradition, through her use of

- (1) setting,
- (2) third-person objective narrative point-of-view, and
- (3) symbolism.

You must use quotations from the given extracts to support your argument, as well as those from other parts of the story, where relevant.

All quotations must be correctly integrated and discussed.

Make sure that your essay provides a statement regarding the main concern of the story.

(100)

**QUESTION 2: SHORT FICTION 2 – CAN THEMBA, “THE SUIT”**

Carefully read the following extract:

She went ash-grey; but there was nothing for it but to fetch her albatross... For a while the guests were dumbfounded. Then curiosity flooded in. They talked at the same time. Philemon carelessly swung his head towards Matilda. ‘You better ask my wife. She knows the fellow best’.

With reference to this extract, write a five-paragraph essay in which you discuss how Can Themba uses the theme of adultery in “The Suit” to explore the complexity of human character and unpredictability of human emotions through the following narrative techniques:

- (1) characterisation,
- (2) narrative point of view, and
- (3) setting.

You must use quotations from the given extracts to support your argument, as well as those from other parts of the story, where relevant.

All quotations must be correctly integrated and discussed.

(100)

**QUESTION 3: LONG FICTION – 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 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 (156).

Using the passage above as your starting point, discuss the various ways in which the metaphor of “the catcher in the rye” captures the central preoccupations of Holden's narrative in the novel as a whole.

You must use quotations from the given extract to support your argument, as well as those from other parts of the novel, where relevant.

All quotations must be correctly integrated and discussed.

(100)

**END OF PAPER**

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