

DE BEERS

A DIAMOND IS FOREVER

2013 ENGLISH OLYMPIAD
In Camera

Tuesday, 5 March 2013

TOTAL MARKS: 100

TIME: 2 - 3 HOURS

THEME: Whose truth is it anyway?

TEXT: In Camera

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer **ONE** question from **Section A** and **ONE** question from **SECTION B - TWO** in all.
2. We invite you to express your own ideas in response to the questions, using your own voice. There are no “right” answers; however, the better responses tend to refer to the anthology often.
3. Write the section and number of the question above each answer, and start each question at the top of a new page.
4. On the cover of the examination book, please **clearly** indicate:
 - a) your school’s Olympiad number (e.g. 317)
 - b) your personal examination number (e.g. 317/3)
 - c) each section and the number of the question that you have answered from that section (e.g. A 3 and B 7).

Do **NOT** write your name, your address or your school’s name on the cover or anywhere in your answers.

SECTION A (60 MARKS)

There is no “ideal length” for a response to Section A.
However, the better responses are generally 3 – 5 A4 pages in length.

Answer **ONE** of the following questions:

1. “The Opposite of Courage... is Conformity.” (Rollo May)

*“How far should one accept the rules of the society in which one lives?
To put it another way: at what point does conformity become corruption?
Only by answering such questions does the conscience truly define
itself.”* (Kenneth Tynan, critic and writer, 1927 – 1980)

Respond to this question, using characters from the anthology.

(Imagine naïve, adolescent Alison Staude meets fascinating, unctuous
John Profumo meets fiery, activist Ferial Haffajee ...)

2. Mavericks Anonymous

Eschel Rhoodie, John Profumo, Wikus van der Merwe (and perhaps a
present-day young leader of your choice) meet at a support group for
misguided mavericks. A psychologist is present.

Write the conversation that takes place amongst those present.

3. “For the future, for the unborn.”

Write your own **short story** entitled *two thousand and eighty-four*.
(Ask yourself: is Big Brother *still* watching you?)

4. @chrismoerdyk

*The government’s response to “deepening poverty and inequality,
faltering social cohesion” was “rolling back human rights.... The
Secrecy Bill is merely one of a much bigger and problematic effort to
centralise power in the security cluster of government.”*
(COSATU’s director of alternative information and development)

And:

*“Don’t let anyone kid you: There is a systematic move on several fronts
to strangle independent critical journalism. It’s happening, chaps.”*
(Sunday Times editor Ray Hartley)

You are Chris Moerdyk. Write your response to these comments.

7. “Heresy is another word for freedom of thought.” (Graham Greene)

*“There were also whispered stories of a terrible book, a compendium
of all the heresies, of which Goldstein was the author and which
circulated clandestinely here and there. It was a book without a title.
People referred to it, if at all, simply as the book.”*

(from *nineteen eighty-four*)

Write the **editorial**, which comments on “*the book*”, that would appear
in the Party newspaper.

AND

Write the **introduction**, penned by a supporter of Goldstein, which would
appear in a published edition of “*the book*”.

****End of Examination Paper****

4. “Brutal truth”

Write a **letter** to the president of South Africa in which you express your views on the state of the nation.

It may help to refer to *Seven Principles of Public Life*, *Black Wednesday*, the extracts from the Information Bill and Section 28, and the *Wonkie* cartoons.

5. Spin doctoring

“*The ‘Club of Ten’, as the group was known, had the difficult task of tackling the media, the United Nations, other institutions, individuals and countries for their double-dealing and hypocrisy where South Africa was concerned.*” (from *The Information Scandal*).

And

“*...at one stage South Africa was the poster child for freedom in the world ...*” (Nadine Gordimer)

And

“*Geography is our friend; Africa is the new cool.*” (Ferial Haffajee)

Write a **speech**, for an international audience of your choice, which projects the views of the South African Government.

(You cannot ignore actual happenings.)

6. Taking on sacred ... chickens

You have joined the creative team at Black River FC, the advertising agency responsible for the Nando’s advertisements.

a) Using any of the material in the anthology, write up the sketches and/or notes which you would use to make your pitch for a new advertisement to the Marketing Manager of Nando’s, Thabang Ramogase, a man described as a “*controlled free spirit who knows when to play.*” (The Sowetan Live)

AND

b) Having received a letter of complaint, the ASA is required to adjudicate on the merits of your advertisement versus the merits of the complaint. Write the **adjudication**.

5. Then They Came for Me

First they came for the Muslims, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Muslim.

Then they came to detain immigrants indefinitely solely upon the certification of the Attorney General, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't an immigrant.

Then they came to eavesdrop on suspects consulting with their attorneys, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a suspect.

Then they came to prosecute non-citizens before secret military commissions, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a non-citizen.

Then they came to enter homes and offices for unannounced "sneak and peek" searches, and I didn't speak up because I had nothing to hide.

Then they came to reinstate Cointelpro* and resume the infiltration and surveillance of domestic religious and political groups, and I didn't speak up because I had stopped participating in any groups.

Then they came for anyone who objected to government policy because it aided the terrorists and gave ammunition to America's enemies, and I didn't speak up because... I didn't speak up.

Then they came for me... and by that time no one was left to speak up.

By Stephen Rohde, a constitutional lawyer and President of the ACLU of Southern California. Adapted from the original by Rev. Martin Niemoller (1937).

*Cointelpro – “an acronym for *Counterintelligence Programme*, conducted by the FBI aimed at surveying ...domestic political organisations.” (*Wikipedia*)

Write your own response to the above in any way you wish (the text of a speech, a long poem?), keeping the anthology in mind.

6. Whitewashing

“*White spaces and missing pages have periodically played a significant role in the manipulation of information.*”

Considering the contents and spirit of the anthology, write the **article**: *What you might not have known about that should have been printed on pages 29 and 30.*

7. A picture paints a thousand words

Refer to the *Azaniamania* cartoon printed on page 67, which ends with the words: "To be continued..."

Draw the **cartoon panel**, which will appear in tomorrow's newspaper, using the characters from *Azaniamania*.

8. My South Africa – Whose truth is it anyway?

In *Country of my Skull*, by Antjie Krog, Anna Malan says: "Because of you, this land no longer lies between us, but within. It breathes becalmed, after being wounded in its wondrous throat. In the cradle of my skull it sings, it ignites my tongue. Five thousand stories are scorched on your skin... I am changed forever... Forgive me. Forgive me. Forgive me..."

Write your own story, taking care to relate your truth to the anthology.

****End of Section A****

SECTION B (40 MARKS)

There is no "ideal length" for a response to Section B. However, the better responses are usually 2– 4 A4 pages in length.

Answer **ONE** of the following questions:

1. The pen is mightier than the sword

After her lecture, Haffajee asked the people "*to take away the koki pens they had been given ... [and] ... to use them as a reminder of what a pen can symbolise: the power to censor speech and blacken writing, the power to write on placards and to give voice to issues, and the power to make an X when voting for freedom.*"

What would you do with your koki? Present your response in any way you wish.

2. You're the voice

"A single voice may be strong, but a chorus of voices can become a powerful weapon for hope and a driving force behind change ... raise your voice, sing your song ... do something meaningful to you – just be sure your voice is heard!" (from the *Shout SA* campaign)

Write a new **song** which could be used as the basis for the next phase of the *Shout SA* campaign.

3. Truth is in the eye of the beholder

Design the **pamphlet** for one of the four ministries mentioned in *nineteen eighty-four*: the Ministries of Truth, Peace, Love and Plenty, that would sell its ideals to the masses.

(The artwork is less important than the text and the layout.)

AND

Write an extract from the **diary** of a dissenter in response to the pamphlet.