

DE BEERS

A DIAMOND IS FOREVER

2013 ENGLISH OLYMPIAD First Additional Language (FAL) 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, we would look for writing that shows a clear understanding of, and frequent mentions of the theme, the characters and the events contained in the anthology.
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 2 – 4 A4 pages in length.

Answer ONE of the following questions:

1. “For the future, for the unborn.”

Write a **story** called *two thousand and eighty-four*.

Imagine a future world where the results of limited freedom of speech are obvious.

(Ask yourself: is Big Brother *still* watching you?)

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

In *Country of my Skull*, by Antjie Krog, Anna Malan says: “Five thousand stories are scorched on your skin... I am changed forever... Forgive me. Forgive me. Forgive me...”

Tell us your own story. Show us what you think and how you feel about freedom that has been given, and might be taken away.

[In your response you might find it helpful to refer to *My South Africa – a Memoir*, and *Ferial Haffajee – It’s not (just) about the spear*].

3. Whitewashing

“White spaces and missing pages have often played an important role in the control of information.” (adapted from the quote on the inside front cover of the anthology.)

You will have noticed that pages 29 and 30 have been left out. Write the **article** that you think should have been printed there. Remember the importance of truth and freedom of speech in your writing.

4. Then They Came for Me

Read the following warning, called *Then They Came for Me*, which was written by Reverend Niemoller in 1937 (just before the start of the Second World War).

First they came for the communists,
and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a communist.

Then they came for the socialists,
and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a socialist.

Then they came for the trade unionists,
and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a trade unionist.

Then they came for me,
and there was no one left to speak for me.

Martin Niemoller 1937

If this poem inspires you, write your own speech or long poem. Remember to reflect the themes of truth and freedom as shown in the anthology.

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

SECTION B (40 MARKS)

There is no “ideal length” for a response to Section B. However, we would look for responses that are about 2– 3 A4 pages in length.

In this section we would like to see writing that reflects the voice, personality, and an understanding of the reason for the writing.

Answer ONE of the following questions:

1. 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 part of the next chapter of the *Shout SA* campaign.

2. Truth and Lies

a) Design a **pamphlet** for either the Ministry of Truth or the Ministry of Love that would explain its purpose to the people. (Refer to pages 40 and 41 of *nineteen eighty-four* in the anthology.)

(The writing is more important than the pictures).

AND

b) Write an extract from the **diary** of a rebel in which you reveal your thoughts and feelings about the pamphlet.

3. The Truth Hurts

Write a **letter** to the president of South Africa in which you tell him your views on the situation in our country.

It may help to read the *Seven Principles of Public Life*, *Black Wednesday*, and the *Wonkie* cartoons.

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