**Paper 2 Descriptors and Requirements**

**Texts: *East of Eden, Atonement* and *The Visit***

In Part 3 you explore literary texts in context. At Higher Level, you choose at least two of three texts to discuss and will last for 2 hours. It is marked by an external examiner and accounts for 25% of your final grade.

You will respond to ONE of six prescribed questions and are expected to provide a complex and in depth answer. Please note, however, you are not allowed to take the texts you have studied into the exam with you.

The questions may be on the relationship between the texts you have studied, their authors, the periods in which they were written or the styles they employ. Your essay must be structured and coherent and it must answer the question you have chosen. Below are examples of *some* of the questions you may encounter for a Paper 2 exam.

**Example Paper 2 Questions**

1. Explain how the authors of at least two literary works have portrayed a social group in a particular way. How might the contexts of the authors have influenced their portrayal of these social groups?
2. It is often said that literature is a voice for social commentary. How is this true of at least two works that you have read.
3. To what extent can the meaning of a literary work change over time? How does this question apply to at least two works that you have read?
4. To what degree are readers influenced by their culture and context. Explain how at least two works could be read differently depending on the culture of their audience.
5. 'Coming of age' is a common theme in literary works. With regards to at least two literary works, explain how the author's own youth influenced their portrayal of this theme.
6. With regards to at least two literary works, explain how the setting both influences the characters and reflects the author's own context.
7. How are the characters from at least two literary works representational of people from the time and place in which they were written?
8. Why might two of your Part 3 works be considered 'timeless'?
9. With regards to two literary texts, explain why authors may have chosen to depict events in a particular sequence or order.
10. How do two literary works both reflect and challenge the spirit of the times in which they were written?

**Criteria**

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|  | **Summary of Descriptors** | **Marks Available** |
| **Criterion A** | ***Knowledge and Understanding*** For maximum marks, you demonstrate a perceptive understanding of the texts and show how contextual knowledge influences the ways in texts are read and interpreted. | **5** |
| **Criterion B** | ***Response to Question***For maximum marks, you show that you have understood all of the implications of the question. Your essay answers the question with much focus and insight. | **5** |
| **Criterion C** | ***Understanding the use and effect of stylistic features***For maximum marks, you are very aware of the effects of the stylistic devices on the reader. you support your understanding of the literary texts with good examples.  | **5** |
| **Criterion D** | ***Organization and Development***Your essay is structured coherently and illustrations are well integrated. Your arguments are developed and the essay follows a logical sequence. | **5** |
| **Criterion E** | ***Language***For maximum marks, your use of English is effective and appropriate. Your use of grammar and spelling is accurate and your use of vocabulary is varied. | **5** |
| **Total** |  | **25** |

Exam Dates: **Paper 1- Wed. May, 3** *(afternoon);* **Paper 2- Thurs. May, 4** *(morning)*