IB Language and Literature

Paper 2 Practice Questions

1. With your partner:
   1. Read through each question.
   2. Put a star next to ones you feel very comfortable writing a response.
   3. Place a checkmark next to those you deem interesting and worth exploring.
   4. Circle the number of those which either do not work with our Part 3 novels or ones you need to study more to be able to answer well.
2. Choose one question to create a detailed outline. Your outline should include:
   1. A Thesis Statement
   2. Body Thesis Statements
   3. Direct Quotes/Specific References to the Text
   4. Analysis
3. Submit your outline to turnitin.com (the title of your document should include the question number and both of your names).
4. “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.
5. Discuss the portrayal of social class in at least two literary texts that you have studied. To what extent do the ideas expressed remain relevant to contemporary readers or audiences?
6. Discuss the portrayal of violence **or**insanity in at least two literary texts that you have studied.
7. Discuss the significance of social status in at least two literary texts that you have studied, and comment on its contribution to characterization.
8. 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?
9. How are the characters from at least two literary works representational of people from the time and place in which they were written?
10. How do two literary works both reflect and challenge the spirit of the times in which they were written?
11. In at least two literary texts that you have studied, to what extent has an awareness of context enriched or enhanced your understanding?
12. In literature, a foil is a character that contrasts with another character, often to reveal particular qualities of the other character. With reference to at least two literary texts that you have studied, compare and contrast literary characters to show how their differences reveal competing social or moral values.
13. 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?
14. 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.
15. 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?
16. Why might two of your Part 3 works be considered “timeless”?
17. With reference to at least two literary texts that you have studied, how could the text be interpreted differently at different historical times?
18. With reference to at least two literary texts that you have studied, how does the text conform to, or deviate from, the conventions of a particular genre, and for what purpose?
19. With reference to at least two literary texts that you have studied, discuss the extent to which they reveal the prevailing values and beliefs of the periods and places in which the texts are written **or**set.
20. With reference to at least two literary texts that you have studied, discuss how they have been critically appraised at different times.
21. With reference to at least two literary texts that you have studied, discuss how an understanding of gender **or**ethnicity influences how the texts may be understood.
22. With reference to at least two texts you have studied, discuss ways in which an understanding of the texts has been contested over time.
23. With regards to at least two literary works, explain how the setting both influences the characters and reflects the author’s own context.
24. With regards to two literary texts, explain why authors may have chosen to depict events in a particular sequence or order.
25. Writers may use literature as a vehicle for social criticism. Compare and contrast the ways in which writers criticize society in at least two texts that you have studied.