

WELCOME BACK! MONDAY, 4/15

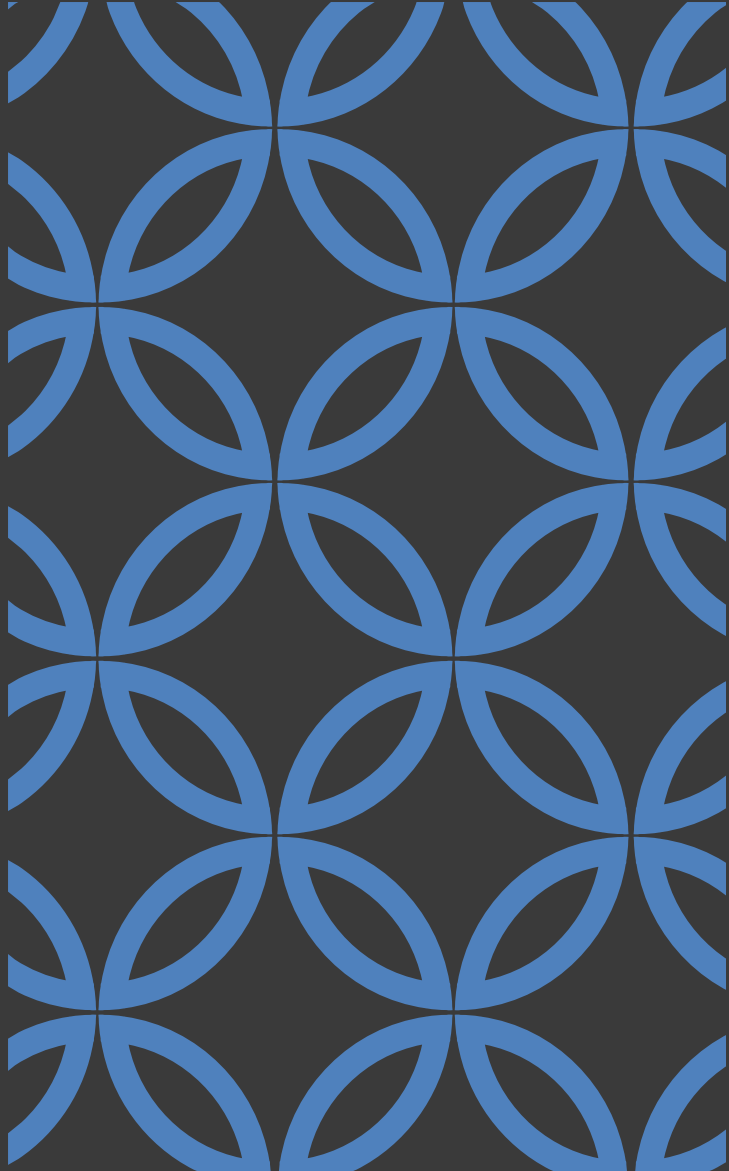
(BEGINNING TODAY, 8 MORE MONDAYS
LEFT OF HIGH SCHOOL~
42 SCHOOL DAYS UNTIL GRADUATION!)

Agenda:

- Talking Paper 2

You'll Need:

- Your English Notebook
- Anything TTL, TR, & HMT



THE PAPER 2 EXAM

Much more than we think...

The Paper 2 exam consists of six essay questions, only one of which must be answered during the timed period.

The essay is to be written about the Part 3 literary texts.

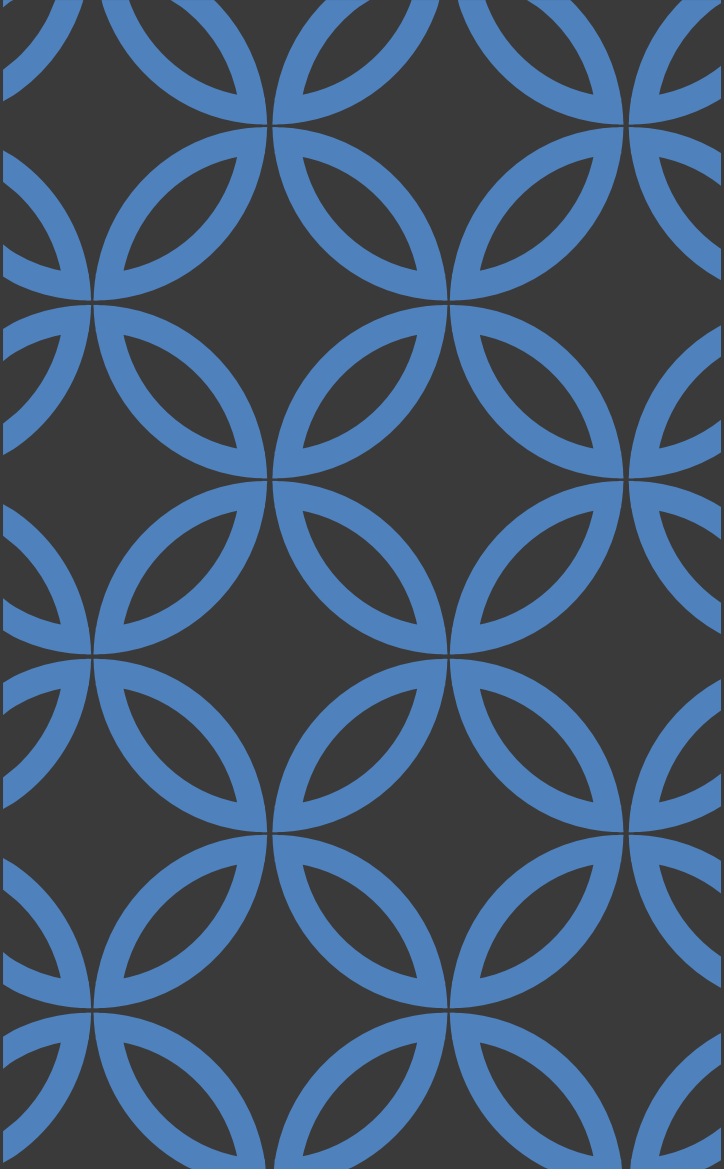
Therefore, it is a test of understanding literature in context.

Although the questions will change from exam to exam, they will always focus on the connection between style, form, author, purpose, and audience.



RUBRIC CRITERION

As we look at each criterion, write down the key words from each one.



CRITERION A — KNOWLEDGE & UNDERSTANDING

5 marks

The essay demonstrates an understanding of the works and knowledge of the contexts in which they were written. The student shows how context affects interpretations of the texts.

CRITERION B — RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION

5 marks

A Paper 2 essay should focus on the question chosen. The implications of the exam question need to be explored in depth, and the student's response must be relevant to it.



CRITERION C — UNDERSTANDING OF THE USE AND EFFECTS OF STYLISTIC FEATURES

5 marks

In the Paper 2 exam, a connection needs to be made between the author's use of stylistic features and the effect of them on his or her audience. As Paper 2 questions invite students to explore how meaning is shaped by context, answers will have to explain why authors choose a certain genre, narrative technique, or structure.

CRITERION D — ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

5 marks

The essay must develop an answer to the question coherently and effectively. Topic sentences should guide the ideas of paragraphs. Illustrations should be integrated well and explanations should shed light on the subject matter.



CRITERION E - LANGUAGE

5 marks

The language of the Paper 2 exam should be effective and accurate. The choice of vocabulary and use of grammar should be consistent and appropriate.

TIPS

While the Paper 2 essay only takes 2 hours, you can spend hours preparing for it.

Good preparation will ensure that every minute of the exam is used wisely.

1. Read the instructions.
2. Remember that the Paper 2 exam is asking you to do three things. In fact, these correspond to the first three criteria.
 - Be knowledgeable on the text and the context.
 - Do not forget to answer the question
 - Remember to comment on the author's use of language, style, and structure.

TIPS CONTINUED

3. Remember that there are 6 questions on the exam. Not all questions will lend themselves to the works you have read.
4. Practice writing outlines for questions that appeared on previous tests.
5. Do research on the time period which the work was written and the authors that you have studied for Part 3 works.
 - Find 3-5 points from his/her life that may relevant to the work you read.

TIPS CONTINUED

6. Have you shown how well you have read the novels? Try to write a little bit about these three things in the essay in order to score well on Criterion C:
- **Setting** – How is it important to understanding the context?
 - **Plot** – Was there a twist, a climax, a conflict that was of particular importance?
 - **Narrative technique** – Who is telling the story? Why did the author choose to tell it this way?

7. Ask yourself if you can do the works justice by writing about all 3 works. If you take such an approach, it is not recommended to compare and contrast all of them within unified paragraphs. If you decide to write about all 3 works, spend one or two paragraphs on each work, commenting on context, style, and answering the question at hand.
8. Practice using the assessment criteria by examining both good and bad samples.

SKILLS

Outlining

- There is no single correct way to write Paper 2.
- However there are several good ways to structure the essay.
- Before you begin to write your essay, take 10-15 minutes to outline the main ideas.

We use outlines to prevent “after thoughts” from creeping into the essay.

- Examiners find it difficult to read scripts that include boxes, arrows, and symbols that attempt to insert text that was written as an after thought. Once you see an overview of your ideas, you can move them around more easily.

We use outlines to ensure that all the criteria are met, all works are explored equally and ideas appear in the logical order.

A good outline can save you time for the reasons mentioned.



THE COMPARATIVE APPROACH

There is no specification that students must compare and contrast literary texts; **HOWEVER**, there is an advantage to taking the comparative approach.

It will increase your level of analysis.

THE TEXT-BY-TEXT APPROACH

This implies that you do not have to compare and contrast works within each body paragraph which is a perfectly fine approach.

Having mentioned this, bear in mind that it also comes with its pitfalls.

Tackling three works, as is done in a sample given you, may be over ambitious.

This method is good if your works are not thematically connected.

THE CRITERION-BY-CRITERION APPROACH

Depending on the question, you may want to take a criterion-by-criterion approach, meaning that you answer the question (Criterion B), comment on the importance of context (Criterion A) and the author's use of language (Criterion C).

This approach has its advantages and disadvantages as well.

- Unfortunately, you may find yourself writing to meet the exam requirements.
- Fortunately, like the comparative approach, you will find this method also presents the opportunity to compare and contrast within each paragraph.

HUNGRY?

Keep a visual of a PIE in your mind as you are writing a coherent essay:

- **POINT:** Use statements, claims, and positions that are strong, bold, and deep. Make interpretations of the texts that you have studied and state these clearly.
- **ILLUSTRATE:** Use quotes, references to passages, or examples to support your claims. Be sure to integrate these well into your writing, using phrases such as, “as we see in line...” or “for example”.
- **EXPLAIN:** Finally, explain how the reference supports the main idea.



PAYING ATTENTION TO EACH PART OF THE ESSAY

Introductory Paragraph

Thesis Statement/Claim

Body Thesis Statements (sub-arguments/statements that flow from your thesis statement and build your argument).

Coherent Body Paragraphs

- Make sure that each body paragraph has a central idea that builds upon the previous and moves your analysis forward to the next idea.

Unique, specific, intriguing evidence.

Concluding Remarks

- Understand that your conclusion should not simply reiterate your paper, but leave the reader with a “SO THERE” feeling – you claimed it, you supported it, you analyzed it, so there!

UNPACKING THE QUESTION

We often select one of the six essay questions based on a gut feeling, but we do not understand the implications of the demands of the question itself.



SAMPLE QUESTIONS

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?

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.

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?

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.

“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.



MORE QUESTIONS

With regards to at least two literary works, explain how the setting both influences the characters and reflects the author's own context.

How are the characters from at least two literary works representational of people from the time and place in which they were written?

Why might two of your Part 3 works (TTL, TR, & HMT) be considered "timeless"?

With regards to two literary texts, explain why authors may have chosen to depict events in a particular sequence or order.

How do two literary works both reflect and challenge the spirit of the times in which they were written?

