

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 461 102

CS 215 938

TITLE English 30, Part A: Written Response. Grade 12 Diploma Examination, June 1997.

INSTITUTION Alberta Dept. of Education, Edmonton. Student Evaluation Branch.

PUB DATE 1997-06-00

NOTE 38p.; For Part B: Reading, see CS 215 939.

PUB TYPE Tests/Questionnaires (160)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.

DESCRIPTORS Achievement Tests; English Instruction; *Grade 12; High Schools; Poetry; *Reader Response; *Reading Skills; Test Items; *Writing Evaluation; *Writing Skills

IDENTIFIERS *Alberta Grade Twelve Diploma Examinations; *Response to Literature

ABSTRACT

This booklet presents the Written Response part of the English 30 Grade 12 Diploma examination in Alberta, Canada. After instructions for students, the booklet presents the first part of the examination in which students respond to Thom Gunn's poem "Tamer and Hawk," which addresses the nature and effect of a ruling passion in an individual's life. The booklet then presents the second part of the examination in which students examine the diversity of ruling passions that influence people's lives and relationships based on the literature they have studied. The booklet provides students with suggested times for completing the examination and space for planning and drafting their responses. (RS)

June 1997



English 30

Part A: Written Response

Grade 12 Diploma Examination

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June 1997
English 30 Part A: Written Response
Grade 12 Diploma Examination

Description

Part A: Written Response contributes 50% of the total English 30 Diploma Examination mark and consists of **two** assignments:

- **Reader's Response to Literature Assignment**

Suggested time
approximately 1/2 hour

Value
30% of the Part A mark

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- **Literature Composition Assignment**

Suggested time
approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours

Value
70% of the Part A mark

... Page 10

Time: 2 1/2 hours. You may take an additional 1/2 hour to complete the examination.

Instructions

- Read the **whole** examination carefully before you begin to write.
- Follow instructions carefully.
- Complete **both** assignments.
- Space is provided in this booklet for planning and drafting and for your finished work. Please write your finished work in blue or black ink. Feel free to make changes and corrections.
- You may use the following references:
 - a print or electronic dictionary (English language and/or translation)
 - a thesaurus
 - an authorized writing handbook
- Budget your time carefully; the suggested time for each part is only a guideline for you.
- Do not write your name anywhere in this booklet.

Reading Selection

1. Because the Readers' Response to Literature Assignment will prepare you for the Literature Composition Assignment, read **both** assignments before you begin.
2. Read "Tamer and Hawk" carefully and thoughtfully before you start the writing assignments.

TAMER AND HAWK

I thought I was so tough,
But gentled at your hands,
Cannot be quick enough
To fly for you and show
That when I go I go
At your commands.

Even in flight above
I am no longer free:
You seeled¹ me with your love,
I am blind to other birds—
The habit of your words
Has hooded² me.

As formerly, I wheel
I hover and I twist,
But only want the feel,
In my possessive thought,
Of catcher and of caught
Upon your wrist.

You but half civilize,
Taming me in this way.
Through having only eyes
For you I fear to lose,
I lose to keep, and choose
Tamer as prey.

Thom Gunn

¹seeled—blinded; in falconry, the eyelids of a hawk may be fastened closed (seeled) during training

²hooded—in falconry, a hood or close covering is fitted over the falcon's head when it is not chasing game or in training

Reader's Response to Literature Assignment
(Suggested time: approximately 1/2 hour)

In the poem "Tamer and Hawk," Thom Gunn uses a falconry metaphor to suggest the complexities of the passions that can rule one's life.

What does the poem "Tamer and Hawk" convey to you about the nature and effect of ruling passions? Support your response with reference to detail from the poem.

PLANNING

There is additional space for Planning on pages 4, 6, and 8.

Reader's Response to Literature Assignment

PLANNING

There is additional space for Planning on pages 6 and 8.

Reader's Response to Literature Assignment

PLANNING

There is additional space for Planning on page 8.

Reader's Response to Literature Assignment

PLANNING

Literature Composition Assignment
(Suggested time: approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours)

Much of literature explores the diversity of ruling passions that influence people's lives and relationships.

Write an essay based on literature that you have studied in which the author examines the nature and effect of a ruling passion in an individual's life. **What idea does the author develop regarding ruling passion?** Support and develop your controlling idea with reference to specific detail from the literature that you choose to discuss.

Guidelines for Writing

- **Choose** your selection from relevant short stories, novels, plays, poems, other literature, or films that you have studied in your high school English classes. You must discuss literature **other than** the poem provided in this examination booklet.
- **Focus** your essay on your controlling idea regarding a ruling passion. Markers will be looking for evidence that you are responding to the requirements of this assignment as you develop and support your controlling idea.
- **Organize** your composition so that your ideas are clearly and coherently developed.

Literature Composition Assignment

INITIAL PLANNING

Space is provided here for your initial planning. No marks are awarded for work done on this page.

Author and title
of literature that
you have chosen

Your controlling idea
or thesis statement

There is additional space for Planning on even-numbered pages.

Literature Composition Assignment

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Credit

Thom Gunn. "Tamer and Hawk" from *Selected Poems 1950–1975* (Farrar Straus Giroux, 1979). Reprinted under the Alberta Government Print Licence with CanCopy (Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency).

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