

S

93001Q



Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Scholarship 2025 English

Time allowed: Three hours
Total score: 24

QUESTION BOOKLET

There are three sections in this examination:

- Section A: Close reading of unfamiliar texts
- Section B: Responding to literature and language
- Section C: Exploring issues in literature and language.

Write THREE essays in total, one from each section, in Answer Booklet 93001A.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–5 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MAY KEEP THIS BOOKLET AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

SECTION A: CLOSE READING OF UNFAMILIAR TEXTS

Write an essay comparing the writers' treatment of nature in Text A and Text B.

TEXT A

This is an extract from a short story by Keri Hulme.

from One whale singing

Diatoms of phantom light, stray single brilliances.

Diatoms of phantom light, stray single brilliances.

5

[REDACTED]

10

© 2006 The Authors
Journal compilation © 2006 Blackwell Publishing Ltd

15

20

25

She begins to surge upward to the sweet night air.

Source: Hulme, Keri. (2012). One whale singing. In J. Stafford & M. Williams (Eds.), *The Auckland University Press anthology of New Zealand literature* (pp. 734-735). Auckland University Press. (Original work published 1986).

TEXT B

Women love me, fish fear me

Life's too short to eat bowfin, or that minced



5

10

15

20

25

but I still have so much love to give.

30



The river god ("The Asset") from the film *The Shape of Water*.

Source: Hamel, Jordan. (2024). Women love me, fish fear me. *The Adroit Journal*, (48). <https://theadroitjournal.org/issue-forty-eight/jordan-hamel/>

Image: https://hero.fandom.com/wiki/The_Asset

SECTION B: RESPONDING TO LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

Write an essay in response to ONE of statements 1–9 below. Use the statement as the focus for an in-depth discussion of **an appropriate text or texts**.

Note: No content or quotations used in your answer to this section should be repeated in Section C.

STATEMENTS (Choose ONE)

1. Poetry lies in an inaccessible marshland; there are no pathways, no signposts.
2. Truth in film is sometimes clearest when slightly out of focus.
3. The greatest and most beautiful stories in the history of humanity are works of non-fiction.
4. In any novel, the experience of the masses is behind the single voice.
5. Interactive texts open a new domain for persuasion; they realise a new form of rhetoric.
6. Short stories hand you the pieces and what you build is up to you.
7. Shakespeare was not a deep thinker or a great psychologist or a subtle philosopher. What he was, was a very great poet.
8. In a television series, the story is not as important as the way that it is told.
9. “In plays, the truth is rarely pure and never simple.” (paraphrasing Oscar Wilde)

SECTION C: EXPLORING ISSUES IN LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

Write an essay in response to ONE of statements 10–16 below. Use the statement as the focus for an in-depth discussion of **a range of texts**.

Note: No content or quotations used in your answer to Section B should be repeated in this section.

STATEMENTS (Choose ONE)

10. Good writing is knowing what belongs. Bad writing is everything else.
11. Literature turns the ordinary into something we finally see truly.
12. “One of writing’s greatest magics is to allow us to slide outside the trap of time.” (David Taylor)
13. The twin purposes of literature are to make sense of pain and to fathom the sources of joy.
14. “One writes out of one thing only – one’s own experience.” (James Baldwin)
15. Literature can give us a glimpse of another culture’s patterns of thinking.
16. Ideas travel further than the pages that first held them.

93001Q