



METHODIST
LADIES'
COLLEGE

Methodist Ladies' College
Semester 1 Examination, 2016

Question Booklet

ENGLISH
ATAR Year 12

Student Name: _____

Time allowed for this paper

Reading time before commencing work: ten minutes

Working time for paper: three hours

Materials required/recommended for this paper

To be provided by the supervisor

This Question Booklet

Methodist Ladies' College Answer Booklets

Number of additional
answer booklets used
(if applicable):

To be provided by the candidate

Standard items: pens (blue/black preferred), pencils (including colours),
sharpeners, correction fluid/tape, eraser, ruler, highlighters

Special items: nil

Important note to candidates

No other items may be taken into the examination room. It is **your** responsibility to ensure that you do not have any unauthorised notes or other items of a non-personal nature in the examination room. If you have any unauthorised material with you, hand it to the supervisor **before** reading any further

Structure of this paper

Section	Number of questions available	Number of questions to be answered	Suggested working time (minutes)	Marks available	Percentage of total exam
Section One: Comprehending	3	3	60	30	30
Section Two: Responding	6	1	60	40	40
Section Three: Composing	5	1	60	30	30
Total					100

Instructions to candidates

1. The rules for the conduct of Methodist Ladies' College examinations are detailed in the English Assessment Policy. Sitting this examination implies that you agree to abide by these rules.
2. Write your answers to each section in the Methodist Ladies' College Answer Booklets.
3. Write the name of the section to which you are responding on the cover of each booklet as well as the question number to which you are responding.
4. You must be careful to confine your responses to the specific questions asked and to follow any instruction that are specific to a particular question.

In **Section Two: Responding**, you must make primary reference to any text or text type that you have studied. Candidates **cannot** use texts from Section One (Comprehending) as their primary reference in Section Two.

Section One: Comprehending**(30 Marks)**

In this section there are **three (3)** texts and **three (3)** questions. Answer **all** questions.

You are required to comprehend and analyse unseen written and visual texts and respond concisely in approximately 200-300 words for each question.

Suggested working time: 60 minutes.

Question 1:**(10 marks)**

Explain how the narrative voice in **Text 1** positions readers to view Berlin.

Question 2:**(10 marks)**

Examine how the relationship between people and place is represented through two language features of **Text 2**.

Question 3:**(10 marks)**

Examine how two different textual elements in **Text 3** (visual or written) work together to persuade an audience to accept a particular idea.

See next page for Text 1

Text 1

This passage is an excerpt from Stasiland (2003), a literary journalistic piece written by Australian writer Anna Funder about her experience of Berlin five years after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Berlin, Winter 1996

I am hungover and steer myself like a car through the crowds at Alexanderplatz station. Several times I miscalculate my width, scraping into a bin, and an advertising bollard. Tomorrow bruises will develop on my skin, like a picture from a negative.

A man turns from the wall, smiling and zipping up his fly. He is missing shoelaces and some teeth; his face and his shoes are as loose as each other. Another man in overalls, with a broom the size of a tennis court sweeper, pushes disinfectant pellets along the platform. He makes arcs of green powder and cigarette butts and urine. A morning drunk walks the ground like it might not hold him.

I'm catching the underground to Ostbahnhof to board the regional line down to Leipzig, a couple of hours from here. I sit on a green bench. I look at green tiles, breathe green air. Suddenly I don't feel too good. I need to get to the surface quickly and make my way back up the stairs. At ground level Alexanderplatz is a monstrous expanse of grey concrete designed to make people feel small. It works.

It's snowing outside. I move through the slush to where I know there are toilets. Like the train lines, these too are cut into the ground, but no one thought to connect them to the station they serve. As I go down the steps, the sick smell of antiseptic is overpowering.

A large woman in a purple apron and loud makeup stands at the bottom. She is leaning on a glass-paned counter guarding her stash of condoms and tissues and tampons. This is clearly a woman unafraid of the detritus of life...

See next page for Text 2

Text 2

This text is an extract from Island Home (2015), a memoir published by Western Australian author, Tim Winton. It is set in County Offaly in Ireland where Winton and his family lived for a year as part of his writing fellowship.

Black sky down around our ears, my son and I climb the stile in the frigid, buffeting wind. Hail slants in, pinging and peppering us. Neither the hedge nor the adjoining drystone wall offers much protection so we press on up the long, lumpy field toward the cottage and the waiting fire. Only moments ago the black slates and white chimney were plain against the crest of the hill; now everything but the tussocks at our feet is obscured by the squall belting down the valley. I expect my boy to be cowed by the stinging ice and the suddenly savage afternoon, but he seems enchanted. He's nearly four years old. The short, dull day has finally delivered some excitement. Waving his knobby stick like a marauding buccaneer, he swashbuckles uphill in his little orange wellies.

Later by the fire he sets aside his hot chocolate to stare at the snapshots of home pinned to the wall. All the sun-creased faces of friend and family. Daggy hats and bare chests. Dogs in utes. The endless clear space behind people, the towering skies and open horizons. He lingers over the dreamy white beaches and mottled limestone reefs at low tide, sculpted dunes at sunset.

'Is it real?' he asks.

'Of course,' I tell him startled. 'Don't you remember? Look. That's Granma. There's Shaz.'

But he fingers the sky and sea behind our loved ones as if the reality he once knew is now so distant, so unlike where we are, as to seem untrustworthy.

'It's home,' I say. 'Remember? That's Australia.'

See next page for Text 3

Text 3

This text is a black and white reproduction the 2010 WWF France print advertising campaign which connected the plight of the Bluefin Tuna with the popular causes of the panda, rhinoceros and gorilla. Tuna are shown wearing panda, rhino and gorilla masks, with the question, "Would you care more if I was a panda?"



End of Section One

Section Two: Responding**(40 Marks)**

In this section there are **six (6)** questions. Answer **one (1)** question.

Your response should demonstrate your understanding of form, purpose, context and audience.

You must make primary reference to any text or text type that you have studied.

Suggested working time: 60 minutes.

Question 4: (40 marks)

Conflict between characters or people in texts can reveal dominant attitudes in a society.

Discuss with reference to **at least one text** you have studied.

Question 5: (40 marks)

With reference to **at least one text** you have studied, discuss how a particular genre can be read as reflecting a particular context.

Question 6: (40 marks)

Contrast the ways that **two texts** you have studied are constructed to appeal to particular audiences.

Question 7: (40 marks)

Evaluate the impact of specific language conventions in shaping your response to **at least one text** you have studied.

Question 8: (40 marks)

Compare the ways that **two texts** you have studied represent the same group or the same idea.

Question 9: (40 marks)

For today's audiences, visual texts are far more effective than written texts at communicating important concepts.

Discuss with reference to **at least two texts** you have studied.

End of Section Two

Section Three: Composing**(30 Marks)**

In this section there are **five (5)** questions. Answer **one (1)** question.

You are required to demonstrate writing skills by choosing a form of writing appropriate to a specific audience, context and purpose.

Suggested working time: 60 minutes.

Question 10:**(30 marks)**

In a form or forms of your choice, create two short texts that explore the image below from two different perspectives.



See next page for Questions 11-14

Question 11:**(30 marks)**

"I confess: I read fiction to fall in love. And in fiction, as in life, characters don't have to be likable to be lovable." ~Mohsin Hamid

In a form of your choice, construct a text that explores the sentiments behind this statement.

Question 12:**(30 marks)**

In a form of your choice, present a sustained argument in response to the following quotation:

"Most people do not listen with the intent to understand. Most people listen with the intent to reply." ~ Stephen R. Covey

Question 13:**(30 marks)**

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."~ George Santayana

In a form of your choice, construct a text that explores this statement.

Question 14:**(30 marks)**

Design a narrative passage that uses a central metaphor or symbol to represent a human experience.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Methodist Ladies' College Year 12 English ATAR Course Examination, Semester One 2016 has been modified from the ETAWA Year 12 English ATAR Course Examination, Semester One 2016.

SECTION ONE

Text 1

Excerpt from Funder, A. 2002. *Stasiland*. Melbourne: Text Publishing. Reproduced with permission from the Text Publishing Company Pty. Ltd.

Text 2

Excerpt from Winton, T. 2015. *Island Home*. Melbourne: Imprint Hamish Hamilton, Penguin Books Australia.

Text 3

WWF: Panda. (n.d.). Retrieved May 31, 2016, from http://adsoftheworld.com/media/print/wwf_panda_3

SECTION THREE

Question 10

Picture This. (n.d.). Retrieved May 31, 2016, from <http://sites.psu.edu/hannahirossblog/2015/10/16/war-is-hell/>