



VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH

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ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL)

Aural and written examination sample paper

Reading time: 15 minutes

Writing time: 3 hours

TASK BOOK

Instructions

A question and answer book is provided with this task book.
Refer to instructions on the front cover of the question and answer book.

Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.

Disclaimer: This task book is modelled on the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) 2017 Sample English as an Additional Language task book (February 2017). The VCAA does not endorse the content of this exam. VCE® is a registered trademark of the VCAA.

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SECTION B — Analytical interpretation of a text***All About Eve* directed by Joseph L Mankiewicz**

- i. ‘Motivation and ambition are shown to be the most important factors for success in *All About Eve*.’
Discuss.

OR

- ii. ‘Joseph L Mankiewicz’s *All About Eve* shows that first impressions are not always accurate.’
Discuss.

***Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* by Katherine Boo**

- i. ‘Abdul suffers more from corruption than he does from his rivals.’
Discuss.

OR

- ii. How does Boo's text create sympathy for the residents of Annawadi?
Discuss.

***Black Diggers* by Tom Wright**

- i. ‘All soldiers suffered greatly during the war. But for many “black diggers” the return to Australia was more painful than their experiences on the battlefield.’
Discuss.

OR

- ii. Why does the play focus on the experiences of Indigenous soldiers, rather than the experiences of all Australian soldiers?

***Bombshells* by Joanna Murray-Smith**

- i. “We regard the cactus as a plant which struggles to survive in a hostile environment...”
‘*Bombshells* shows how persistence is necessary in women’s struggle for justice and equality.’
Discuss.

OR

- ii. ‘Murray-Smith’s monologues emphasise the different pressures individuals place upon themselves.’
Discuss.

***Burial Rites* by Hannah Kent**

- i. “I had found what I had not known I was hungering for.”
‘More than anything else, *Burial Rites* is a story of love.’
Discuss.

OR

- ii. ‘In *Burial Rites*, both the setting and its characters are presented as cruel and unforgiving.’
To what extent do you agree?

***Cloudstreet* by Tim Winton**

- i. In *Cloudstreet*, how does Winton explore the importance of belonging?

OR

- ii. “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”
Is this idea the central message of *Cloudstreet*?

***Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley**

- i. ‘The novel *Frankenstein* explores the consequences of fighting against the natural world.’
Discuss.

OR

- ii. What does Walton learn from his encounter with Frankenstein?

***I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*
by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb**

- i. ‘Ordinary people can change society if they have the support of others.’
To what extent is this true for Malala?

OR

- ii. Why does Malala choose to stand up for education rather than be a victim?

***I for Isobel* by Amy Witting**

- i. ‘Despite the difficulties in her life, Isobel remains strong and determined.’
Do you agree?

OR

- ii. ‘The reader feels sympathy for many different characters in *I for Isobel*.’
To what extent do you agree?

***Invictus* directed by Clint Eastwood**

- i. “To him, nobody is invisible.”
‘It is through the minor characters that we understand Mandela’s true impact.’
To what extent do you agree?

OR

- ii. What does *Invictus* suggest about the sacrifices leaders make?

***Island: Collected Stories* by Alistair MacLeod**

- i. ‘MacLeod shows how remoteness and isolation can affect the characters’ lives.’
Discuss.

OR

- ii. ‘In his stories, MacLeod celebrates the natural seasons and cycles of life.’
Discuss.

***Joyful Strains: Making Australia Home* edited by Kent MacCarter and Ali Lemer**

- i. ‘The choices that parents make will drastically affect their children’s lives.’
To what extent does *Joyful Strains* explore this idea?

OR

- ii. ‘*Joyful Strains* highlights how difficult it is to define an individual’s identity.’
Discuss.

***Mabo* directed by Rachel Perkins**

- i. ‘Perkins’ film shows that a nation can only improve through the effort of many people.’
Discuss.

OR

- ii. ‘It is love, rather than injustice that motivates Eddie.’
Discuss.

***Measure for Measure* by William Shakespeare**

- i. ‘Isabella is the only honourable character in the play.’
Do you agree?

OR

- ii. ‘In *Measure for Measure*, it is more important to forgive, than to challenge corruption.’
Do you agree?

***Medea* by Euripides**

- i. 'There are no trustworthy characters in *Medea*.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. 'In *Medea*, Euripides warns that oppression of the powerless can have tragic consequences.'
Discuss.

***No Sugar* by Jack Davis**

- i. 'Although *No Sugar* deals with serious issues, Davis includes moments of humour and light-heartedness.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. '*No Sugar* shows the Aboriginal situation to be hopeless.'
Do you agree?

***Old/New World: New & Selected Poems* by Peter Skrzynecki**

- i. 'Skrzynecki's poetry is his way of remembering and celebrating people and places.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. How do Skrzynecki's poems explore identity?

***Selected Poems* by John Donne**

- i. 'Donne's poems often communicate a feeling of expectation rather than loss.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. 'Donne's poetry uses imagery in surprising ways.'
Do you agree?

***Stasiland* by Anna Funder**

- i. 'The characters of *Stasiland* have different views of justice.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. 'In *Stasiland*, Funder wants to show how people can be heroic even in the worst situations.'
Do you agree?

***The Complete Maus* by Art Spiegelman**

- i. 'Art is presented as the most imperfect person in *The Complete Maus*.'
To what extent do you agree?

OR

- ii. 'Anja and Vladek both suffered during the war but only Vladek has the ability to leave the past behind.'
Discuss.

***The Crucible* by Arthur Miller**

- i. 'Every character is responsible for how the Salem Witch Trials ended.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. "...forgive me, John - I never knew such goodness in the world!"
'*The Crucible* shows how goodness can come from difficult situations.'
To what extent do you agree?

***The Golden Age* by Joan London**

- i. 'London's novel is about hope and optimism.'
To what extent do you agree?

OR

- ii. 'All of the characters in *The Golden Age* are damaged in some way.'
Discuss.

***The Left Hand of Darkness* by Ursula Le Guin**

- i. 'Le Guin suggests it is our choices that create our reality.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. "We are inside, the two of us, in shelter, at rest, at the center of all things."
'Characters come to understand themselves better through their relationships with others.'
Discuss.

***The Lieutenant* by Kate Grenville**

- i. 'Duty is more important than the truth in *The Lieutenant*.'
Do you agree?

OR

- ii. 'Rooke and Tagaran are both heroes, but in different ways.'
Discuss.

***The Thing Around Your Neck* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**

- i. 'Adichie's stories explore the abuse of power.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. 'Adichie's stories show how isolation and loneliness may come from unrealistic expectations.'
To what extent do you agree?

***The White Tiger* by Aravind Adiga**

- i. 'Given the corruption Balram encounters, it is not surprising he has little humanity.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. "Understand, now, how hard it is for a man to win his freedom in India."
To what extent does the reader agree with Balram in his quest for freedom?

***This Boy's Life* by Tobias Wolff**

- i. 'Despite Toby's many flaws, we admire him.'
Do you agree?

OR

- ii. 'In *This Boy's Life*, people must either surrender or deceive in order to survive.'
Discuss.

***Tracks* by Robyn Davidson**

- i. "There is nothing so real as having to think about survival."
'Davidson shows how difficult it is to survive in harsh environments.'
Discuss.

OR

- ii. 'We learn more about the Aboriginal people Davidson meets on her journey, than we do about herself.'
Do you agree?

SECTION C — Argument and persuasive language

Background information

There has been a longstanding debate in Willingham Shire over what to do with the ageing Willingham Community Baths, which have fallen into disrepair over a number of years.

Willingham Council recently announced its decision to close the baths in *The Voice*, the Willingham Community Newsletter, published monthly on the Council website.

In response, a citizens' action group was formed and at their request, a special Council meeting was held to discuss the closure of the Willingham Community Baths. Local resident, Roger Smiley, spoke on behalf of the citizens' action group.

Glossary

<i>grand old lady</i>	building of historical significance
<i>subsidence</i>	the gradual sinking of an area of land
<i>band aid solution</i>	temporary fix that does not solve the cause of a problem
<i>council rates</i>	taxes paid to local government
<i>growth corridor</i>	a new area of building and development
<i>façade</i>	the front of a building, often imposing and decorative
<i>no spring chicken</i>	not young anymore
<i>dirt under our fingernails</i>	working class

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Your Neighbourhood, Your Future

Goodbye to a grand old lady

We regrettably announce the closure of the Willingham Community Baths.

Nobody will miss the Baths more than your elected representatives who have struggled with this decision for some time. The Baths, designed and built by local resident and national treasure, architect Aldous Meredith, were originally opened in 1895 and have been an important part of our lives ever since.

The Baths will close on Saturday 25 March 2017 and will be marked by a celebration on site, so that we can all say goodbye to the grand old lady of Willingham.

The facts of the matter

Nobody wants to see the Baths closed, but there is a cold, hard reality we need to deal with. The full report we commissioned looking into the

viability of the baths is available on the Council website, but the critical facts are provided below:

- The pools are suffering from irreversible subsidence.
- Immediate repairs to the pools and ageing buildings will cost \$2.6 million with an ongoing cost of \$700,000 per annum.
- The Baths run at an annual loss of \$1 million.

The grand old lady sinking into the ground and the band aid solutions of the past are untenable. Decisive action must be taken now.

Your council rates building a better future

Sadly, keeping the Baths open is simply pouring money down the

drain. Yet we need a facility to service the needs of the community. As such, we are proposing an exciting new development – Willingham Shire Aquatic Centre – to be built in Everington Fields, the hub of the Western Growth Corridor. Full plans of the development are available on the Council website and I encourage everyone to take a look – they are impressive.

The development will cost \$33.7 million dollars but this will be significantly offset by the \$21.2 million gained from the sale of the Willingham Baths site. Further, as part of our strategy to revitalise inner Willingham, the purchaser has committed to build a 12 storey apartment building on the site. We are pleased to announce that the Aldous Meredith façade will be incorporated into the building, intact.



Artist's impression of the proposed Willingham Shire Aquatic Centre



Western Growth Corridor Inner Willingham Bus Routes 321, 472
Everington Fields



Minutes of Special Council Meeting, Wednesday, 1 February 2017.

Transcript of speech by Roger Smiley on behalf of the Willingham Citizens' Action Group.

Thanks, councillors, for the opportunity to talk today. And thanks to everyone who has come along to show your support. I respect that a lot of time and effort has gone into considering what to do about the Baths, but I also know that our Council has enough respect for its residents that we aren't locked into any binding contracts. So, I hope my words tonight might have some influence on the final decision.

Most of you here know who I am, but for those who don't, it's pretty plain to see that I'm no spring chicken. In fact, as my great-grandchildren like to keep reminding me, I am older than television. I have lived all of my 76 years in Willingham. Like so many of you, a lot of my best memories are from times I spent at the Baths: from childhood, sunbaking on the grassy hillock, eating icy-poles and splashing about in the pool with friends; to my pre-season training during my footy days; to now, where I relax and exercise my tired old bones with friends.

These Baths have seen us through two World Wars, and two Depressions. In fact, they were built during a Depression. You all know who Aldous Meredith is, but I don't think many of you know that he felt that Willingham Baths was his greatest achievement. He dreamt up the idea. He got the government on board. He created jobs for builders, manufacturers, suppliers: local businesses, local people. He knew his vision would drag us out of that Depression. But, more importantly, he knew it would bring something else back ... Pride.

He knew in the end, that everybody would be able to see what the people of Willingham could do – that we weren't just the poor neighbours with dirt under our fingernails. And the Baths would sit there and remind everyone ... forever.

I have seen a lot of change in Willingham, and I'm the first to say that a lot of it was needed. We've always looked for ways to improve Willingham – that's what Aldous was about. But sometimes you need to think about where you came from. We have a heritage – a past that we should all be proud of. That past lives in these Baths. It was the first truly great thing we built – something world class.

And I'll tell you another thing. Aldous would be turning in his grave if he knew someone planned to dig up our Baths and slap his beautiful façade onto some monstrous new apartment block. This isn't change for the better.

So, why change then? Well, let's think about who gets what out of this.

Fact. From Inner Willingham, it takes 40 minutes of travel by bus to Everington Fields, not to mention waiting time.

Fact. The 15,000 residents of Inner Willingham do not want to travel this distance, even by car. Working families just don't have the time to get their kids there and back in time for dinner.

Fact. Of the 1,700 pensioners who live here, many aren't fully mobile and wouldn't even *be able* to make that journey.

Fact. These proposed baths are for the *new* residents of Willingham – the ones that haven't been paying rates for 20 or 30, or even 50 years.

Maybe this pool will attract more residents to places like Everington Fields – and more money through rates. But taking our Baths from us just isn't right. This shire started in Inner Willingham. It's our past and our future prosperity. It's the heart of the shire. I just hope you can see it in yourselves to show the same heart and keep the Baths open.

Thanks for listening.

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END OF TASK BOOK



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