

90722Q



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
 MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

## Level 3 English, 2011

### 90722 Respond critically to Shakespearean drama studied

9.30 am Friday 18 November 2011

Credits: Three

## QUESTION BOOKLET

There are questions on five of Shakespeare's plays in this booklet:

- *Othello*
- *Much Ado About Nothing*
- *Henry V*
- *King Lear*
- *The Merchant of Venice*.

**You should answer ONE of the essay questions for the play you have studied.**

Write your essay in Answer Booklet 90722A.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–7 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

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

Achievement Criteria		
Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Develop a critical response to specified aspect(s) of a Shakespearean drama using supporting evidence.	Develop a convincing critical response to specified aspect(s) of a Shakespearean drama using supporting evidence.	Develop an integrated and perceptive critical response to specified aspect(s) of a Shakespearean drama using supporting evidence.

You are advised to spend 45 minutes writing an essay on the question you choose from this booklet.

Write an essay on ONE of the following plays by Shakespeare that you have studied in class this year:

- *Othello*
- *Much Ado About Nothing*
- *Henry V*
- *King Lear*
- *The Merchant of Venice*.

There are three essay questions for each play. **Choose ONE of the three questions for the play you have studied.**

After you have chosen a question, complete the box at the top of page 3 of Answer Booklet 90722A. You may use the space on page 2 of that booklet to map or plan your ideas.

Your essay should be AT LEAST 400 words long.

Your essay should develop a critical response based on close analysis of appropriate text(s).

You should support your ideas with relevant evidence.

You will be rewarded for demonstrating perceptive understanding and sustained insight.

Your essay should include:

- an **introduction**, clearly stating the focus and scope of the argument
- a range of **appropriate points and explanation**, supported by accurate and relevant evidence
- a reasoned **conclusion**.

Your essay should show accurate use and control of writing conventions.

### Acknowledgements

Jonathan Bate and Eric Rasmussen (eds), *The RSC Shakespeare: The Complete Works* (Basingstoke: Macmillan, 2007).

<i>Othello</i>	pp 2095 and 2124–2125
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	pp 267 and 290–291
<i>Henry V</i>	pp 1058–1059 and 1071
<i>King Lear</i>	pp 2011–2012 and 2066
<i>The Merchant of Venice</i>	pp 442 and 456.

## OTHELLO

### QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the character of Othello, using the following extracts as a starting point.

Your discussion should involve **comparison** of the passages and some consideration of the play **as a whole**.

ACT ONE, SCENE THREE, lines 86–104

ACT THREE, SCENE THREE, lines 397–412

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2. To what extent is the concept of **reputation** central to *Othello* as a whole?
3. Shakespeare's plays are mainly concerned with the idea of **loyalty**.  
To what extent do you agree with this view?  
You may confine your discussion to *Othello*, or refer to any of Shakespeare's other plays you have studied.

## MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

### QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the character of Beatrice, using the following extracts as a starting point.

Your discussion should involve **comparison** of the passages and some consideration of the play **as a whole**.

ACT TWO, SCENE ONE, lines 84–100

ACT FOUR, SCENE ONE, lines 270–286

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2. To what extent is the concept of **disguise** central to *Much Ado About Nothing* as a whole?

3. Shakespeare's plays are mainly concerned with the idea of **loyalty**.

To what extent do you agree with this view?

You may confine your discussion to *Much Ado About Nothing*, or refer to any of Shakespeare's other plays you have studied.

## HENRY V

### QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the character of Henry V, using the following extracts as a starting point.

Your discussion should involve **comparison** of the passages and some consideration of the play **as a whole**.

ACT THREE, SCENE THREE, lines 27–43

ACT FOUR, SCENE ONE, lines 93–106

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2. To what extent is the concept of **order** central to *Henry V* as a whole?
3. Shakespeare's plays are mainly concerned with the idea of **loyalty**.  
To what extent do you agree with this view?  
You may confine your discussion to *Henry V*, or refer to any of Shakespeare's other plays you have studied.

## KING LEAR

### QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the character of King Lear, using the following extracts as a starting point.

Your discussion should involve **comparison** of the passages and some consideration of the play **as a whole**.

ACT ONE, SCENE ONE, lines 115–133

ACT FIVE, SCENE THREE, lines 8–27

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2. To what extent is the concept of **deception** central to *King Lear* as a whole?
3. Shakespeare's plays are mainly concerned with the idea of **loyalty**.  
To what extent do you agree with this view?  
You may confine your discussion to *King Lear*, or refer to any of Shakespeare's other plays you have studied.

## THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

### QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the character of Shylock, using the following extracts as a starting point.

Your discussion should involve **comparison** of the passages and some consideration of the play **as a whole**.

ACT THREE, SCENE ONE, lines 40–49

ACT FOUR, SCENE ONE, lines 90–104

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2. To what extent is the concept of **deception** central to *The Merchant of Venice* as a whole?
3. Shakespeare's plays are mainly concerned with the idea of **loyalty**.  
To what extent do you agree with this view?  
You may confine your discussion to *The Merchant of Venice*, or refer to any of Shakespeare's other plays you have studied.

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