

90722Q



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
 MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

## Level 3 English, 2012

### 90722 Respond critically to Shakespearean drama studied

2.00 pm Thursday 15 November 2012

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>	p 2087
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	p 272
<i>Henry V</i>	pp 1047–1048
<i>King Lear</i>	p 2010
<i>The Merchant of Venice</i>	p 426.

## OTHELLO

### QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Discuss how Iago's perception of himself and/or his world affects his behaviour in the play, using the following extract as a starting point.  
Your discussion should involve some consideration of the play as a whole.

ACT ONE, SCENE ONE, lines 42–67

IAGO O, sir, content you:

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For daws to peck at: I am not what I am.

2. Discuss the significance of 'jealousy' in *Othello*, supporting your ideas with accurate and relevant evidence.
3. The lessons learned by characters in Shakespeare's plays still resonate today.  
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 how Benedick's perception of himself and/or his world affects his behaviour in the play, using the following extract as a starting point.  
Your discussion should involve some consideration of the play as a whole.

ACT TWO, SCENE THREE, lines 6–18

BENEDICK I do much wonder that one man, seeing how much another man is a fool when

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take my oath on it, till he have made an oyster of me, he shall never make me such a fool.

2. Discuss the significance of 'love' in *Much Ado About Nothing*, supporting your ideas with accurate and relevant evidence.
3. The lessons learned by characters in Shakespeare's plays still resonate today.  
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.



## KING LEAR

### QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Discuss how Lear's perception of himself and/or his world affects his behaviour in the play, using the following extract as a starting point.  
Your discussion should involve some consideration of the play as a whole.

ACT ONE, SCENE ONE, lines 27–45

LEAR Meantime we shall express our darker purpose.

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Our eldest born, speak first.

2. Discuss the significance of 'nothing' in *King Lear*, supporting your ideas with accurate and relevant evidence.
3. The lessons learned by characters in Shakespeare's plays still resonate today.  
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 how Shylock's perception of himself and/or his world affects his behaviour in the play, using the following extract as a starting point.  
Your discussion should involve some consideration of the play as a whole.

ACT ONE, SCENE THREE, lines 97–119

SHYLOCK Signior Antonio, many a time and oft

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I'll lend you thus much moneys"?

2. Discuss the significance of 'mercy' in *The Merchant of Venice*, supporting your ideas with accurate and relevant evidence.
3. The lessons learned by characters in Shakespeare's plays still resonate today.  
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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