

language connection

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A/L ENGLISH

MODEL PAPER I – 1ST YEAR (GRADE 12)

Part 1: CONTEXT

Comment briefly on *each of* the following passages, relating them to the specific work and context, and indicating their significance.

- a. “... you loved that furniture! You said you’d never sell it.’
In fact, she had always said that the furniture was for me because it belonged to my grandfather. I wondered whether she remembered. I looked at her. She was twisting her hands nervously.”
 - (i) What has happened to the furniture?
 - (ii) Why does the woman seem nervous?

- b. Italians came from a long way off to look up at the war monument. It was made of bronze and glistened in the rain. It was raining. The rain dripped from the palm trees. Water stood in pools on the gravel paths. The sea broke in a long line in the rain and slipped back down the beach to come up and break again in a long line in the rain. The motor cars were gone from the square by the war monument. Across the square in the doorway of the café a waiter stood looking out at the empty square.
 - (i) Where is this from?
 - (ii) Comment on the *style* of writing in this extract.

- c. “Our bodies are our gardens, to the which our wills are gardeners.”
 - (i) Who is speaking, and who are they speaking to?
 - (ii) What is the point of this gardening image?

d. "Get with child a mandrake root,
Tell me where all past years are,
And who cleft the devil's foot."

(i) Explain the significance of these images.

(ii) Who is being spoken to?

e. "Does it bite?"
"Sometimes,
But only when it's angry-
If you pull its tail,
Or say that it is just another cat."
But for the most part, indolent, biddable,
basking in the sun of ancient pride.

(i) Identify the characters in this short conversation.

(ii) Explain the meaning of the imagery.

Part2: ESSAY

Choose two of the following questions. You should aim to write 200 to 300 words in your answer.

1 Critically analyze how far Sri Lankan traditions, customs and cultural values are displayed in the short story *Action and Reaction* by Chitra Fernando.

2 In James Joyce's *Eveline*, what does Frank represent to the main character?

3 Is Robert Frost's poem *Design* a religious poem? Explain your answer with reference to the poem.

4 Describe and discuss the nature of the marriage and relationship between the spouses in Patrick Fernando's poem *Fisherman mourned by his wife*.

5 What do we learn about the character of Iago in the first two Acts of Shakespeare's *Othello*?

6 Write a critical appreciation of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *The thing around your neck*, paying particular attention to themes and technique.

7 Choose any *three* poems on your syllabus and compare and

contrast the *form* of each.

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