

**Answer ONE question on the texts you have studied. Begin your answer on page 5.**

### **Childhood**

#### **Texts**

Pre-1900: *What Maisie Knew*, Henry James; *Hard Times*, Charles Dickens

Post-1900: *Atonement*, Ian McEwan; *The Color Purple*, Alice Walker

#### **EITHER**

- 1** Compare the ways in which the writers of your two chosen texts portray characters responding to difficult circumstances. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors.

**(Total for Question 1 = 40 marks)**

#### **OR**

- 2** Compare the ways in which the writers of your two chosen texts present friendship. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors.

**(Total for Question 2 = 40 marks)**

### **Colonisation and its Aftermath**

#### **Texts**

Pre-1900: *Heart of Darkness*, Joseph Conrad; *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain

Post-1900: *A Passage to India*, E M Forster; *The Lonely Londoners*, Sam Selvon

#### **EITHER**

- 3** Compare the ways in which the writers of your two chosen texts present exploitation. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors.

**(Total for Question 3 = 40 marks)**

#### **OR**

- 4** Compare the ways in which the writers of your two chosen texts portray characters responding to unfamiliar environments. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors.

**(Total for Question 4 = 40 marks)**



Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 1 ☒ Question 2 ☒ Question 3 ☒  
Question 4 ☒ Question 5 ☒ Question 6 ☒  
Question 7 ☒ Question 8 ☒ Question 9 ☒  
Question 10 ☒ Question 11 ☒ Question 12 ☒

Please write the titles of your chosen texts below:

Text 1:

Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad

Text 2:

The Lonely Londoners, Sam Selvon

plan:

unfamiliar environments, characters

1. Characters in LL experience difference
2. HOD marlow - arriving in Congo / where he was before
3. Harris - tries to be English, Kurtz fits in
4. further he travels in more he changes, longer they stay more they fit in (marlow) still discriminated against
5. Chief of line station / pilgrims reaching to them being mistaken.

Joseph Conrad and Sam Selvon both use their characters to portray unfamiliar environments. Selvon's novel 'The Lonely Londoners' considers narrative view points from different characters using a third person narrative; all seeing, all knowing. Therefore we are able



P 4 8 6 7 2 A 0 5 1 6

to get an insight into the characters true thoughts and feelings of their surroundings. Conrad uses the first person narrative of Marlow, however he also uses a frame narrative as the beginning of the novel explains Marlow on a boat about to tell his story. This frame first person narrative allows us to delve deep into Marlow's perception of his environment. Both novels portray the characters experiencing different environments, some of which they are ill-suited, yet make an attempt to fit in with that environment.

<sup>The</sup>  
The characters in 'Lonely Londoners', who are mostly from Trinidad, struggle to find a place in the environment of Lonely London. Moses is known as the 'go to' guy; as he tries to help people who come from the West Indies, to settle and find a job. However ~~he says~~ when he meets Henry off the train he says "he don't know ~~man~~ the man from ~~ap~~ Adam", ~~is~~ using a biblical reference and imagery to emphasise the fact that despite he does not know this man he had to "get up from a nice warm bed" to help him when he arrives. ~~At~~ Furthermore



Moses himself "hardly have time to settle into old Brit'n", pre the idea that despite the 49 years that Moses has lived in London he never has truly 'fit in' to the unfamiliar environment that is the ~~opposite~~ ~~to~~ opposite to Trinidad. Selvon uses the nostalgia of Moses to reflect his "feeling of homesickness". However, ~~the~~ men from the West Indies continued to live in London despite feeling neglected, because of war. 'The Lonely Londoners' is a post colonial novel therefore at this time their country had been colonised & leaving them with no choice but to work in London.

Similarly, in 'Heart of Darkness', Marlow experiences the ~~unfamiliar~~ unfamiliarity of the Congo, contrasted to his home back in London. Marlow is first shocked by the scenes he witnesses, such as the 'strings of dusty niggers'. The descriptions of the 'pigmies' natives are presented so graphically that they highly contrast with the descriptions of the high authority white male in that setting. ~~The power from~~ The chief accountant within the first



Stanley Marlow arrives at, contrast with the cruel setting of the Congo. His "light alpaca jacket" and "shewy trousers" ~~are~~ do not fit in with the jungle environment. Conrad could be ~~uses~~ using the idea of white clothing to represent cleanliness and purity, however this is ~~the~~ vastly ironic as it juxtaposes with the actual reasoning he is there. His appearance gives him power in the unfamiliar setting; ~~the~~ the colonisation of the natives is emphasized by his appearance in the unfamiliar jungle environment. "Paths, paths every where; a stamped in network of paths", could be a metaphor used by Conrad to show the British 'stamping' on their environment, and them colonising the natives with their power.

Harris, within 'The Lonely Londoners' begins to change and adapt to English ways. He "like to play ladedda, and he like English customs", showing that Harris wants to be seen for an Englishman and not as a "spack" or an "immigrant". ~~Mark~~ In post colonial times, racism was common, as Moses says "they don't want



coloured fellows", therefore Harris changes so that he ~~is~~ is not treated as a black immigrant by the white English people. This shows the effect that the unfamiliar environment of London has on him, however he can never escape the fact that his "face black". Much like Harris changing to fit into London, Kurtz changes to fit into the Congo. Kurtz is of the highest power and who is undoubtedly responsible for the colonization of Africa. He is highly looked upon by the more privileged, however it could be shown by that Conrad wanted to get the message across of the pure irony and selfishness of the British, as their main goal was to truly "save the ivory".

The environment of Africa makes Kurtz feel powerful however Conrad could use the jungle to represent the huge jungle taking over Kurtz, eventually leading to his death. Therefore showing that the British do not truly win. His last words being "The horror the horror" could emphasise the idea that Kurtz finally sees the destruction he has caused.



In ~~conclusion~~ conclusion, 'The Lonely Londoners' truly presents the idea of unfamiliar environments by the changing of characters, and by the attempts to fit into a different place to avoid racial discrimination of time. 'Heart of Darkness' portrays could portray the act of colonisation ironically, by using the environment to take over and manipulate the British for what they are doing.

