

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE: PAPER II

50 marks

QUESTION 1 Writing and Presenting

Read the short story **The Sniper** by Liam O'Flaherty and write a structured and well-substantiated essay of approximately three pages on one of the following questions.

Background:

The Sniper is set against the backdrop of the Irish Civil War and has the theme of the tragedy of war. The conflict was between supporters and opponents of the Anglo-Irish Treaty and deeply entrenched the divisions in Irish society.

- 1.1 Liam O'Flaherty creates a complicated character in his short story, **The Sniper**. In a detailed and well-substantiated essay explore the sniper's character through a study of his actions and decisions. (30)

OR

- 1.2 **The Sniper** established Liam O'Flaherty as a respected Irish writer. In a well-substantiated essay show how the structure and point of view of this story establishes it as a successful example of a short story. (30)

See literature essay rubric in Assessment Guidelines.

30 marks

QUESTION 2 Transactional Writing

As an old friend of the parents of the two soldiers, you have watched the two boys grow up and enjoy a happy childhood. Once grown up, they went off to fight in the Irish Civil War on different sides. Now it is your sad task to write the obituary for the brother who lost his life in the civil war. You must consider register and the sensitivities around the circumstances of his death. (20)

See transactional exam piece rubric in Grade 11 exam requirements document.

OR

Criteria	8 - 10	5 - 7	2 - 4	0 - 1
Use of source for content	Integrates relevant detail from the original text to heighten the tragedy.	Some use of the text to show the tragic circumstances surrounding the death.	Some use of the text, but limited sense of the tragedy.	Little or no reference to the circumstances of the text.
	5	4	3	1 - 2
Awareness of context and purpose	Shows awareness of this being a public announcement while conveying a sincere personal response.	Awareness of a public announcement, but the personal aspect not convincing.	A sincere personal response, but lacking the formality of a public announcement.	Not able to convey a sincere personal response.
	5	4	3	1 - 2
Language usage	Unique style and vocabulary to suit context. Tone. Varied sentences, punctuation and clarity.	Sound use of sentence structure and language, but simple style and vocabulary.	Some attempt at style and accurate language, but not altogether successful.	No clear sense of suitable style and tone. Muddled use of language.
Level	7	6	5	4
			3	2
				1

20 marks