

KZN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

GREENBURY SECONDARY SCHOOL

THIRD QUARTERLY TEST – 2016

ENGLISH – GRADE 11

EXAMINERS AND MODERATORS:

MARKS: 35

V.SINGH; R. NUNDKUMAR

TIME: 1 HOUR

NPP: 3

DATE: 27-09-16

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE: 11

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer all the questions in this paper:  
Section A – Prescribed Poetry (10 marks)  
Section B - Novel –Essay (25 marks)
2. Leave a line between your answers.
3. Write neatly and legibly.

SECTION A – POETRY

QUESTION ONE – PRESCRIBED POETRY

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow.

**SUNSTRIKE**

By Douglas Livingstone

A solitary prospector  
staggered, locked in a vision  
of slate hills that capered  
on the molten horizon.

1

Waterless, he came to where  
a river had run, now a band  
flowing only in ripples  
of white unquenchable sand.

Cursing, he dug sporadically  
here, here, as deep as his arm,  
and sat quite still, eyes thirstily  
incredulous on his palm.

10

A handful of alluvial  
diamonds leered back, and more: mixed  
in the scar, glinted globules  
of rubies, emeralds, onyx.

And then he was swimming in fire  
and drinking, splashing hot halos  
of glittering drops at the choir  
of assembled carrion crows.

20

QUESTIONS:

- 1.1. Explain the ambiguity in the title of the poem. (2)
- 1.2. Refer to lines 1-4: "A solitary prospector...the molten horizon."  
Show how the diction in stanza 1 effectively conveys the prospector's physical  
condition. (3)
- 1.3. Account for the poet's use of the word "leered" (line 14). (2)
- 1.4. Critically discuss the contribution made by the image of the "choir of  
assembled carrion crows" (lines 19-20) to the theme of the poem. (3)

(10)

P2

PTO PAGE 3

**SECTION B: NOVEL**

Answer the essay question below.

**TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD – HARPER LEE**

**QUESTION 2: - TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD - ESSAY QUESTION**

"Mr Underwood simply figured it was a sin to kill cripples, be they standing, sitting or escaping. He likened Tom's death to the senseless slaughter of songbirds by hunters and children ..."

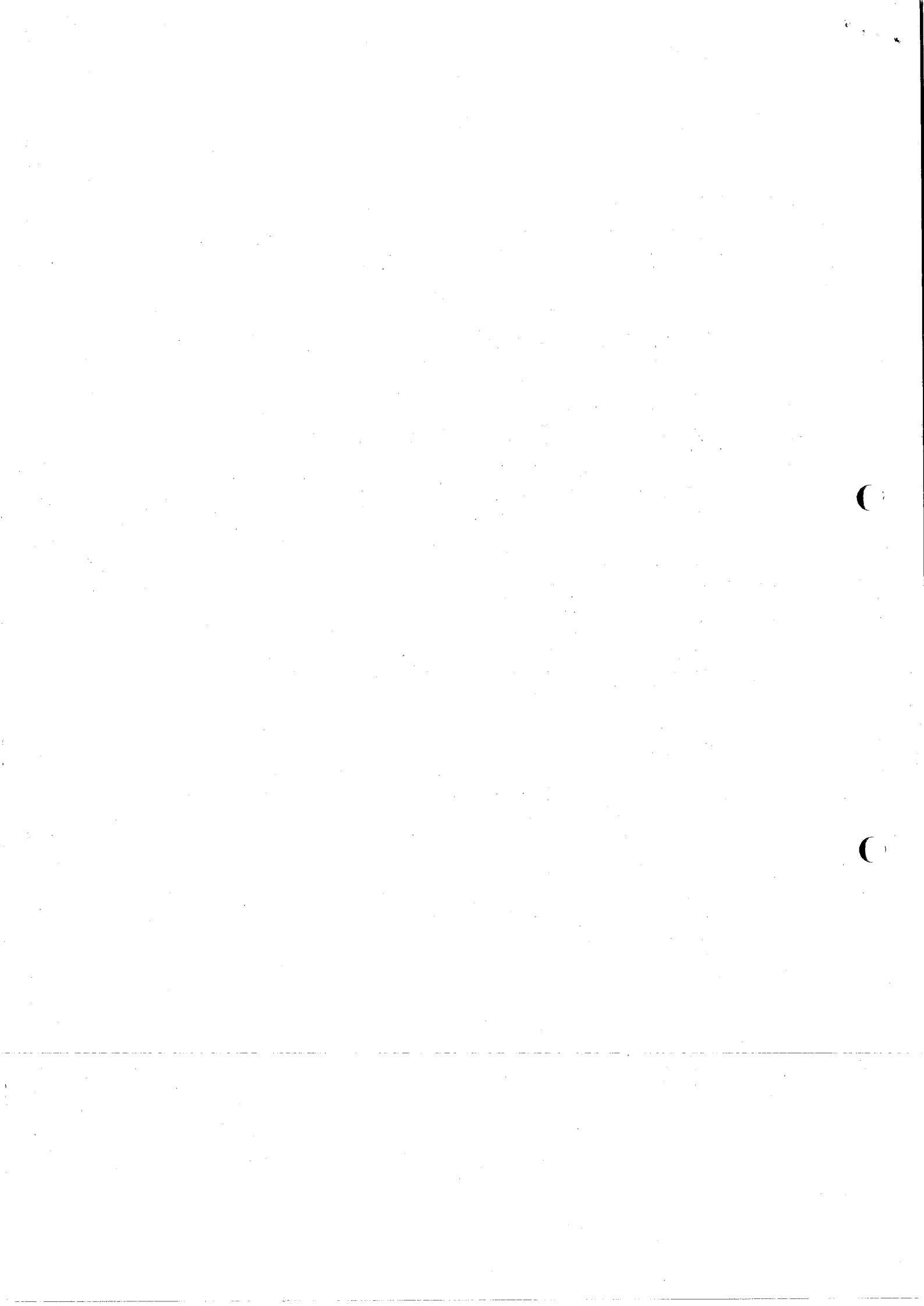
Critically discuss whether Tom Robinson's persecution and death can be compared to the senseless slaughter of a mockingbird.

**N.B. Please ensure that you present a critical response. You will be penalised if you present a mere plot of the novel.**

**Length: 350 words. ( 1 ½ pages of average hand writing).**

**Total: 25**

**Grand Total: 35**



## SUGGESTED ANSWERS - Q.1

- ✓ 1.1. The title, 'Sunstroke', contains a pun. The prospector's 'strike' is a result of his sunstroke - because of the intense heat, he is disoriented/delusional - believes that he has discovered an abundance of gemstones, thus "striking it rich"; instead, he is dying of sunstroke. (2)
- 1.2. The prospector is dying of thirst and sunstroke; his physical condition is pitiful. He is alone "solitary"; "staggered" shows that he is struggling to walk, "locked in a vision" suggests that he is obsessed with finding water to counteract his dehydration; "hills that capered" - he is weak and disoriented - the hills appear to dance before him. (3)
- 1.3. The personification "diamonds leered back" effectively suggest that the diamonds (grains of glittering sand) ironically mocked the prospector's delusion. To leer is to give an unpleasant look, usually with malicious intent - effective in context. (2)
- ✓ 1.4. The theme of the poem is the cruel irony of nature. This is reinforced by the "choir of assembled carrion

"crows" - crows that have gathered together in an orderly manner -

"assembled" - for a specific purpose - to feed on the rotten flesh of the prospector. The irony is that when he, at last, believes that he has 'struck it rich', the prospector has reached his end and will give back to nature when the crows feed on his rotting flesh. (3)

(10)

(11)

... with ... ..  
... ..  
... ..

**MEMO - QUESTION 2: - TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD - ESSAY QUESTION**

**POINTS TO CONSIDER:**

1. Explain what is a mockingbird.
2. Discuss significance of mockingbird.
3. Compare mockingbird to Tom.
4. Discuss Tom Robinson's character, compassion, humanity, integrity, dignity, etc.
5. Maycomb County – white folks' racism towards negroes.
6. Tom Robinson's relationship with Mayella.
7. The trial – false charges of rape levelled against Tom.
8. Atticus' opinion of TR – his desperate attempt to save Tom's life.
9. TR- jailed –attempts escape – shot 17 times – callous inhumane act by white warders- Tim Johnson, a rabid dog, killed with one bullet. TR among 200 negro inmates – he was just a negro to them.
10. TR's death – he is accused by white Maycomb folk of being a typical 'nigger' prisoner – wanting to escape because he was guilty.
11. Tr's treatment by white people – eg. Mr Gilmer, the prosecutor, at the time of the trial, the Ewell's, Mrs Merriweather and the women of the Missionary Society, and the many white people, is generally symptomatic of the racial abuse and prejudice the negroes suffer on a daily basis at the hands of the white folks.

***NB: This is a mere guide. Please accept well-reasoned, logical answers. Use the GUIDE FOR MARKING ESSAYS in your Master File.***

