



St Leonard's College

An education for life.

Name _____

Teacher _____

ST LEONARD'S COLLEGE

YEAR 12 VCE ENGLISH PRACTICE EXAMINATION UNIT 3 2017

Time allowed: 120 minutes

Reading time: 15 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Section A: Single text response. Select ONE of the topics on Alastair MacLeod's 'Island' or Joseph Mankiewicz's 'All About Eve'.
2. Section C: Analysis of Argument. Write an analysis of the ways written and visual language are used to attempt to persuade the audience to share a point of view.
3. You may use a dictionary but not a thesaurus.

Section A: Single text response

1. *All About Eve* directed by Joseph Mankiewicz

- i. “There are few characters in *All About Eve* who find fulfilment.” Do you agree?

OR

- ii. How does Mankiewicz expose the truths of the world of the theatre in *All About Eve*?

2. *Island* by Alastair MacLeod

- i. “And because my father had told me I was ‘free’ I had foolishly felt that it was really so.” (p. 56). MacLeod’s characters in *Island* can never be free of their past. To what extent do you agree?

OR

- ii. ‘The natural environment in *Island* is a source of both reassuring and threatening.’ Discuss.

SECTION C – Argument and persuasive language**Instructions for Section C**

Section C requires students to write an analysis of the ways in which argument and language are used to persuade others to share a point(s) of view.

Read the background information on this page and the material on pages 12 and 13, and write an analytical response to the task below.

For the purposes of this task, the term ‘language’ refers to written, spoken and visual language.

Your response will be assessed according to the assessment criteria set out on page 14 of this book.

Section C will be worth one-third of the total marks for the examination.

Task

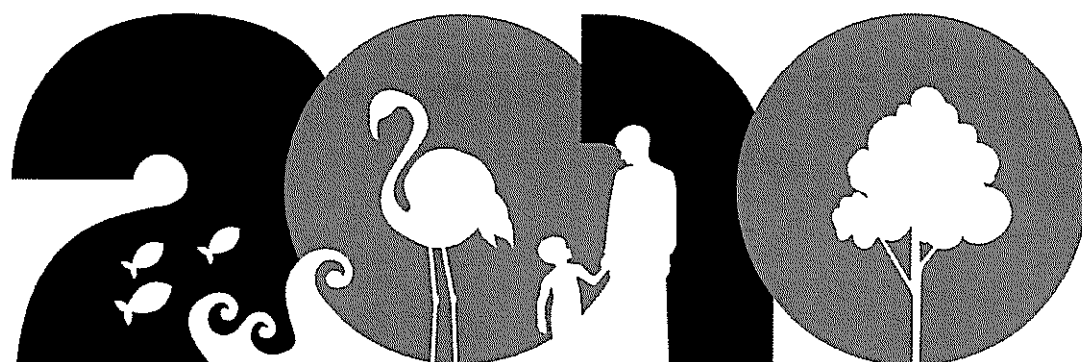
Write an analysis of the ways in which argument and written and visual language are used in the material on pages 12 and 13 to try to persuade others to share the point of view presented.

Background information

Biodiversity is the term used to describe life on Earth – the variety of living things, the places they inhabit and the interactions between them.

The following is a transcript of the keynote speech given by Professor Chris Lee at the International Biodiversity Conference 2010 held in Nagoya, Japan, from 25 to 27 October.

In 2000, a commitment was made to achieve ‘a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth’ by 2010. The purpose of this Nagoya conference was to review the progress made towards achieving the target and to look beyond 2010.



International Biodiversity Conference

TAKING STOCK

Opening slide of the speaker's presentation

Fellow delegates,

I would like you all to close your eyes for a moment and reflect on this image. A lush jungle housing a variety of interesting flora and fauna on the banks of a clear river. Now, in an instant, change that picture in your head to scorched earth, native fish killed off and a distinct saline smell coming from the bank. The forest is gone and a recent gooey mudslide has covered the area, making everything take on a sepia tinge. As the brown sun bakes the earth, the mud turns to hard, cracked ground and the few remaining trees become barren sticks helplessly groping for life. Hauntingly, there is no sound. The frogs are gone, the beetles are gone and the birds are gone.

Each year, my colleagues, we are moving increasingly towards an uninhabitable Earth. This year holds vital significance to our world. 2010 has been declared the International Year of Biodiversity. A leading scientist has stated: 'The time is now to address the problems facing mankind. It is imperative that the people of the world understand the value of biodiversity in our lives. We can wait no longer. We must take action in 2010 to safeguard the variety of life on Earth: biodiversity, before it is too late.'

But isn't this something we have all heard before? Weren't many of you present in 2000 at our last major conference? What meaningful projects have we put in place since then?

Ten years ago – in April 2000 – most of our countries made collective commitments to achieve a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss. Over the next two days we will be reviewing our progress in this area. Honestly, how well have we done?

One may justly ask: how far have we really come in our commitment to achieve a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss? How much have we contributed to poverty alleviation and to ensure the preservation of life on Earth? For, perhaps idealistically, this is *exactly* what we set out to do.

Over the last one hundred years, we have lost 35% of mangroves, 40% of forests and 50% of wetlands. Not due to natural disaster or as some deniers claim, natural world change, but to our own reckless actions. Species are being lost at a rate that is estimated to be up to 100 times the natural rate of extinction. Of the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List, 38% of species are threatened and 804 already extinct. It is too late for them! We will never see them again. I cannot help

but worry, is it too late for the noble tiger, the athletic cheetah or the human-like orangutan? Each of these sits precariously on the endangered species list.

In truth, for the first time since the dinosaurs disappeared, animals and plants are being driven towards extinction faster than new species can evolve. We are in the grip of a species extinction being driven by the destruction of natural habitats, hunting, the spread of alien predators, disease and climate change. Reversing this negative trend is not only possible, but essential to human wellbeing.

But everyone in this lecture theatre knows this. We are, in truth, the most educated generation of any to date. We have no excuse for inaction. Clearly it is our lack of unity and genuine commitment to action that have led us to this grim situation. For too long our approach has been haphazard. Wonderful words, glossy brochures, inspiring documentaries are no substitute for real action.

It is one thing to mouth platitudes in the comfort of an air-conditioned and sumptuously catered conference hall and quite another to produce concrete results. A free-range zoo here, a national park there; little more than faint promises at conferences such as ours. A talk-fest of targets.

What have WE – what have YOU and YOUR country – ACTUALLY done since 2000 to contribute to the achievement of our goals? What will YOU do to make a difference now that time is running out?

Some in this room have already suffered the human costs of biodiversity loss. And it is not only environmental degradation, new and more rampant illnesses, deepening poverty and a continuing pattern of inequitable and untenable growth on a global scale. Healthy ecosystems are vital to regulating the global climate. Poor rural communities depend on biodiversity for health and nutrition, for crop development, and as a safety net when faced with climate variability and natural disasters. Indeed, the poor are particularly vulnerable because they are directly dependent on biodiversity for their very survival, yet they are not in a position to do anything about it.

WE are the leaders in the area of biodiversity. WE know what damage our lifestyle is doing to our world. And WE need to be part of the solution. The time for talk is over: now, truly, is the time for serious action. We must reinforce this message to those in power: to the politicians, to the corporate leaders, even to the everyday householder. Together we can help preserve a lush world full of interesting and rare creatures.

Thank you.



Closing slide of the speaker's presentation