

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS XI

ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS 2022

English Compulsory Paper II

Time: 2 hours 05 minutes Marks: 60

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Check your name and school information. Sign if it is accurate.

**I agree that this is my name and school.
Candidate's Signature**

RUBRIC

2. There are **THREE** questions. Answer **ALL** questions. Question 2 offers **TWO** choices and Question 3 offers **THREE** choices. Attempt any **ONE** of the options in each of questions 2 and 3 respectively.
3. When answering the questions:

Read each question carefully.
Use a black pointer to write your answers. **DO NOT** write your answers in pencil.
Do not use staples, paper clips, glue, correcting fluid or ink erasers.
DO NOT write outside the answer box.
Complete your answer in the allocated space only.
4. The marks for the questions are shown in brackets ().

Q.1. (Total 21 Marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer all the questions that follow.

TEXT A

Manuel works for thirty years without stopping. He brings up his children, sets a good example, and devotes all his time to work, never asking: ‘Does what I’m doing have any meaning?’ His one thought is that the busier he is, the more important he will be in the eyes of the world.

5 His children grow up and leave home. He gets promotion at work. One day, he receives a watch or a pen, as a reward for all those years of devotion. His friends shed a few tears, and the longed-for moment arrives: he’s retired, free to do whatever he wants!

10 During the first few months, he occasionally visits the office where he worked, talks to his old friends, and surrenders to the pleasure of doing something he always dreamed of: getting up late. He goes for a walk along the beach or through town; he has his house in the country, earned by the sweat of his brow; he discovers gardening, and gradually penetrates the mysteries of plants and flowers. Manuel has time, all the time in the world. He travels, using some of the money he has managed to save. He visits museums and learns in two hours about ideas that took painters and sculptors from different eras, centuries to develop, but he at least has the feeling that he is broadening his cultural knowledge. He takes hundreds and thousands of photos and sends them to his friends – after all, they need to know how happy he is.

15 More months pass. Manuel learns that the garden does not follow exactly the same rules as man – what he planted will take time to grow, and there is no point in constantly checking to see if there are buds on the rose bush yet. In a moment of genuine reflection, he discovers that all he saw on his journeys was the landscape outside the tourist bus, and monuments which are now preserved in various 6 × 9 photos. But the truth is, he did not feel any real excitement – he was more concerned with telling his friends about it than with actually experiencing the magic of being in a foreign country. He continues to watch the television news and reads more newspapers, (because he has more time), considering himself to be a very well-informed person, able to talk about things which, before, he had no time to study.

25 He looks for someone with whom to share his opinions, but they are all immersed in the river of life, working, doing something, envying Manuel his freedom and, at the same time, content to be useful to society, and to be ‘occupied’ with something important.

30 Manuel seeks comfort in his children. They always treat him with great affection – he has been an excellent father, an exemplar of honesty and dedication – but they, too, have other concerns, although they consider it their duty to be there for Sunday lunch.

Manuel is a free man, reasonably well off, well informed, with an impeccable past. But what now? What should he do with this hard-won freedom? Everyone greets him and praises him, but no one has time for him. Gradually, Manuel begins to feel sad and useless, despite all those many years spent serving the world and his family.

35 One night, an angel appears to him while he sleeps: ‘What have you done with your life? Did

you try to live your life according to your dreams?’

Another long day begins. The newspapers. The TV news. The garden. Lunch. A short nap. He can do whatever he wants to do, except that, right now, he discovers, he doesn't want to do anything. Manuel is a sad, free man, just one step away from depression, because he was always
40 too busy to think about the meaning of his life, and simply let the years flow under the bridge. He remembers the words of the poet: ‘He passed through life/ He did not live it.’

However, since it is too late to accept all this, it's best just to change the subject. His hard-won freedom is merely exile in disguise.

Source: Taken from ‘*Manuel is a Free Man*’ by Paulo Coelho

TEXT B



PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

a. The word 'but' has been repeatedly used in Text A.

Describe the importance of this word.

(2 Marks)

b. With reference to Text A,

i. in which genre of literature can this text be classified?

(1 Mark)

ii. discuss a reason to support your answer in part (i).

(2 Marks)

c. How is Manuel relatable to the world today? Discuss FOUR reasons to support your answer.

(4 Marks)

d. Summarise Text A in no more than 100 words.

(6 Marks)

[**Note:** Use your OWN words in the summary. Marks will be deducted if whole sentences or phrases from the given text are copied.]

e.

i. The term 'peer' is written as 'pier' in Text B. Describe ONE effect of replacing the word peer with pier. (1 Mark)

ii. Describe TWO effects of peer pressure on Shtinky. (2 Marks)

PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

f. Describe TWO similarities between Manuel (Text A) and Shtinky (Text B). (3 Marks)

Annual Examinations 2022
Teaching & Learning Only

Q.2.

(Total 18 Marks)

Write a formal letter of around 300-350 words on any **ONE** of the options **a** or **b**.

EITHER

- a. An appraisal form is a document in which employees rate themselves on their performance throughout the year to get a raise and/ or a promotion. These forms are then forwarded to their respective managers.

You are working in a human resource department of a school and want to create an online appraisal form for the school's teachers.

Write a letter to the head of your school. In your letter, describe

- a reason for why you want to create the form online.
- **THREE** aspects you would like to include in the form.

OR

- b. An engineering university has announced admissions for their undergraduate programmes. However, the deadline for the form submission is a month before your exam result is announced and the admission committee will only grant admission based on the result.

Write a personal statement to the university's admission committee. In your statement,

- describe **TWO** reasons why the committee should consider you for the programme regardless of your result.
- discuss **TWO** ways in which the programme is in line with your future goals.

Make your notes on the pages given for rough work. Write your final draft on pages 8, 9 and 10.

PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

Option _____

Annual Examinations 2022
Teaching & Learning Only

Annual Examinations 2022
Teaching & Learning Only

PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

Annual Examinations 2022
Teaching & Learning Only

Q.3.

(Total 21 Marks)

Write a composition of about 300-400 words on any **ONE** of the options **a, b** or **c**.
Remember to compose the final draft in complete sentences.

EITHER

- a. There have been numerous people throughout history who have fascinated others. They can be artists or world leaders, sportspersons or humanitarians.

Compose an essay. In your essay, describe

- a person from history you find fascinating.
- THREE reasons for your choice.

OR

- b. In the past few years, there has been a rise in celebrity culture. This is a high-volume perpetuation of celebrities' personal lives on a global scale for everyone to see and critique on.

Write an essay on the given issue. In your essay, discuss

- your opinion on the issue.
- THREE reasons to justify your opinion.

OR

- c. 'The car screeched to a halt; four men wearing masks jumped out and ran into the nearest building. I looked around. The street was deserted except for me...'

Narrate an account based on the given scenario. Make sure to include

- your reaction to the situation.
- what you were doing before the incident took place.
- the description of the masked men (appearances and/ or mannerisms).
- what happened next.

Make your notes on the pages given for rough work. Write your final draft on pages 12, 13 and 14.

PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

Option _____

Annual Examinations 2022
Teaching & Learning Only

Annual Examinations 2022
Teaching & Learning Only

END OF PAPER

Please use this page for rough work

Annual Examinations 2022
Teaching & Learning Only

Please use this page for rough work

Annual Examinations 2022
Teaching & Learning Only