

Contents

Board Exemplar 1:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

‘Curley’s like a lot of little guys. He hates big guys.’ Discuss the character of Curley in the novel.

Essay:

In *Of Mice and Men*, Curley is a worker on a ranch, and he is the son of the boss of the ranch. Steinbeck presents Curley as discriminated against, masculine and a lot of his actions are simply human nature...

Board Exemplar 2:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

‘Curley’s like a lot of little guys. He hates big guys.’ Discuss the character of Curley in the novel.

Essay:

In the novel "*Of Mice and Men*" by John Steinbeck, there is one character who stands out for being either really cocky or extremely confident. That character is Curley....

Board Exemplar 3:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of love in *Of Mice and Men*.

Essay:

In the novel "*Of Mice and Men*" the writer John Steinbeck portrays four main themes of which one is love. He describes the feeling of love in many different ways and between several people...

Board Exemplar 4:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of love in Of Mice and Men.

Essay:

In the Novella "Of Mice and Men" the theme of love has been proven to be with only a few characters compared to others...

Board Exemplar 5:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of love in *Of Mice and Men*.

Essay:

The theme of love in "*Of Mice and Men*" is subtle, but is definitely present. But the absence of love is also greatly explored by the writer of the novella, John Steinbeck....

Board Exemplar 6

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of love in *Of Mice and Men*.

*

Essay:

John Steinbeck presents the theme of love in the novella *'Of Mice and Men'* through the relationships between people. Steinbeck first presents 'love' in *'Of Mice and Men'* through the companionship of George and Lennie, the two protagonists of the novella...

Board Exemplar 7:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the character of Mrs Dubose in To Kill a Mockingbird

Essay:

The character of Mrs Dubose is one that is an old-confederate, a woman and is courageous. Mrs Dubose is an elderly woman who lives next to the main characters of the novel, the Finch family...

Board Exemplar 8:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Discuss the relationship between Kahu and Nanny (Nani) Flowers in The Whale Rider.

Essay:

In the Whale Rider, Kahu and Nani Flowers are presented as strong, intelligent women in the face of a culture that devalues their worth due to patriarchal values in the misogynistic nature of the tribe...

Board Exemplar 9:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the relationship between Okonkwo and Obierika in Things Fall Apart.

Essay:

In Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe, Okonkwo is the tragic hero of the novel. His best friend is Obierika and they have an interesting relationship...

Board Exemplar 10:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the significance of Suyuan Woo in The Joy Luck Club.

Essay:

The character of Suyuan Woo is extremely significant in 'The Joy Luck Club.' This is due to her founding the Joy Luck Club, her impact on Jing-mei and her strong sense of Chinese heritage that she always showed before she died...

Board Exemplar 11:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

The Joy Luck Club

In an interview, Amy Tan said: ‘There was something about this country [China] that I belonged to’.

How is the theme of belonging to places or people important in the novel?

Essay:

The theme of belonging to people is explored throughout the novel, in relation to the characters, how they belong or don't belong in their families or in China or America...

Board Exemplar 12:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of growing up in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Growing up is a strongly prevalent theme throughout the entirety of the novel. The novel is a bildungsroman through Scout's perspective and it allows the reader to explore the events in the book through Scout's changing perspective...

Board Exemplar 13:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Discuss the theme of responsibility in *Of Mice and Men*. You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

In the novel *'Of Mice and Men'*, Steinbeck portrays the theme of responsibility throughout the story in a variety of ways. During the 1930's, America's economy was failing...

Board Exemplar 14:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Discuss the theme of responsibility in *Of Mice and Men*. You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

In 'Of Mice and Men' (OMAM), Steinbeck presents different sides to the theme of responsibility and uses the characters to embody them. He portrays responsibility as both a divisive and bonding force that runs throughout the novel and shapes the relationships between the characters...

Board Exemplar 15:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Explore Candy's relationship with others, including his old dog, in the novel. You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Candy lives in the bunk house and works at the ranch like everyone else, but he's the oldest person at the ranch. Because of this, there's always a chance that he'd get fired by the boss of the ranch, as he believes he's getting too old for the job...

Board Exemplar 16:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Explore Candy's relationship with others, including his old dog, in the novel. You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Candy is a "one handed" and "old" person who has been working in the farm for many years. He has a good relationship with everyone in the ranch but is not so respected because he is disabled in a certain way, so he is 3rd in the same group of respected as Crooks...

Board Exemplar 17:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Examine the role of women in *The Whale Rider*.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

The women from Whangara has limited power and access to making decisions in a male-dominated, patrilineal society. From the start of the novel, we can already see how the role of women is extremely limited and there is an evident constant discrimination against women...

Board Exemplar 18:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

‘The contrasting settings of China and America are central to our understanding of this novel.’ How far do you agree with this statement about *The Joy Luck Club*? You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

The contrasting settings of China and America is the central idea to our understanding of this novel to a great extent, this is portrayed through: the American dream that might lead to regret, the misunderstanding between characters and the change in characters as they grow up...

Board Exemplar 19:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan. Explore the relationship between Jing-mei (June) Woo and her parents in the novel. You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Amy Tan's 1989 novel, 'The Joy Luck Club', follows the relationships of four Chinese emigres and their Chinese-American daughters, and the challenges that their cultural differences create...

Board Exemplar 20:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

How is Nwoye presented in the novel?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

In the novel *Things Fall Apart*, by Chinua Achebe, Nwoye is a character which develops significantly throughout. His relationship with his father, Okonkwo, is extremely limited by the fact that he seems to lack masculine qualities...

Board Exemplar 21:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of respect in *Things Fall Apart*.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

The novel *Things Fall Apart* was written in the twentieth century and published in 1958 two years before Nigeria gained its independence. It is set in eastern Nigeria and Chinua Achebe illustrates the Igbo society during times of colonization and the internal turmoil that divides the clan...

Board Exemplar 22:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/Teaching%20and%20learning%20materials/exemplars-eng-literature-poetry-and-modern-prose.pdf>

Question:

Explore the character of Jem in the novel.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Jem is arguably the most central character in the novel, as due to the cyclic nature the novel both starts and ends with Jem and his broken arm. Through the bildungsroman style of novel, Jem matures from a young boy who drags his sister along as a co-conspirator, to a young man who protects his sister...

Board Exemplar 23:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck

‘Curley’s like a lot of little guys. He hates big guys.’

Discuss the character of Curley in the novel. You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Curley is an extremely important character in the novella. He is portrayed as very small, but also feisty and a skilled boxer. The quote, "Curley’s like a lot of little guys. He hates big guys," sums up his battle with Lennie perfectly. It encapsulates his Napoleon syndrome and conveys the reasoning for his actions...

Board Exemplar 24:

Question:

‘We’re gonna have a little house and a couple of acres...’ (George)

How important are plans for the future in *Of Mice and Men*?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

In the novel *Of Mice and Men*, the characters' plans for the future play a significant role.

Firstly, George repeatedly talks to Lennie about what their future will be like...

Board Exemplar 25:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee

‘I said I would like it very much, which was a lie, but one must lie in certain circumstances...’ (Scout)

In what ways are lies significant in the novel? You must consider the context of the novel in your answer

Essay:

In *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, lies are significant as it is presented in the story of Tom Robinson, an innocent black man who got accused of raping a white girl, Mayella Ewell, due to hers and her father's lies...

Board Exemplar 26:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Examine the character of Dill Harris in *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Dill is a quintessential character in Harper Lee's bildungsroman, coming-of-age poem. Dill is a character who Harper Lee employs to reflect prejudice, friendship and hardship during the Great Depression in 1930's America...

Board Exemplar 27:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

To Kill a Mockingbird.

‘The law is central to this novel.’

How far do you agree with this view?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

In "To kill a Mockingbird" the theme of law plays a pivotal role in it. Harper Lee uses the theme of law to highlight the inequality which was prevalent in Maycomb...

Board Exemplar 28:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Of Mice and Men

‘Several characters have little or no power at all.’

How far do you agree with this view?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

*

Essay:

I agree with 'several characters have little or no power at all.' This is because this book was set during the great depression when people with money still had power leaving the poor powerless...

Board Exemplar 29:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Of Mice and Men

‘Several characters have little or no power at all.’

How far do you agree with this view?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Of Mice and Men is a novel written by John Steinbeck to portray what life was like for people living in the 1930's America. I agree that a lot of characters in the novel had little to no power...

Board Exemplar 30:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Of Mice and Men 'Several characters have little or no power at all.' How far do you agree with this view? You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Student Response:

In Of mice and men, John Steinbeck diffuses the role of power amongst the characters on the ranch. Power is diffused unequally; some characters obtain all the power and abuse it, whereas others have little or no power at all...

Board Exemplar 31:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Discuss Slim's relationships with others on the ranch in *Of Mice and Men*. You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

*

Steinbeck represents Slim's relationships with others on the ranch in *Of Mice and Men* as understanding. Slim understands other people's problems and has helped comfort many of them..

Board Exemplar 32:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Discuss Slim's relationships with others on the ranch in *Of Mice and Men*.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Slim is generally presented as a respectable and almost a role model for all ranch workers. This could be seen through his interaction with Curley, Curley's wife and George...

Board Exemplar 33:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Discuss the theme of responsibility in *The Whale Rider*.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

In "*the whale rider*" written by Witi Ihimaera in 1987, the theme of responsibility is a big theme in the novel. It is shown through Koro Apirana's responsibility as leader, man's responsibility in maintaining the connection with nature and Kahu's responsibility as the final spear..

Board Exemplar 34:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

‘Many of the women in the novel have either been divorced or are unhappily married.’
Explore the difficult marriages presented in *The Joy Luck Club*. You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Joy Luck Club highlights the unhappy and failed marriages of the Mothers and Daughters throughout the text. Presenting the male as ruling and dominating the household. Clifford and Ying-ying are in a difficult marriage where Clifford does everything alone...

Board Exemplar 35:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20230824.pdf>

Question:

Things Fall Apart

How is Obierika presented in the novel?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Things fall apart is a post colonial novel written about Nigeria in the year 1890s about early british colonisation and the effect it has on the traditional Igbo people. Obeirika is Okonkwo's best friend and acts has a more thoughtful personality...

Board Exemplar 36:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

In what ways is Tom Robinson significant in the novel?
You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Tom Robinson is significant to the novel in many ways. He is one of the main characters and also a mockingbird of the novel. Tom Robinson was a man wrongly accused by a white woman, Mayella Ewell, of rape which is later taken to the court...

Board Exemplar 37:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

In what ways is Tom Robinson significant in the novel? You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Tom Robinson is a coloured, handicapped young man, who is introduced in the later part of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. He has worked in a cotton farm and has a small family. Tom Robinson is accused of hitting Mayella Ewell, a young white lady...

Board Exemplar 38:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

‘George is a selfish character and does not truly care for Lennie.’ How far do you agree with this statement?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

"George is a selfish character and does not truly care for Lennie." I don't completely agree with this statement, this is because Lennie was taken care of by George throughout the whole novel, there is not even a single time George left Lennie alone even for a minute for George's own benefit...

Board Exemplar 39:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

‘George is a selfish character and does not truly care for Lennie.’ How far do you agree with this statement?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

In Steinbeck's novella 'Of Mice and Men', published in 1937, George and Lennie's relationship is portrayed as incredibly unique. This was especially true since the Wall Street Crash of October 24th-29th, 1929, had led to 13 million being unemployed and 1/4 of people losing their houses...

Board Exemplar 40:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of isolation in *Of Mice and Men*.

Essay:

The novel 'Of Mice and Men' was written and published in 1937 in decade following the Great depression. It was set during the 'Great Depression' and the 'Dust Bowl' (in the 1930s)...

Board Exemplar 41:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of isolation in *Of Mice and Men*.

Essay:

The theme of isolation and loneliness is constantly projected throughout the novel. This is evident as the novel is based "A few miles of soledad"...

Board Exemplar 42:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of isolation in *Of Mice and Men*.

Essay:

In the novella "Of Mice and Men", Steinbeck uses the theme of isolation to carry the story and its message. As the novella was set in 1930s America, at the time of the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl, the theme of isolation was a prominent one and highlights the cycle of everyday life for itinerant workers who were disposable and were always on the move...

Board Exemplar 43:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Explore the theme of isolation in *Of Mice and Men*.

Essay:

The novella of 'Of Mice and Men' explores the cruel chimera of the American dream proving society mirrored by the hierarchy on the ranch to be ostracized against each other. Steinbeck portrays the game of marginalization of the barley buckers, the seasonal drifters and the lonely woman against the nepotism obtained from being the bosses' son and society's construct...

Board Exemplar 44:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

Discuss the importance of courage in *The Whale Rider*.

Essay:

The novel "The Whale Rider" by Witi Ihimaera, published in 1987, follows the journey of a young girl, Kahu, who attempts to redeem the Maori values after the effects of modernity and colonisation. The theme of courage is central to the storyline of the novel and the development of the characters...

Board Exemplar 45:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

The Joy Luck Club

Explore the relationship between An-mei Hsu and her daughter, Rose, in the novel.

Essay:

Joy Luck Club is a story by Amy Tan and mainly about four women and their relationships with their daughters. Among them were An-Mei Hsu and her daughter Rose...

Board Exemplar 46:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4et1-01r-pef-20220825.pdf>

Question:

‘It is an abomination for a man to take his own life. It is an offence against the Earth, and a man who commits it will not be buried by his clansmen.’ (Chapter 25)

Examine the theme of shame in Things Fall Apart.

Essay:

"Things Fall Apart" is a novel written by Chinua Achebe during the decolonization of Africa. Within the novel, the theme of shame is presented at multiple points in different ways...

Board Exemplar 47:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International-GCSE/English-Literature/2016/Exam-materials/4et1-01-pef-20230824.pdf>

Essay Title:

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee

‘ “Put my bag in the front bedroom, Calpurnia,” was the first thing Aunt Alexandra said.

“Jean Louise, stop scratching your head,” was the second thing she said.’

Examine the character of Aunt Alexandra in the novel.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

In Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Aunt Alexandra symbolises the typical views of society in the 1930s, and particularly in Deep South Alabama. Aunt Alexandra has very strong ideas about the expected behaviour of women and she tries to reflect these onto Scout..

Board Exemplar 48:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/Teaching%20and%20learning%20materials/exemplars-eng-literature-poetry-and-modern-prose.pdf>

Question:

To Kill a Mockingbird: Harper Lee

Show how prejudice is important in To Kill a Mockingbird.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

Essay:

Prejudice is important in *To Kill a Mockingbird* because its different forms, such as racism and sexism, have such devastating effects on parts of society. This novel was written when there was racism entrenched in the American way of life, especially in the South, and Harper Lee uses the characters in this novel to show the injustice of prejudice...

Board Exemplar 49:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4ET1_01_paf_20190822.pdf

Question:

The Whale Rider

Explore the theme of love in The Whale Rider.

Essay:

In the Whale Rider love is seen in many different ways. Human love, the love you feel in a relationship, love for nature and its great characteristics and lastly love for the culture and traditions of the Maori people. Love in this novel is what links everything together...

Board Exemplar 50:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/International%20GCSE/English%20Literature/2016/exam-materials/4ET1_01_paf_20190822.pdf

Question:

The Joy Luck Club

How are male characters presented in The Joy Luck Club?

Essay:

The Joy Luck Club features heavily on the opinions and themes of the women of the book and men are not seen very regularly but if they are they are shown differently depending on what they do...