

EXAMINATION		NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE	
GRADE		12	
DATE		MAY/JUNE 2025	
SUBJECT		ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE	
PAPER		1	
MARK TOTAL		70	
DURATION (HOURS)		2	
NUMBER OF PAGES		14	



SOUTH AFRICAN COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT INSTITUTE
SUID-AFRIKAANSE KOMPREENSIEWE ASSESSERINGSINSTITUUT



INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. This question paper consists of **THREE** sections.

SECTION A: Comprehension (30 marks)

SECTION B: Summary (10 marks)

SECTION C: Language structures and conventions (30 marks)

2. Read **ALL** the instructions carefully.
3. Answer **ALL** the questions.
4. Start **EACH** section on a **NEW** page.
5. Rule off after each section.
6. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
7. Leave a line open after each answer.
8. Pay special attention to spelling and sentence construction.
9. Use the following time frames as a guideline:

SECTION A: 50 minutes

SECTION B: 30 minutes

SECTION C: 40 minutes

10. Write neatly and legibly, in **BLUE** ink only.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

QUESTION 1: READING FOR MEANING AND UNDERSTANDING

Read both **TEXT A** and **TEXT B** below and answer the questions that follow.

TEXT A

Music From Our Teens Stays With Us Forever *Bring on the noise!*

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------|
| 1 | For many of us, there are certain songs that have the power to transcend the everyday and instantly transport us back to a particular time or place – sitting in the park on a sunny day, dancing with friends, walking down the aisle, or even during a significant personal achievement. Are you thinking of a song now? Does it happen to be one that takes you straight back to your teens or twenties? If so, you are not alone. | 1

5 |
| 2 | The nostalgia we feel when listening to our favourite songs is not just a recollection of memories. Scientific research shows that we remember more from our adolescence and early twenties than from any other period of our lives. This effect is caused by a psychological phenomenon known as the reminiscence bump. | 10 |
| 3 | Our memories shape our identity and help define who we are, but they are not distributed evenly throughout our lives. We have fewer memories from birth until about the age of eight, and while we can remember recent events, this ability diminishes with age. However, researchers have discovered a significant age range, between 10 and 30 years old, where the reminiscence bump applies. During this time, our brains have a particular affinity for recalling events and experiences. | 15 |
| 4 | The reminiscence bump applies for everything – our favourite books, films, celebrities, and most notably, music. Studies suggest that musical memories are stored in a 'safe' area of the brain, which is more resilient and protected against age-related conditions, which explains why these memories persist longer. Music, as a universal medium, has a special ability to evoke emotions, and it is this emotional tie that strengthens our memory of it. | 20 |
| 5 | 'Music is one of the most fundamental ways that we can express emotions,' says Professor Catherine Loveday, a cognitive neuropsychologist at the University of Westminster. She has spent years researching the connection between music and memory. She found a consistent peak in both memory and preference for the music people listened to during their teenage years. Even when working with individuals in their eighties, she found that their strongest musical memories took them back to their youth. This connection is not necessarily tied to the release date of the music but rather to when it became personally meaningful. One theory | 25

30 |



	behind this phenomenon is that our minds undergo a rapid phase of development during adolescence and early adulthood, making us more receptive to absorbing and retaining information about the world around us.	35
6	When listening to music, there's a surge of activity in the brain's reward pathways, which increases levels of dopamine and oxytocin – the same areas that are triggered by other pleasurable activities like eating, dancing, or spending time with loved ones. 'There is evidence that structural elements of music get physically tied to our autobiographical memories,' Professor Loveday explains. She says, 'The reminiscence bump is particularly powerful because we attach music to emotional experiences.'	40
7	The importance of music during our teenage years is also connected to identity formation. Adolescence is a critical time when we develop our sense of self, make key decisions about our future, and establish important relationships. Music often accompanies these 'firsts' – such as a first kiss, first job, or first time attending a concert – and thus, it becomes deeply intertwined with our memories and emotions.	45
8	Music also has the power to help people navigate difficult periods in their lives. Matt Griffiths, CEO of Youth Music, explains, 'Music provides the soundtrack to our lives. It stirs emotions and recalls vivid memories. It defines who we are and creates precious bonds and friendships. The evidence we gather shows how music-making helps young people develop coping strategies, which they draw on during tough times.'	50
9	Our need for friendship and human connection is often mirrored in the music we choose. 'One of the most powerful reasons people select a song is because it reminds them of someone,' Professor Loveday notes, adding that many guests on Desert Island Discs choose music because of its connection to important people in their lives. 'We return to these moments again and again because they reinforce who we are.'	55
10	So, the next time you find yourself experiencing a wave of nostalgia when hearing an old favourite song, remember that it is not just your taste in music – it is music's extraordinary ability to connect us, to the people, place and moments that have shaped us.	60

[Adapted from: <https://bbc.in/3D00zXk>]

AND

TEXT B



[Source: <https://www.cartoonstock.com/>]

QUESTIONS: TEXT A

- 1.1 Refer to paragraph 1, lines 4 - 6: 'Are you thinking ... teens or twenties?'
Explain how these questions influence the reader's engagement with the text. (2)
- 1.2 Refer to paragraph 2.
Using your own words, explain what you understand by the term 'reminiscence bump' (line 11) in the context of the passage. (2)
- 1.3 Refer to paragraph 3.
Discuss the reasons for memories not being evenly distributed throughout our lives. (2)
- 1.4 Refer to paragraph 4.
In your view, is the choice of the adjective 'safe' (line 21) in describing the location of the brain, appropriate in the context of the paragraph? Substantiate your response. (3)



- 1.5 Refer to paragraph 5, lines 28 - 29: 'She found a ... their teenage years'.
Critically discuss how Professor Loveday validifies her findings in this paragraph. (3)
- 1.6 Refer to paragraph 6.
Discuss the significance of the neurotransmitters, dopamine and oxytocin, in creating a connection between music and emotions. (2)
- 1.7 Comment on the effectiveness of the writer's style in the article for conveying her/his message. You must make specific use of examples in your response. (3)
- 1.8 Refer to paragraph 10.
In your view, is this paragraph an appropriate conclusion for the article as a whole? Justify your response. (3)

QUESTIONS: TEXT B

- 1.9 Study the verbal text in the conversation between the granddaughter and grandmother, closely.
Discuss the differences in their attitude toward the grandfather, in the cartoon. (3)
- 1.10 Evaluate the effectiveness of the visual elements in conveying the overall tone of the cartoon. You must make reference to at least TWO different visual elements in your response. (3)

QUESTION: TEXTS A AND B

- 1.11 In your assessment, does Text B support the views expressed in Text A.
Justify your response by making reference to both Text A and Text B. (4)

TOTAL SECTION A: [30]

SECTION B: SUMMARY

QUESTION 2: SUMMARISING IN YOUR OWN WORDS

TEXT C provides insights on self-discipline as a critical aspect of human behaviour. Summarise, in your own words, **how self-discipline contributes to personal and professional development**.

- NOTE:**
1. Your summary should include SEVEN points and NOT exceed **90 words**.
 2. You must write one fluent paragraph.
 3. You are NOT required to include a title for the summary.
 4. Indicate your word count at the end of your summary.

TEXT C

SELF-DISCIPLINE: A CRITICAL ASPECT OF HUMAN BEHAVIOUR

- 1 Even the most self-disciplined people sometimes find their strength turning into their Achilles' heel. It is a lesser-discussed truth, but it reveals a critical aspect of human behaviour. Self-discipline is widely acknowledged for its benefits and importance in personal and professional development. It is seen as a requisite skill for overcoming challenges like procrastination, laziness, and even complex issues like eating disorders. People often view self-discipline as the foundation for achieving goals, fostering self-improvement, and paving the path to success. However, like any skill, it must be practised with balance, as it affects many areas of life.
- 2 One of the primary advantages of self-discipline is its ability to streamline goal achievement. It helps break down large, daunting tasks into smaller, manageable steps. By maintaining a steady pace and staying focused, self-discipline transforms goals from distant aspirations into attainable realities. Self-discipline for goal-achievement also risks one becoming very rigid in one's routine and limits spontaneity.
- 3 Self-discipline also plays a crucial role in overcoming procrastination. By cultivating the habit of starting tasks promptly, individuals reduce stress and avoid the anxiety associated with looming deadlines. This proactive approach not only saves time but also fosters a sense of accomplishment and control, as tasks are completed without unnecessary delays. It can, however, invite social isolation.
- 4 In addition, even though self-discipline might increase self-criticism, it is key to managing one's health and relationships. It encourages the replacement of bad habits with healthier choices, whether through better nutrition, regular exercise, or improved sleep. Furthermore, self-discipline strengthens relationships by fostering reliability and trust. Those who are disciplined in their actions and communication build stronger, more meaningful connections, both personally and professionally.



- 5 Ultimately, self-discipline nurtures a sense of self-respect and independence. By consistently making choices aligned with personal values, individuals build confidence in their abilities. This self-assurance creates a cycle of growth, where discipline leads to success, and success fuels further discipline, ultimately leading to a more fulfilling and balanced life. Self-discipline can promote both personal and professional development, but like any other skill, it must be balanced and tempered with a holistic understanding of its effects on all aspects of life.

[Adapted from: <https://bit.ly/3XmYgo7>]

TOTAL SECTION B: [10]



SECTION C: LANGUAGE STRUCTURES AND CONVENTIONS

QUESTION 3: ANALYSING ADVERTISING

Study the advertisement (**TEXT D**) below and answer the questions that follow.

TEXT D

**THE SHOE
WORKS IF
YOU DO.**

The Nike Sweet Classic High is comfortable while still remaining in style. With great quality and a wide variety of colour options, these sneakers are perfect for casual use. Stay fly, stay fresh and get yourself a pair.

JUST DO IT.

nike.com

[Adapted from: <https://bit.ly/3Xqftgq>]

**QUESTIONS: TEXT D**

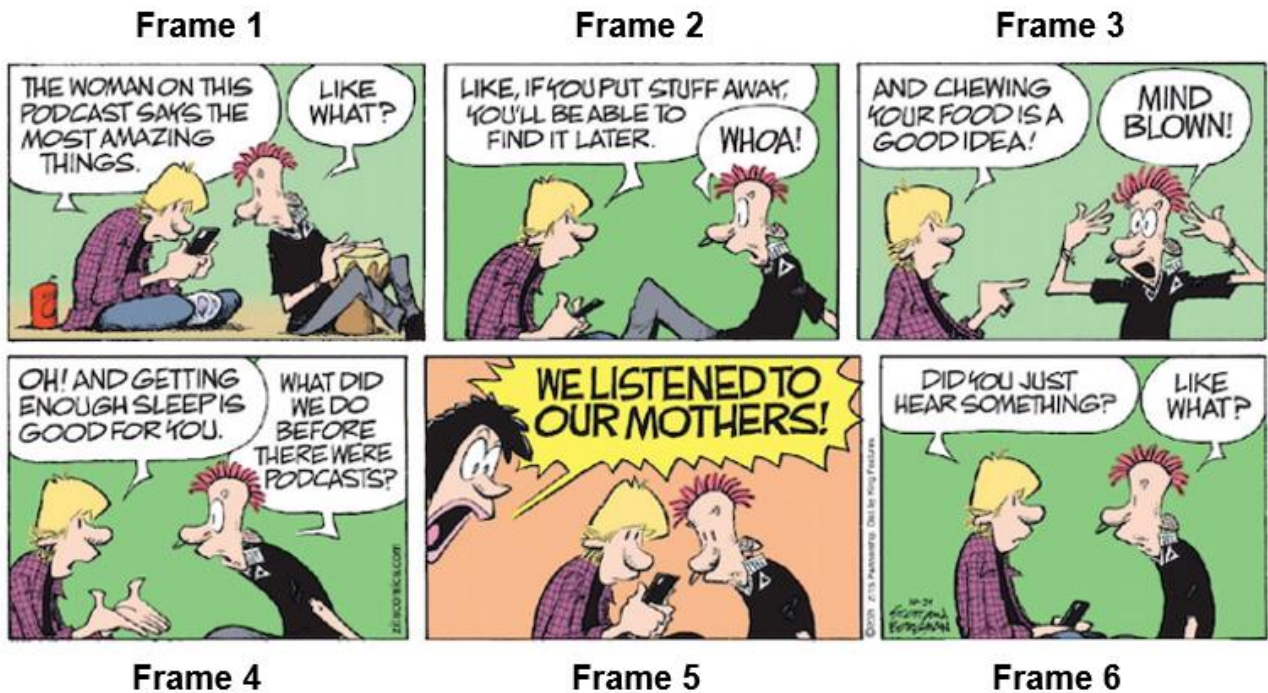
- 3.1 Discuss the effectiveness of the headline, **'THE SHOE WORKS IF YOU DO'** in promoting the product. (2)
- 3.2 Refer to the verbal text: 'The Nike Sweet ... yourself a pair.'
Critically discuss how the phrase 'Stay fly, stay fresh' contributes to the overall tone and appeal of the advertisement. (3)
- 3.3 In your view, does the visual image complement the verbal text, 'The Nike Sweet ... for casual use'? Substantiate your response by making reference to both the visual image and verbal text. (3)
- 3.4 What type of sentence is, 'JUST DO IT'? (1)
- 3.5 Refer to the sentence: 'The Nike Sweet Classic High is comfortable while still remaining in style.'
Quote the independent clause in this sentence. (1)

[10]

QUESTION 4: UNDERSTANDING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE MEDIA

Study **TEXT E** below and answer the questions that follow.

TEXT E



[Adapted from: <https://bit.ly/4ifSiOp/>]

Jeremy: Teenager on the left-hand side **Max:** Punk rocker on the right-hand side

QUESTIONS: TEXT E

4.1 Refer to frame 1.

What does Max's body language and speech convey about his attitude toward Jeremy? (2)

4.2 Refer to frame 5.

Discuss the effectiveness of any ONE technique used in this frame for conveying the message of the cartoon. (3)

4.3 Comment on how ironical humour is created in the cartoon as a whole. (3)

4.4 Refer to frame 1.

What is the function of the ellipsis in 'LIKE WHAT ...'? (1)



4.5 Refer to frame 3.

Rewrite 'MIND BLOWN' into a grammatically correct sentence using formal register.

(1)

[10]

QUESTION 5: USING LANGUAGE CORRECTLY

Read **TEXT F**, which contains some deliberate errors, and answer the set questions.

TEXT F

Banana taped to a wall sells for R1.15 billion at auction

- | | | |
|---|---|----|
| 1 | A banana duck-taped to a wall, titled <i>Comedian</i> , has sold for R1.15 billion at a New York auction. Created by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan, the artwork first gained global attention at Art Basel Miami Beach in 2019, sparking debates about whether it were a prank or a critique of modern art. | |
| 2 | Sotheby's described <i>Comedian</i> as a 'global sensation' that captivated audiences, divided critics, and dominated social media. 'I couldn't believe people were taking it seriously,' said one festival goer who saw the artwork firsthand with her own eyes. 'It's literally a banana and tape, but it got everyone talking.' | 5 |
| 3 | The artwork famously included a moment when a visitor removed the banana and ate it, further fuelling its notoriety. The latest buyer, Justin Sun, founder of cryptocurrency platform TRON, purchased a certificate of authenticity allowing him to recreate the piece. Sun described the artwork as a 'cultural phenomenon' bridging art, memes, and cryptocurrency. | 10 |
| 4 | In a surprising move, Sun plans to eat the banana himself, stating, 'This is part of the unique artistic experience. It honours its role in art history and popular culture.' Whether praised or criticised, <i>Comedian</i> continues to challenge perceptions of art and value. | 15 |

[Adapted from: <https://bit.ly/41DzNNW>]

QUESTIONS: TEXT F

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 5.1 | Account for the use of italics in ' <i>Comedian</i> ' in the text. | (1) |
| 5.2 | Correct the error of malapropism in paragraph 1. | (1) |
| 5.3 | Correct the error of concord evident in paragraph 1. | (1) |
| 5.4 | Explain the difference in meaning between the words 'critique' (line 4) and 'critics' (line 6). | (2) |

- 5.5 Refer lines 6 - 8: "I couldn't believe... their own eyes."
Remove the redundancy from the above sentence. (1)
- 5.6 Refer to, lines 9 - 10: 'The artwork famously ... fuelling its notoriety'.
- 5.6.1 Quote ONE example of an adverbial phrase from the above sentence. (1)
- 5.6.2 Provide the adjectival form of the word, 'notoriety'. Your answer must be correctly spelt. (1)
- 5.7 Provide the plural form of 'phenomenon' (line 12). (1)
- 5.8 Choose the correct option, provided below, that rewrites the following sentence into indirect speech. Write down only the letter corresponding to your choice of answer.

Sun said, 'This is part of the unique artistic experience. It honours its role in art history and popular culture.'

- A) Sun said that this has been part of the unique artistic experience and it will honour its role in art history and popular culture.
- B) Sun said that that was part of the unique artistic experience and that it honoured its role in art history and popular culture.
- C) Sun said this was part of the unique artistic experience and it honours its role in art history and popular culture.
- D) Sun says that this is part of the unique artistic experience and that it honours its role in art history and popular culture. (1)

[10]

TOTAL SECTION C: [30]

GRAND TOTAL: [70]