HSC hub – English

**Year 12 English Studies – Unpacking section III of the examination**

Student support session

# Resource booklet

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## Required materials

Please ensure that you have:

* A copy of your previous assessment for this module, and the feedback you were provided.
* This resource in a soft or hard copy
* Access to the 2019 HSC marker feedback, the 2019 examination paper and the 2018 sample paper
* If you are printing this resource you will need spaces for the answers to the questions.

## Resource 1 – section III of the examination – the modules

Elective modules may be studied in either the Year 11 or Year 12 course but it is expected that as students' progress in English Studies there will be an increasing level of challenge. As students advance into the HSC course they should be presented with increased levels of conceptual and textual difficulty consistent with the progress in their learning.

The electives are able to be selected and then developed by teachers to allow for:

* their students’ needs, interests, abilities, career aspirations and personal circumstances
* choice of approach
* choice of texts studied.

Suggested content, sample learning experiences and suggested resources for each elective are provided in a separate support document.

In this section of the examination students are required to respond to a question on the modules.

* [educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/stage-6-english/english-studies-2017/modules](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/stage-6-english/english-studies-2017/modules)
* [English Studies Stage 6 Syllabus](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/stage-6-english/english-studies-2017/modules) (2017) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2017.

## Resource 2 – time management

Tips to manage your time:

* Pop your head up often and check the clock
* Ensure that you include time for an adequate conclusion, you don't want your conclusion to appear 'tacked on'
* Plan your response before you execute – that way you won't get lost in answering the question and spend too much time on one point and not enough time on the other. Your plan should not take up too much time, but rather just a skeleton of what will go in your response, your plan should not be detailed at all, it should be very brief. Have a look at your resource booklet for an example.

The following table demonstrates the importance of a plan during the examination.

This showcases that the student may have spent a few minutes just before writing in planning out their thinking. This created a clear path that would be easy to follow. This is an important part of effective time management during an examination.

## Resource 3 – 2019 HSC English studies examination paper 1 section II marking guidelines

Your answer will be assessed on how well you:

* Demonstrate understanding of the key ideas of the module that has been studied
* Demonstrate understanding of ways that language has shaped meaning in texts
* Organise, develop and express ideas using language appropriate to audience, purpose and form

Resources

* [2019 english-studies-2019-hsc-exam-pack](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/resource-finder/hsc-exam-papers/2019/english-studies-2019-hsc-exam-pack)
* [educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/resource-finder/hsc-exam-papers/2019/english-studies-2019-hsc-exam-pack](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/resource-finder/hsc-exam-papers/2019/english-studies-2019-hsc-exam-pack)
* [English Studies HSC examination pack](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/resource-finder/hsc-exam-papers/2019/english-studies-2019-hsc-exam-pack) (2017) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2017.

## Resource 4 – how do you prepare for this section?

Here are some key features for preparing for this section of the examination.

* Know your module.
* Know your main text studied in class.
* Have a range of examples to suit any question.
* Plan your response.

## Resource 5 – planning your response

Table 1 – HSC examination student sample – MiTunes plan

|  |
| --- |
| 2019 HSC examination student sample – MiTunes plan |
| Plan – ‘Pretty Hurts’ by Beyonce   * Purpose – to show unrealistic standards of beauty society places on women and the detrimental effects on a broad community * Points – shows deeper appreciation * Touches on contemporary |

### Activity 1 – planning your response

Table 2 – 2019 HSC examination Module III question

[English Studies HSC examination pack](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/resource-finder/hsc-exam-papers/2019/english-studies-2019-hsc-exam-pack) (2017) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2019.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2019 HSC examination student sample – MiTunes plan | |
| Anon\_19  New member  Join date: June 2019  Posts: 8 | Year 12 modules suggestions, please!! |
| Hey guys, I’m in Year 11. Our teacher’s letting us vote on which modules we will study for year 12 English Studies! No ideas which one to pick...Which module did you enjoy most? Why? |
| A Year 11 student has posted this question. You are invited to respond to this blog post. In your response, discuss which one module you enjoyed most. Refer in detail to at least ****one**** text you studied in that module. Identify the module you have chosen at the top of your answer booklet. | |

Table 3 – Your turn plan for the 2019 question

|  |
| --- |
| Your turn – plan for the 2019 question |
| Plan – |

## Resource 6 – exemplar student sample

Hey Anon,

I currently graduated Year 12 and completed English studies. Most of the modules there are were very interesting, but my overall favourite had to be Module F – MiTunes and Text. Why you may ask? Well it doesn’t matter if you like music or you don’t, you discover a range of different genres. You also gain a deeper appreciation for songs and artists, who you initially thought only produces songs because they sound good. For instance, our class studies the song “Pretty Hurts”, by Beyonce Knowles. Not only does it have amazing vocals and cool beats, but it also touches on a contemporary societal issue. I am not sure if you know the song, but its main message is to show the unrealistic standards of beauty society faces on individuals...I know right crazy! Beyonce portrays this through a beauty pageant and is asked by a male voice “what’s your inspiration in life?”. As it is a common question, however, her response is to be a happy, however is ironic as she is not happy in her own body.

Even though it was released in 2014, the song is still relevant in society today, with over double the amount of suicides happen in 2018, compared to 2008. However, the song does not only explain the individual Beyonce’s experience but the whole society around her.

The song first line “Mumma said you’re a pretty girl, what’s in your head it doesn’t matter”. This paradox of an older person which she looks up to is in fact teaching her detremental lessons portrays a glimpse of how girls must be.

Additionally, the allusion “vogue saids thinner is better”, reinforces a high class popular magazine, which most girls look up to, sets a predetermined view of beauty. However, it is juxtaposed to the line before “TV saids bigger is better” which highlights that the “definition of beauty is not the same. However, the song concludes with a rhetorical question. “are you happy with yourself?” which provides the overall message of being confident in yourself and doing what you want to dress or wear to find happiness within yourself.

I know I rambled a little too much, but Anon my suggestion for you would be to defiently choose the module MiTunes and texts as you are able to discover new song and genres, which makes you appreciate and help you through personal issues.

**Note** – the mistakes are in the student’s work.

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### Activity 2 – student sample introduction

1. Underline where they have introduced their text and comment on whether it has been introduced correctly
2. Highlight the student's engagement with the question
3. Discuss whether you believe this introduction is a strong set up for the remainder of the response

Table 4 – sample introduction annotation

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sample introduction | Explain the key features of the introduction |
| Hey Anon,  I currently graduated Year 12 and completed English studies. Most of the modules there are were very interesting, but my overall favourite had to be Module F – MiTunes and Text. Why you may ask? Well it doesn’t matter if you like music or you don’t, you discover a range of different genres. You also gain a deeper appreciation for songs and artists, who you initially thought only produces songs because they sound good. For instance, our class studies the song “Pretty Hurts”, by Beyonce Knowles. Not only does it have amazing vocals and cool beats, but it also touches on a contemporary societal issue. I am not sure if you know the song, but its main message is to show the unrealistic standards of beauty society faces on individuals...I know right crazy! Beyonce portrays this through a beauty pageant and is asked by a male voice “what’s your inspiration in life?”. As it is a common question, however, her response is to be a happy, however is ironic as she is not happy in her own body.  English Studies 2019 Higher School Certificate Exam workbook © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales 2020. |  |

Table 5 – your turn, write an introduction based on your plan

|  |
| --- |
| Your turn – Write an introduction based on your plan |
|  |

### Activity 3 – your turn – first body paragraph

1. Underline parts of the paragraph that demonstrates this student has engaged directly with the question
2. Highlight the students use of textual evidence
3. Highlight the student's identification and explanation of language/visual/film features
4. Circle parts of the paragraph that demonstrates this student has engaged with the Module Statement.

Table 6 – sample body paragraph

|  |
| --- |
| Student sample – body paragraph |
| Even though it was released in 2014, the song is still relevant in society today, with over double the amount of suicides happen in 2018, compared to 2008. However, the song does not only explain the individual Beyonce’s experience but the whole society around her.  The song first line “Mumma said you’re a pretty girl, what’s in your head it doesn’t matter”. This paradox of an older person which she looks up to is in fact teaching her detremental lessons portrays a glimpse of how girls must be.  English Studies 2019 Higher School Certificate Exam workbook © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales 2020. |

Table 7 – your turn, write a body paragraph

|  |
| --- |
| Your turn – write your first body paragraph |
|  |

Activity 4 – your turn – conclusion

Table 8 – your turn – write your own conclusion

|  |
| --- |
| Your turn – write your conclusion |
|  |

### Activity 5 – preparing for the HSC examination

* engage with as many sample questions as possible.
* think about the what you need to include in this section.
* complete timed responses.
* practise writing activities to explore your chosen elective module. The more you work with your examples to more you will remember.

The following matrix is to support you practise for this section of the examination.

Remember you need to justify your response from your elective module in different ways, this can support you to be flexible in your response for the examination.

From the NESA sample paper and the 2019 HSC examination this part of the paper may not be a straightforward analytical extended response.

The following table is to support you designing flexible extended responses to suit your Elective module.

Table 9 – a revision activity for English Studies

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Elective and texts you have studied | Ideas from the Module and text | Examples from the texts | Other interesting information on the Elective. | Context connection |
| (Sample)  Part of the Family –  Looking for Alibrandi | Relationships  Growing up and its challenges  Identity  Marginalisation | (list 3 quotes)  (2 structural examples) | Family and community  The value of family in different cultures | The migrant experience 30 years later. Alibrandi was written in the early 1990’s is this still relevant as an idea today?  Personal connections if any about family. |
| Part of the Family –  Jeannie Baker – Mirror | Relationships – The significance of family  Identity – Similarities and differences  The values in society | (3 visual features)  Impact of dialogue or lack thereof on this text  The mirror motif and its message | Family and community  The value of family in different cultures | Personal connections about family and culture.  The similarities between the two cultures and the differences. |
| The above two rows are an example of how to fill in this table.  Complete this table with your class studies module only  Elective 1 – |  |  |  |  |
| Elective 2 – |  |  |  |  |

1. First step – Identify the two Elective modules you will prepare, for your examination. There are 14 different modules. At your school you would have studied a minimum of two of these electives.
   1. A: We are Australians
   2. B: Telling us all about it
   3. C: On the Road
   4. D: Digital Worlds
   5. E: Playing the Game
   6. F: MiTunes and Text
   7. G: Local Heroes
   8. H: Part of a Family
   9. I: Discovery and Investigation
   10. J: In the Marketplace
   11. K: The Big Screen
   12. L: Who do I think I am?
   13. M: Landscapes of the Mind
   14. N: The Way we Were
2. Step 2 – Identify two ideas for each text. The ideas could be the same for both texts from the same elective or they could be slightly different. We suggest finding similarities in the ideas.
3. Step 3 – Identify **three** examples from each text you have studies in each of the two electives.
4. Identify two pieces of information that is different from your texts. This could be information that may be used in an information style response. This could include statistics and data about the elective topic.
5. Write a sentence about your personal connection to the text. This gives you the persuasive aspect of your response. This could include any contextual information from the text or you.

Once you have completed table 9, identify the different styles of writing you might be required to write in this part of the examination.

1. The style of writing could include but not limited to –
   * 1. Review
     2. Speech
     3. Online Blog
     4. Feature article
     5. Persuasive piece
     6. Letter to the editor

All these styles have a particular structure you must follow. Work with your teacher (remember this is a revision activity) to identify and explore the types of structures needed for each style of writing in this section of the examination.

Finally, Place all this information together. You have been required to write a letter to the editor about part of the family. You must discuss the two texts you have studied in class with examples.

Use table 9 and the style of writing above you could practise many different ways to answer this section of the examination.

Now it is time to write your own response.

This is the end of the first part of revising and practising for your HSC examination.