



KNOX
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

STATE

DA VINCI DECATHLON 2022

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC GIFTS OF STUDENTS
IN YEARS 5 & 6



ENGLISH

TEAM NUMBER _____

1	2	3	4	Total	Rank
/39	/10	/20	/15	/84	

QUESTION 1

PATTERNS AND POETRY

39 MARKS

Poetry can subtly and skilfully portray various themes and ideas as it is a very creative way of crafting a text. The below text *Pattern and Snarl* by Amit Majmudar is an example of this. Read the poem and answer the following questions on both patterns in the form (how he writes) and the concept (what he writes about).

Life likes a little mess. All patterns need a snarl.
The best patterns know how best to heed a snarl.

Every high style, every strict form was once nonce.
The best way to save a snagged pattern? Repeat the snarl.

Eden used to snow in fractals, rain in syncopated runs.
Adam never imagined he would hear its seedlings snarl.

Tug the wrong thread, and your wool sweater vanishes at once.

What *is* it about order that we love? This sense,
Maybe, that a secret informs the pattern?

Is it a toddler's joy in doing things again?
Is it the entropy in us that warms to pattern?

I never intended this line to rhyme on *again* again.
Then again, sometimes it's the snarl that adorns the pattern.

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT 'PATTERN AND SNARL' (15 MARKS)

1. Based on this poem, what do you think a 'snarl' is? Explain your definition by including some lines from the poem in your answer.

4 MARKS

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2. Identify and discuss two patterns of imagery present in the poem. What is the purpose of each and what do they represent?

4 MARKS

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3. The poem centres itself around the patterns of life. What, then, does Amit mean when he writes that 'sometimes it's the snarl that adorns the pattern'?

4 MARKS

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4. Do you think Amit likes the patterns of life? Why or why not?

3 MARKS

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QUESTION 1B: CONTINUING THE PATTERN (24 MARKS)

Now that you have analysed the poem, your task is to write another stanza (8 – 16 lines), continuing the patterns that you found in the poem itself. Afterwards you are to write a short reflection justifying why you wrote this extra stanza the way you did, noting the patterns you used and why you thought they were important to continue.

1. The Next Stanza

12 MARKS

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2. Reflection

12 MARKS

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QUESTION 2

VOCABULARY

10 MARKS

Match the definitions. Using the definitions below match them to the words

WORD	NUMBER
Motif	
Directness	
Dominance	
Quizzical	
Federation	
Monochrome	
Identification	
Openness	
Ingrained	
Puzzling	

	NUMBER
1	the quality of being plain and straightforward
2	the action or process of identifying someone or something or the fact of being identified.
3	Indicating mild or amused puzzlement
4	A dominant or recurring idea in an artistic work
5	causing one to be puzzled; perplexing
6	lack of restriction; accessibility
7	Power and influence over others
8	firmly fixed or established; difficult to change
9	A group of states with a central government but independence in internal affairs
10	a picture developed or executed in black and white or in varying tones of only one colour

QUESTION 3

CREATIVE WRITING

20 MARKS

Motifs are literary patterns that build meaning and add symbolic significance to a piece of literature. Motifs are ideas that appear time and again in a text and aim to bolster the meaning of the text by way of the motif. Below is a quote, use the idea/s presented in the quote as a motif in a piece of Creative Writing.

You may write whatever type of piece you like be it a Historical Fiction, Sci-fi Thriller or a parody piece of a famous work so long as the quote below and the ideas from it feature as motifs in your piece.

Where there is silence, give your voice.

Where there is darkness, shine your light.

When there is desperation, offer hope.

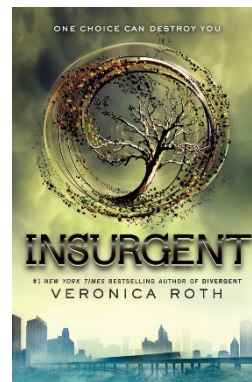
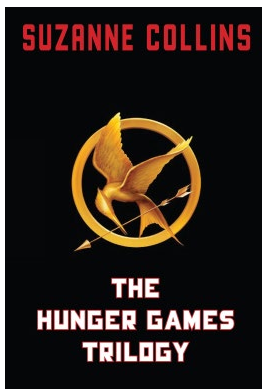
- Tim Fargo

QUESTION 4

FINDING PATTERNS 15 MARKS

Below are three questions each regarding a series of three texts. You are required to find patterns that link the three books. This will require knowledge of some of the texts to achieve highly. You must justify each identified pattern and demonstrate why this pattern exists across the texts. There is no one right answer so long as you can justify that what you have identified is a pattern.

1. 5 MARKS



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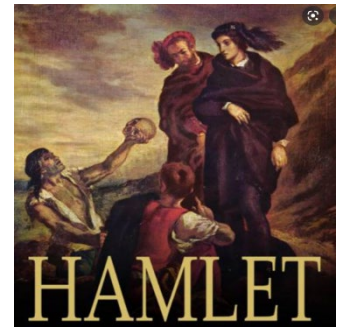
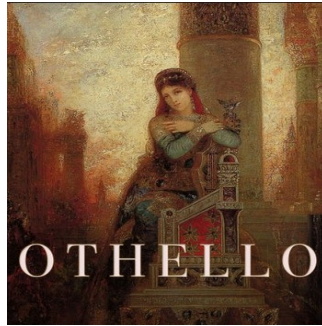
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2. 5 MARKS



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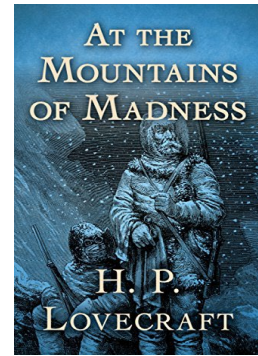
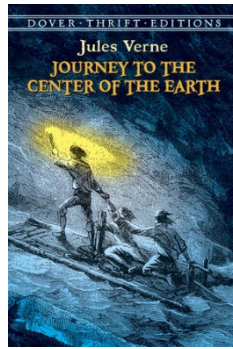
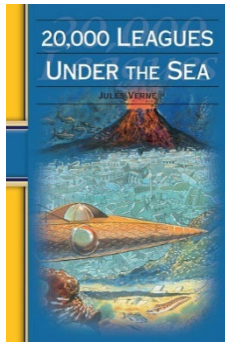
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3. 5 MARKS



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QUESTION 1

PATTERNS AND POETRY (20 MARKS)

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Maybe, that a secret informs the pattern?

Is it a toddler's joy in doing things again?
Is it the entropy in us that warms to pattern?

I never intended this line to rhyme on *again* again.
Then again, sometimes it's the snarl that adorns the pattern.

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT 'PATTERNS' (15 MARKS)

1. Based on this poem, what do you think a 'snarl' is? Explain your definition by including some lines from the poem in your answer. (4 Marks)

1 mark for providing a definition of a snarl (in essence, the initial activity that then gets repeated, turning into a pattern).

2 marks for effectiveness/clarity of the explanation provided.

1 mark for referring to the poem in this explanation.

2. Identify and discuss two patterns of imagery present in the poem. What is the purpose of each and what do they represent? (4 Marks)

1 mark per identification made (examples can include 'tug the wrong thread, and the wool sweater vanishes at once', 'Eden used to snow in fractals').

2 marks for analysis of their respective purpose/representation (1/2 marks allowed)

3. The poem centres itself around the patterns of life. What, then, does Amit mean when he writes that 'sometimes it's the snarl that adorns the pattern'? (4 Marks)

1 mark for identifying Amit's intention (be flexible when accepting answers).

2 marks for the explanation of this (1/2 marks allowed).

1 mark for referencing another part of the poem as proof (NOT what the question quotes).

4. Do you think Amit likes the patterns of life? Why or why not? (3 Marks)

1 mark for directly answering the question (be flexible when accepting answers).

2 marks for the justification provided (1/2 marks allowed).

CONTINUING THE PATTERN (24 MARKS) (SEE MARKING GRID)

Now that you have given thought and analysis to the poem your task is to write another stanza (8 – 16 lines), continuing the patterns that you found in the poem itself. Afterwards you are to write a short reflection justifying why you wrote this extra stanza the way you did, note the patterns you used and why you thought they were important to continue.

1. The Next Stanza (12 Marks)

CRITERIA	SKILFIL 4	EFFECTIVE 3	SOUND 2	LIMITED 1
Control of language conventions and structures				
Perceptive use of writing prompt used to create a clear message				
Uses patterns clearly identifiable within the text				

2. Reflection (12 Marks)

CRITERIA	SKILFIL 4	EFFECTIVE 3	SOUND 2	LIMITED 1
Control and use of reflective language				
Clear understanding the purpose of the original text				

Reflects on purpose and making close reference to poetic devices used				
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QUESTION 2

VOCABULARY (10 MARKS)

Match the definitions. Using the definitions below match them to the words

WORD	NUMBER
Motif	4
Directness	1
Dominance	7
Quizzical	3
Federation	9
Monochrome	10
Identification	2
Openness	6
Ingrained	8
Puzzling	5

	NUMBER
1	the quality of being plain and straightforward
2	the action or process of identifying someone or something or the fact of being identified.
3	Indicating mild or amused puzzlement
4	A dominant or recurring idea in an artistic work
5	causing one to be puzzled; perplexing
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7	Power and influence over others
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QUESTION 3

CREATIVE WRITING (20 MARKS) (SEE MARKING GRID)

CRITERIA	SKILFIL 5	EFFECTIVE 3-4	SOUND 1-2	LIMITED 1
Control of language conventions and structures				
Perceptive use of writing prompt: Identifies key ideas with the stimulus and uses it to inform purpose				
Perceptive use of writing prompt: Identifies key ideas with the stimulus and uses it to create motifs				
Reflects on purpose and making close reference to poetic devices used				

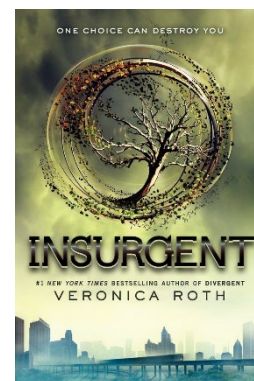
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QUESTION 4

FINDING PATTERNS (15 MARKS)

Below are three questions each regarding a series of 3 texts. You are required to find patterns that link the three books. This will require knowledge of some of the texts to achieve highly. You must justify each identified pattern and demonstrate why this pattern exists across the texts. There is no one right answer so long as you can justify that what you have identified is a pattern.

1. (5 Marks)



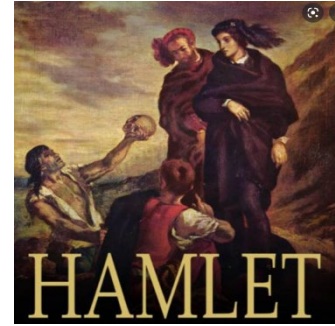
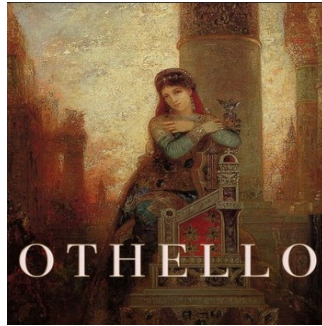
Award 1 mark per pattern identified (maximum of 3 marks for identification)

Award 1 mark per justification of pattern (maximum of 2 marks)

I.e., The above three texts each deal with rebellion in a deteriorating world. The rebellion in the Hunger Games and Insurgent is against an unjust system, while the 5th wave deals with rebellion against a conquering force. Each aim to show the power of rebellion in the face of adversity.

Other patterns can include: Each having a movie adaptation, each being a young adult fiction novel, each having a female lead character etc.

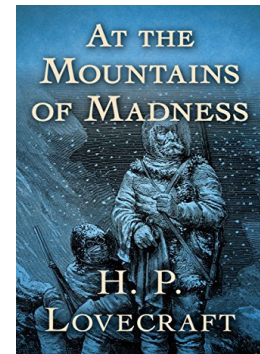
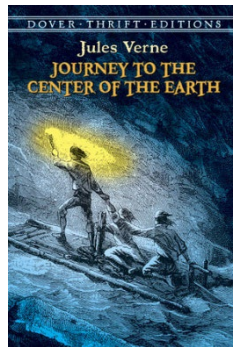
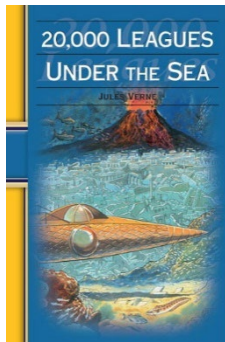
2. (5 Marks)



See above for mark justification

Patterns can include (but are not limited to): Shakespearean texts, each are tragedies, each deal with greed and desire for power etc.

3. (5 Marks)



See above for mark justification

Patterns can include (but are not limited to): Each text being about exploration, each being part of the horror, each being Victorian texts, each being about fear of the unknown etc.

END OF PAPER