



Province of the
EASTERN CAPE
EDUCATION

DIRECTORATE SENIOR CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT (SEN-FET)

HOME SCHOOLING SELF-STUDY WORKSHEET ANSWER SHEET

SUBJECT	English HL	GRADE	11	DATE	May 2020
TOPIC	Poem: We wear the mask	TERM 1 REVISION	(Please tick)	TERM 2 CONTENT	(Please tick) √
MEMORANDUM	<p>Question 1</p> <p>1.1 It is an extended metaphor. (1) The mask is the pretence that hides the speaker's anger and suffering in an oppressive society. (1) (2)</p> <p>1.2 It suggests deep-rooted suffering and intense pain. Just because something is hidden does not mean it is not felt. Those who have inflicted the pain and suffering do not have the pleasure of seeing it. Award 2 marks for 2 points. (2)</p> <p>1.3 The alliteration ('m' in 'mouth with myriad') adds to the musical quality of the rhythm. Music normally is associated with joy and celebration but in this case, it masks sadness. Communication is masked beneath 'subtleties' to hide anger, suffering and frustration. Credit other cogent responses. (3)</p> <p>1.4 The 'grins' are a mask that feigns happiness and pleasure. The 'cries' implore relief from suffering.</p>				

The tone appears to be one of acceptance, indifference, detachment or composure ('grins') when in fact, beneath the 'mask' there is anguish, agony, despair ('cries'). **(3)**

[10]

Question 2

2.1 'guile' means deceit; cunning. When 'we wear the mask', we deceive others because the mask hides the truth. **(2)**

2.2 The attitude is defiant. (1) The question is confrontational. (1) The answer to the rhetorical question starts with an emphatic 'Nay', and continues to confirm that 'We (will) wear the mask.' (1) **(3)**

2.3 The poet uses rhyme ('lies ... eyes') and assonance ('grins ... hides') throughout the poem to emphasise the main idea contained in the title, viz. deception. The alliteration in 'mouth with myriad' also points to the great extent to which we deceive. The alliteration in 'Christ' and 'cries' reveals the anguish we experience through this constant deception. The repetitive sounds echo the determination of the speaker not to reveal his real feelings.

[Any 2 aspects well discussed.]

(2)

2.4 'O great Christ' is a very strong call, and shows the depth of the speaker's agony. (1) He refers to 'tortured souls' to indicate how deeply hurt and mangled his people are. Torture is a deliberate act, and relates to the image of the 'torn and bleeding hearts' in line 4. **(1)**

The tone is one of despair, hopelessness, suffering. (1)

(3)

[10]

Question 3

3.1 The phrase 'human guile' refers to man's cunning: he deceives others with his 'mask'. **(1)**

He uses clever and nuanced methods to deceive his audience. (1) **(2)**

3.2 The rhetorical question (1) challenges the reader's pre-conceived ideas about appearances vs. frankness. (1)

The reader is confronted with a perspective that eschews scrutiny of others.(1) **(3)**

3.3 The flowing rhythm (1) created by enjambment reinforces the speaker's anguish (1) /

	<p>which builds up to a crescendo / climax. (1) (3)</p> <p>3.4 Effective: The mask is personified in line 1, thus taking on its own persona. It becomes increasingly effective as the repetition of the metaphor is contrasted with the emotional torment that is disguised.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Clichéd: A mask is the typical symbol of disguises behind which people hide their hurt. This theatrical image does not convey the themes associated with suffering.</p> <p>[Consider each response globally.] (2)</p> <p>[10]</p>
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