

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Once again, teachers are commended for the many hours spent on preparing their candidates for this examination. This year it was even more important for teachers to support and teach their candidates well in preparation of the English First Language AS level.

**POSITIVE COMMENTS:**

- A few examiners assessed the candidates based on the assessment criteria and gave marks accordingly.
- Most assignments were neatly presented and typed.

**NEGATIVE COMMENTS:**

- Unfortunately, it was clear that some centres did not cover all three genres. It is a great concern as these candidates will need to grapple with unfamiliar work in Grade 12 in 2022. Subsequently, it is important to note that teachers are not doing their candidates any favours by focusing only on one or two genres.
- Some topics were quite difficult as they expected candidates to compare poems, often up to three poems. A typical question here would be: compare how war is depicted in *Dulce et Decorum est*, *Anthem for Doomed Youth* and *No More Hiroshimas* or discuss the theme of war in *Dulce et Decorum est*, *Anthem for Doomed Youth* and *No More Hiroshimas*. This type of question should be avoided on the ordinary level.
- Other topics expected learners to respond to a topic with more than one focus. Typical questions here would be: *discuss the attitude of the poet as well as the theme of war in 2 poems you have studied*. The learners struggle to develop their essays well if this happens.
- Sadly, some assignments were mere plot analyses or did not even attempt to answer the questions. Many assignments did not reflect a bibliography and/or word count. Please ensure that candidates reference their sources and write a bibliography.

**POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS/EXAMINERS:**

- To test the candidates' analysis and writing skills, it is suggested that the candidates are asked to analyse the ways in which a certain theme was depicted. This will also prepare the candidates better for the AS level.
- Keep the topics simple and single-focused. This will help candidates to develop their essays better as they may only respond in about 600 words.
- Refrain from asking candidates to merely analyse a poem. An example of this type of question would be: analyse *Dulce et Decorum est*.
- It is compulsory to cover all three genres as stipulated in the syllabus in Grade 11.