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BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

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English 12

AUGUST 2001

Course Code = EN

### Student Instructions

1. Place the stickers with your Personal Education Number (PEN) in the allotted spaces above. **Under no circumstance is your name or identification, other than your Personal Education Number, to appear on this booklet.**
2. Ensure that in addition to this examination booklet, you have a **Readings Booklet** and an **Examination Response Form**. Follow the directions on the front of the Response Form.
3. **Disqualification** from the examination will result if you bring books, paper, notes or unauthorized electronic devices into the examination room.
4. When instructed to open this booklet, **check the numbering of the pages** to ensure that they are numbered in sequence from page one to the last page, which is identified by **END OF EXAMINATION**.
5. At the end of the examination, place your Response Form inside the front cover of this booklet and return the booklet and your Response Form to the supervisor.
6. Before you respond to the question on page 13, **circle** the number corresponding to the topic you have chosen:  
2a or 2b.

Question 1:

1.   .

(12)

Question 2a:

2a.   .

(24)

Question 2b:

2b.   .

(24)

Question 3:

3.   .

(24)

Score only **one** of the two questions given.

**ENGLISH 12**

**AUGUST 2001**

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## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Electronic devices, including dictionaries and pagers, are **not** permitted in the examination room.
2. All multiple-choice answers must be entered on the Response Form using an **HB pencil**. Multiple-choice answers entered in this examination booklet will **not** be marked.
3. For each of the written-response questions, write your answer in **ink** in the space provided in this booklet.

Adequate writing space has been provided for average-sized writing. Do **not** attempt to determine the length of your answers by the amount of writing space available. You may not need to use all the allotted space for your answers.

4. Ensure that you use language and content appropriate to the purpose and audience of this examination. Failure to comply may result in your paper being awarded a zero.
5. This examination is designed to be completed in **two hours**. *Students may, however, take up to 30 minutes of additional time to finish.*

## ENGLISH 12 PROVINCIAL EXAMINATION

	<b>Value</b>	<b>Suggested Time</b>
1. This examination consists of <b>four</b> parts:		
PART A: Editing, Proofreading and Comprehension Skills	13	10
PART B: Interpretation of Literature: Poetry	20	25
PART C: Interpretation of Literature: Prose	33	45
PART D: Original Composition	24	40
	<b>Total:</b>	
	<b>90 marks</b>	<b>120 minutes</b>
2. The <b>Readings Booklet</b> contains the prose and poetry passages you will need to answer certain questions on this examination.		

## PART A: EDITING, PROOFREADING AND COMPREHENSION SKILLS

Total Value: 13 marks

Suggested Time: 10 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS:** The following passage has been divided into numbered sentences which may contain problems in grammar, usage, word choice, spelling, or punctuation. One or more sentences may be correct. No sentence contains more than one error.

If you find an error, select the underlined part that must be changed in order to make the sentence correct and record your choice on the Response Form provided. Using an HB pencil, completely fill in the circle that corresponds to your answer. If there is no error, completely fill in circle D (no error).

### CULTURAL DIVERSITY

1. For the world traveller, one of the most fascinating aspects of going to  
(A)  
new places are the differences in customs encountered from one country to another. (D) no error  
(B) (C)
2. We in North America tend to beleive that most places on Earth operate in a  
(A)  
fashion similar to our own; we would be amazed to discover how  
(B)  
wrong that assumption is. (D) no error  
(C)
3. Yoshi Mishima, an eminent anthropologist, states, “Even with  
(A)  
respect to peoples names, there are different practices in many areas of the world.” (D) no error  
(B) (C)
4. He explains, “In Bali, all children born first are named ‘Wayan’, all children born  
(A)  
second are named ‘Made’, the pattern of specific names continues up to four children,  
(B)  
after which the names are repeated.” (D) no error  
(C)

5. According to Mishima, it is possible for Balinese parents to have a son and a daughter ,  
 (A) (B)  
 both of which have the same first name. (D) no error  
 (C)
6. Even the calendar isn't sacred: the Ethiopian year is thirteen months long and the  
 (A) (B)  
 Balinese year is two hundred days long. (D) no error  
 (C)
7. Customs surrounding food; however, provide for the largest amount of confusion  
 (A) (B)  
 for tourists who venture into some of the more exotic locations on our planet. (D) no error  
 (C)
8. In India, food traditionally is eaten by hand instead of with utensils; and only the right  
 (A) (B)  
 hand is used. Because the left hand is considered unclean. (D) no error  
 (C)
9. Often, customs are dictated by a person's religion, by a region's climate, or from  
 (A) (B)  
 the community's physical location. (D) no error  
 (C)
10. For those people who are fortunate enough to be able to travel extensively,  
 (A) (B)  
cultural differences provided an endless source of rewarding experiences. (D) no error  
 (C)

**OVER**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** Based on the information contained in the passage on pages 2 and 3, “Cultural Diversity”, select the **best** answer for questions 11 to 13 and record your choice on the Response Form provided.

11. Sentence 2 indicates that, compared to western culture, other societies are
- A. similar.
  - B. different.
  - C. identical.
  - D. incredible.
12. According to sentence 4, names in Bali are
- A. fixed.
  - B. varied.
  - C. creative.
  - D. unpredictable.
13. The purpose of this article is to
- A. warn.
  - B. amuse.
  - C. inform.
  - D. entertain.

## PART B: POETRY

Total Value: 20 marks

Suggested Time: 25 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the poem “Gathering” on page 1 in the **Readings Booklet**. Select the **best** answer for each question and record your choice on the Response Form provided.

14. Lines 5 and 6, “They whiten, like raw wood in a salt wind. / They silver.” suggest that the people are
- A. sick.
  - B. shiny.
  - C. aging.
  - D. richer.
15. In line 8, the word “translucent” means
- A. dull.
  - B. open.
  - C. clear.
  - D. reflecting.
16. In lines 18 and 19, the phrase, “...transformed / by some clear scentless power”, suggests the change in the friends was
- A. odorless.
  - B. welcome.
  - C. imaginary.
  - D. mysterious.
17. The questions asked by the poet are
- A. rude.
  - B. trivial.
  - C. rhetorical.
  - D. contradictory.
18. Line 29, “Their smiles are kodak shadows” is an example of
- A. simile.
  - B. metaphor.
  - C. hyperbole.
  - D. apostrophe.

19. In line 30, the phrase, “the door is locking”, implies that the people
- A. cannot find the key.
  - B. are trapped in a room.
  - C. cannot go back in time.
  - D. are lost in the shadows.
20. The most likely intent of the poem is to
- A. mourn the death of a friend.
  - B. reveal the harshness of nature.
  - C. share humour with an aging friend.
  - D. celebrate the retirement of a friend.
21. The form of this poem is
- A. a ballad.
  - B. free verse.
  - C. a narrative.
  - D. blank verse.





**PART C: PROSE**

**Total Value: 33 marks**

**Suggested Time: 45 minutes**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the story entitled “Survival Zones” on pages 2 to 5 in the **Readings Booklet**. Select the **best** answer for each question and record your choice on the Response Form provided.

22. In paragraph 1, the statement that the “stoplights are set to stay on green after ten o’clock” indicates that
- A. Elgin is a large town.
  - B. traffic is light at night.
  - C. traffic is heavy at night.
  - D. the highway passes through Elgin.
23. Paragraph 4 contains an example of
- A. personification.
  - B. understatement.
  - C. a run-on sentence.
  - D. a sentence fragment.
24. In paragraph 5, the untouched glass of milk suggests that Roxanne is
- A. tired.
  - B. calm.
  - C. finicky.
  - D. worried.
25. Paragraph 8 and paragraph 19 together present an example of
- A. satire.
  - B. contrast.
  - C. allusion.
  - D. analogy.
26. In paragraphs 9 to 18, the language can best be described as
- A. slang.
  - B. formal.
  - C. figurative.
  - D. colloquial.

27. In paragraph 24, about the azalea Roberta
- A. is undecided.
  - B. wants Aggie's opinion.
  - C. is determined to save it.
  - D. has decided to let it die.
28. The character of Roxanne is developed predominantly through
- A. events.
  - B. dialogue.
  - C. flashback.
  - D. direct presentation.
29. The conflict in the story is mainly
- A. moral.
  - B. physical.
  - C. emotional.
  - D. intellectual.
30. The point of view of the story is
- A. objective.
  - B. omniscient.
  - C. first person.
  - D. limited omniscient.

## **Organization and Planning**







## **Organization and Planning**

## PART D: ORIGINAL COMPOSITION

Value: 24 marks

Suggested Time: 40 minutes

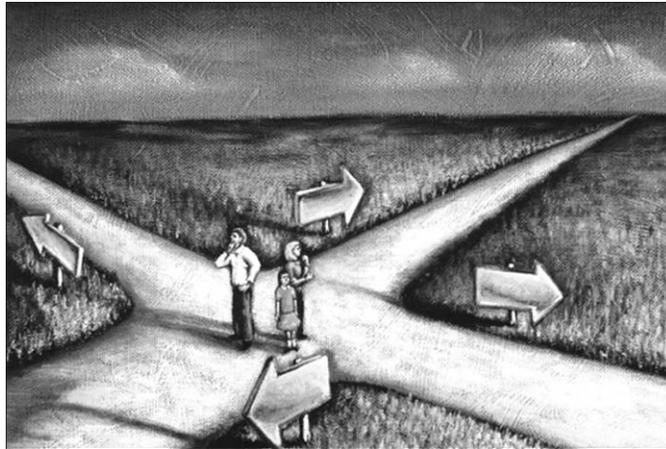
**INSTRUCTIONS:** Using standard English, write a coherent, unified, multi-paragraph composition of approximately **300 words** on the **topic** below. In your composition, you may apply any effective and appropriate method of development which includes **any combination** of exposition, persuasion, description, and narration.

Use the page headed **Organization and Planning** for your rough work. Write your composition in **ink** on the pages headed **Finished Work**.

3. Write a multi-paragraph composition on the **topic** below. In addressing the **topic**, you may draw support from the pictures below, the experiences of others, or from any aspect of your life: your reading, your own experiences, and so on.

**Topic:**

**Each stage of life brings new choices.**



**OVER**







**ENGLISH 12**  
**READINGS BOOKLET**  
**AUGUST 2001**

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## PART B: POETRY

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the following passage and answer the questions on pages 6 to 9 of the written-response booklet.

### Gathering

(Written for a fellow poet's birthday)

by Margaret Atwood

1 The people you know are growing older.  
A great unseen thumb is pushing  
gently and relentlessly down on the tops of their heads  
and they spread sideways.

5 They whiten, like raw wood in a salt wind.  
They silver.  
Their eyes are no longer surprised and guile-  
free blue pools, translucent,  
but small and knowledgeable

10 and shiny as the backs of beetles,  
or else those hard black berries  
you find still clutching the vines  
just before frost.

Walking into a gathering of them

15 you think: cyanide. You think: webs.  
Or else you think  
you are in a roomful of gnomework,  
of those who were once your friends, transformed  
by some clear scentless power

20 to these puckered dreamhouse versions.  
What happened to the meadows?

No one is ever used to this,  
to the nets, to all the clocks,  
the veins like cracks in porcelain.

25 How were they lost?  
What can you say  
to help them? Why  
are there suddenly so few?

Their smiles are kodak shadows,  
30 the door is locking,  
and whatever they ate or did  
to get this way  
is about to happen to you.

© Margaret Atwood, 1994. Used by permission of the author.

**OVER**

## PART C: PROSE

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the following selection and answer the questions on pages 10 to 15 of the written-response booklet.

adapted from **Survival Zones**

by Barbara Kingsolver

- 1 Roberta and Ed are on their way home from an evening of playing cards. Their car passes through town quickly because all four of Elgin's stoplights are set to stay on green after ten o'clock. Ed turns onto Star Route 1, which will take them home to their farm. On a portion of the large piece of land that was once Ed's family's farm they raise livestock and feed corn and have a small apple orchard.
  - 2 Although the road is just barely blacktopped now, it makes Roberta feel old to remember when it used to be dirt. She and her brother Willis rode their bikes out this way often when they were children, exploring the routes by which they would lead their parents and friends out of Elgin when the enemy dropped the H-bomb. Later they learned that if this were to occur, people would be coming *into* town, not going out. Elgin was in what was called a "survival zone": a band of small communities around Cincinnati to which people from the populated areas would flee for sustenance and shelter.
  - 3 When they pass by the drive-in, Roberta notices the movie that's playing. She pays attention because her daughter Roxanne has gone to see it with her boyfriend Danny.
- 
- 4 At home, Roberta turns on the late movie. Roxanne has gone to her room and Ed has turned in for the night, too, but Roberta has been having trouble falling asleep. After the movie, she stands at the front window for a long time, looking out. A tall azalea bush stands by the front door, spreading its dark hands out under the greenish porch light. It was planted by Ed's old mother—Roberta remembers her as old, anyway—when she first moved here from the South. Roberta loves the azalea in the spring when it's covered with white blossoms, but it gives her a good deal of trouble in the winter. She has to remember to cover it before frost comes. This year she has about decided to let it go. She's running out of energy for unwinnable battles against nature.
  - 5 She goes into the kitchen and is surprised to find Roxanne sitting at the table in her yellow terry robe. There is a full glass of milk in front of her, untouched.
  - 6 "I thought you were in bed, hon. How was the movie?" Roberta asks.
  - 7 "Oh, it was dumb. It was one of those James Bonds, where he goes gallivanting all over the world. I don't think Danny cared for it either."
  - 8 Roberta often thinks Roxanne sounds mature for her age, stuffy even, and wonders if she has suffered for having older-than-average parents. She begins to put away the supper dishes that were left in the drainer.

- 9 Roxanne gets up to help her mother. “Mama, Danny and me are talking about getting married.”
- 10 “Now? Before you even graduate?”
- 11 “No, not now. Right after, in June. He’s going away next year, most likely to Indianapolis,” Roxanne says, in a tone of voice Roberta can’t quite decipher. “They’re giving him a football scholarship to IUPUI.”
- 12 “Well, honey, that’s real exciting.”
- 13 “I know it. But I’m scared to death. What in the world would I do in Indianapolis?”
- 14 “You’d do just fine, I imagine. Nothing ever slows you down.”
- 15 “But see, mama, I’d have to *do* something. I couldn’t just be Danny’s wife. I don’t think they’re paying him that much.”
- 16 “Well, you could wait awhile. You could always stay here and work at Hampton’s for a year or two, till everything’s situated.” Hampton Mill, just outside of Elgin, produces men’s knitwear; it’s the largest employer of women in the Ohio Valley.
- 17 “I thought about Hampton’s,” Roxanne says. “I know I could stay, but it’s scary; he might meet somebody else. Or I might.” She looks at her mother, checking to see if she understands. “You know the way things happen.”
- 18 “Honey, what I’m trying to say is, things generally work out for the best, whichever way they go. Don’t do something just because you think it’s going to be your last chance in the world at being happy. There’s lots of chances. You’ve got time.”
- 19 Roxanne polishes off her glass of milk and wipes off her white mustache with the sleeve of her robe, looking so young it makes Roberta’s chest hurt.
- 20 “What would you do, if it was you?” Roxanne asks her.
- 21 Roberta has no idea what she will say. She feels as though a part of her is standing back with crossed arms, listening. “The way I’ve been feeling lately, I’m inclined to say I’d catch any train headed out of Elgin,” she says. “But you know I wouldn’t mean it. Look at me, born right down the road, and after all these years of chasing my tail doing nothing, here I still am.”
- 22 Roxanne’s lips are pursed. Roberta gives her daughter a hug, and feels like crying. By the time they ask you what they ought to do, she thinks, you’re too old to know what to tell them.
- 
- 23 On Thanksgiving morning, Ed and his younger brother, Lonnie, watch football while Lonnie’s wife, Aggie, helps in the kitchen. Roberta can see much of the family land through the kitchen window: a landscape of brown stubble fields, harvested alfalfa hay, fencerows of leafless hickories. She searches among them for some premonition of the killing frost that’s predicted. If it comes, it will be the first.

**OVER**

- 24 “I expect I’d better get out there directly and cover up that azalea by the front door,” she says to Aggie. “They’re saying frost tonight.” Roberta is trying the decision aloud, to see how it sounds, though really she’s leaning the other way.
- 25 This year Roxanne is having Thanksgiving dinner at Danny’s house, and she and Danny will drop by later. The shape of things to come, Roberta thinks.
- 
- 26 Soon after they all sit down to dinner the telephone rings. It’s Roxanne, explaining that she and Danny are going to be late. “We’ll be there in an hour or two,” she says.
- 27 Roxanne’s voice is up in her nose. Roberta can tell she has been crying.
- 28 “Are you all right?” she asks.
- 29 “Yeah.” Roxanne pauses. “I guess so. We’re having a fight.”
- 30 Roberta waits for her to go on.
- 31 “I told Danny I might not go to Indianapolis right away, that I might want to stay and work at Hampton’s, and he’s real mad. He says he won’t go without me. I feel awful. It’s his one chance to play college ball.”
- 32 “Well, try not to get too worked up about it. You’ll get it straightened out. You’ve got six months or better to decide.”
- 33 “No we don’t. He’s got to let them know pretty soon about the scholarship.”
- 34 “That’s his decision, Roxanne. He’s got his to make, and you’ve got yours. I imagine he’s just as scared as you are.”
- 35 “I know it.” She hesitates again, and Roberta can tell from the change in Roxanne’s voice that she’s smiling. “He is, and he won’t admit it.”
- 36 Roberta waits for her daughter to hang up.
- 37 “Mama? I was thinking about what you said.”
- 38 “About what, hon?”
- 39 “When you said you’d been in Elgin all this time chasing your tail. It isn’t like you’ve been doing *nothing*. Maybe it’s not like a job that, well, like the jobs people have, you know. But it’s something. To me it is.”
- 40 When Roberta comes back to the table and sits down, the landscape of white linen and silver has been transformed into a war zone. The turkey looks more like a carcass than a bird, and the Jell-O fish is gutted and beheaded like a bluegill ready for the skillet. She smiles out over the expanse of gristle and balled-up napkins. She imagines the army of women across the country marching into their kitchens with turkeys like this, preparing to pick the bones clean for sandwiches and soup stocks that will nourish their families halfway to Christmas.

- 41 A sunbeam slants through the west window looking weak, as though it has had to pass through a great ordeal to reach this dining room. It's late. Roberta catches Aggie's eye and feels a secret between them.
- 42 "Aggie," she says, "come help me throw a quilt over that azalea bush. There's no point letting it stand out there and die."

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Atwood, Margaret. "Gathering." In *Because You Loved Being a Stranger: 55 Poets Celebrate Patrick Lane*. Madeira Park, BC: Harbour Publishing, 1978.

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Kingsolver, Barbara. "Survival Zones." In *Homeland and Other Stories*. New York: HarperCollins, 1989.