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BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

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English 12

November 2004

Course Code = EN

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### 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**

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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. Check the box  corresponding to the question you have chosen:  
Question:     2             3

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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: Informational Text	7	15
PART B: Interpretation of Literature: Poetry	19	30
PART C: Interpretation of Literature: Prose	32	40
PART D: Original Composition	24	35
	<b>Total:</b>	
	<b>82 marks</b>	<b>120 minutes</b>
2. The <b>Readings Booklet</b> contains the informational text and prose and poetry passages you will need to answer certain questions on this examination.		

## PART A: INFORMATIONAL TEXT

Total Value: 7 marks

Suggested Time: 15 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the Informational Text “Room with a View” on pages 2 and 3 in the **Readings Booklet**. Select the **best** answer for each question and record your choice on the Response Form provided.

1. According to paragraph 1, what will be the newest feature of the International Space Station?
  - A. It will become a star.
  - B. It will increase in size.
  - C. It will reflect sunlight.
  - D. It will lose an air lock.
  
2. According to the article, why is the International Space Station a subject of controversy?
  - A. Its age is increasing.
  - B. It may have little scientific value.
  - C. It is too far away from earth to be of use.
  - D. It creates only a few job opportunities.
  
3. Which stylistic device is used in paragraph 2 ?
  - A. analogy
  - B. statistics
  - C. expert testimony
  - D. emotional appeal
  
4. For what reason do astronauts seem to prefer the International Space Station?
  - A. The food is more appetizing.
  - B. The showers work efficiently.
  - C. The safety standards are better.
  - D. The software is more advanced.

5. From which effect do the astronauts on board the Space Station suffer most?
- A. They panic under stress.
  - B. They become disoriented.
  - C. They lose muscle strength.
  - D. They experience motion sickness.
6. What does the term “colossus” suggest about the Space Station (paragraph 7) ?
- A. its great size
  - B. its odd shape
  - C. its unusual colour
  - D. its intense brightness
7. Which statement about the International Space Station is supported by the article?
- A. It is universally acclaimed.
  - B. Its usefulness is not yet proven.
  - C. It can be viewed on the Internet.
  - D. It can explore the outer reaches of space.

## PART B: POETRY

Total Value: 19 marks

Suggested Time: 30 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the poem “Quarry Pigeon Cove” on pages 4 and 5 in the **Readings Booklet**. Select the **best** answer for each question and record your choice on the Response Form provided.

8. To what does the speaker compare the underwater quarry?
- A. a vibrant city
  - B. a lifeless ruin
  - C. an inviting oasis
  - D. an overgrown garden
9. Which line represents a shift in the speaker’s focus of attention?
- A. “lay open like ancient Egypt” (line 6)
  - B. “I slid in on my stomach” (line 11)
  - C. “except that life stirred overhead” (line 25)
  - D. “The licorice pads of his paws” (line 31)
10. The phrase, “a teaspoon of my own spit in the mask” (line 8), contains examples of which two figurative devices?
- A. rhyme and consonance
  - B. metaphor and assonance
  - C. consonance and assonance
  - D. alliteration and onomatopoeia
11. What is implied by the statement, “I hung on the last rung of daylight” (line 17) ?
- A. The speaker is afraid of the night.
  - B. The speaker is trapped in the water.
  - C. The speaker is aware of the darkness.
  - D. The speaker is unsure about her direction.



12. To what do the “silver ball bearings” (line 18) refer?
- A. saliva
  - B. pellets
  - C. marbles
  - D. bubbles
13. Which word **best** describes how the underwater scene appears to the speaker?
- A. exciting
  - B. intriguing
  - C. disgusting
  - D. frightening
14. Which word describes the tone at the end of the poem?
- A. joyful
  - B. nostalgic
  - C. sentimental
  - D. philosophical

**Quarry Pigeon Cove**  
(pages 4 and 5 in the **Readings Booklet**)

**INSTRUCTIONS:** In paragraph form and in approximately **125 to 150 words**, answer question 1 in the space provided. Write in **ink**. The mark for your answer will be based on the appropriateness of the example(s) you use as well as the adequacy of your explanation and the quality of your written expression.

1. In paragraph form, and with reference to “Quarry Pigeon Cove,” discuss the diver’s experience.  
**(12 marks)**

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**Organization and Planning**

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**PART C: PROSE**

**Total Value: 32 marks**

**Suggested Time: 40 minutes**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the story entitled “The Visit” on pages 6 to 8 in the **Readings Booklet**. Select the **best** answer for each question and record your choice on the Response Form provided.

15. Why is Florentine surprised by the sight of her mother (paragraph 3) ?
- A. Her mother arrives early.
  - B. She hasn't seen her mother in some time.
  - C. Her mother's appearance seems to have altered.
  - D. She has never seen her mother dressed so poorly.
16. Which literary device is used in paragraph 4 ?
- A. dilemma
  - B. flashback
  - C. direct presentation
  - D. indirect presentation
17. In paragraph 5, what does the image of “a long, grey voyage” suggest about her mother's life?
- A. It is tedious.
  - B. It is inspiring.
  - C. It is desperate.
  - D. It is adventurous.
18. In paragraph 16, why does Rose-Anna feel embarrassed?
- A. She cannot pay for her lunch.
  - B. She is jealous of the young waitresses.
  - C. She becomes aware of her shabby appearance.
  - D. She regrets bringing up the family's predicament.

19. Which literary device is found in “With the two dollars deep in [Rose-Anna’s] purse...[h]er desires grew vast and many, and she left, poorer certainly than when she had come into the store” (paragraph 42) ?
- A. paradox
  - B. oxymoron
  - C. euphemism
  - D. understatement
20. What does the word “stupor” mean in paragraph 43 ?
- A. pain
  - B. anger
  - C. boredom
  - D. emptiness
21. What conclusion can be most justifiably drawn about Florentine?
- A. She no longer likes her mother.
  - B. She now looks down upon her family’s way of life.
  - C. She has learned that poverty can be overcome through determination.
  - D. She has learned that her family’s poverty is deeper than she imagined.
22. Which term **best** describes the mother’s character type?
- A. flat
  - B. round
  - C. symbolic
  - D. stereotypical

## **Organization and Planning**

**The Visit**  
(pages 6 to 8 in the **Readings Booklet**)

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose **one** of the following two topics and write a multi-paragraph essay (**3 or more paragraphs**) of approximately **300 words**. Write in **ink**. The mark for your answer will be based on the appropriateness of the example(s) you use as well as the adequacy of your explanation and the quality of your written expression.

2. In multi-paragraph essay form and with reference to "The Visit," discuss conflict.

**OR**

3. In multi-paragraph essay form and with reference to "The Visit," discuss theme.

Before you begin, go to the **front cover** of this booklet and **circle** the number corresponding to your chosen topic – **Instruction 6**.

**(24 marks)**

I have selected topic \_\_\_\_\_.

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## **Organization and Planning**

## PART D: ORIGINAL COMPOSITION

Value: 24 marks

Suggested Time: 35 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Using standard English, write a coherent, unified, multi-paragraph (**3 or more paragraphs**) 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**.

4. Write a multi-paragraph composition on the **topic** below. In addressing the **topic**, consider all possibilities. You may draw support from the experiences of others or from any aspect of your life: your reading and your experiences. Remember, you do not have to accept the basic premise of the statement.

**Topic:**

**Self-awareness leads to meaningful change.**

**OVER**



**FINISHED WORK**

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**END OF EXAMINATION**

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**ENGLISH 12**  
**READINGS BOOKLET**  
**NOVEMBER 2004**

## PART A: INFORMATIONAL TEXT

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the following passage and answer the questions on pages 2 and 3 of the written-response booklet.

### ROOM WITH A VIEW

*Earth's outpost in space gets quite an upgrade.*



- 1 Our solitary human outpost in space is growing by leaps and bounds. By this fall a giant air lock will join four other modules already in place, giving the International Space Station nearly the volume of a comfortable home. When the station is completed, its bulk will double again to more than 40,000 cubic feet<sup>1</sup>, about the size of a 747. The gleaming lab-in-the-sky already reflects so much sunlight that it has become the brightest “star” in the autumn heavens at nightfall.
- 2 Some scientists remain unimpressed. “The International Space Station is basically a large-scale federal jobs program that has nothing to do with astronomy,” says Robert Naeye, editor of *Mercury* magazine, echoing a sentiment many researchers share but prefer not to voice in public. These criticisms reflect researchers’ frustration with the station’s questionable scientific return and high cost, which they feel has robbed the research community of innumerable other projects. Advocates of space exploration, meanwhile, often deride the space station as too timid a venture. Circling above Earth’s surface at a mere 1/500 000 the average distance to Mars, it is barely in space at all.

The space station is the brightest of 100 satellites large and low enough to be easily seen. One of them traverses the evening sky every minute or two. At an altitude of 240 miles,<sup>2</sup> the station takes about 10 minutes to cross the sky. Higher satellites appear to move more slowly.

<sup>1</sup> 40 000 cubic feet: *approximately 12 000 cubic metres*

<sup>2</sup> 240 miles: *approximately 384 kilometres*

- 3 As a place to live, however, the orbiting outpost earns a glowing evaluation from astronaut Andy Thomas. Thomas, who spent four months aboard Mir in 1998 before going to the station this past March, sees no comparison between the noisy, funky-smelling Russian craft and the calm, odorless American control module. “I love working with the Russians and really liked their food, but I felt a lot safer on the ISS,” he says. “On Mir, a fire created smoke that circulated for days. Even when it made us nauseated, the Russian fire officer would laugh it off as ‘nothing serious.’ ”
- 4 In contrast with Mir, the new station has been generally trouble-free. Glitches have involved minor things like bulky backup software on the new Canadarm, an all-purpose space crane, and a flawed treadmill—needed to maintain astronauts’ muscle strength—whose 160 support slats fell apart and had to be replaced individually. After their workout, crews have to make do with moist towelettes, although Thomas says they’re far superior to the unmanageable shower on *Mir*.



- 5 Astronauts are still adjusting to the psychological effects of a modular spacecraft. Following the lead of others on board, Thomas tried to stay oriented by aligning his floating body with his feet toward the floor. “We’d all float the same way, although sometimes as a prank the others would hover the opposite way so when you’d come in you’d feel confused. And when you’d enter a new module whose wall was aligned with the ceiling of the one you were leaving, you’d do a double take and think, ‘Which way do I turn to make the floor into the floor?’ ”
- 6 Like dogs riding in the family car, station astronauts never seem to tire of looking out the station’s 20-inch-wide<sup>3</sup>, optical-quality window. “Auroras would unfold each time we passed near the poles, thunderstorms

were little silent flashbulbs going off far below, and an occasional meteor would streak through the air beneath us. Sunset lasts just five to 10 seconds. Suddenly you’d go from blindingly bright daylight to night,” Thomas recalls.

- 7 The tangible benefits of the International Space Station, either scientific or commercial, are yet unseen. But it is easy to see the colossus itself. NASA runs a Web site, [liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov](http://liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov) that shows when and where the station will next cross your sky. Add `/realtime/jpass/passgenerator/help.html` at the end of that address, and you can sign up to receive e-mails telling you when the station will be most easily observed. Looking up at the night’s newest star, you can witness highly visible evidence of your tax dollars at work.

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<sup>3</sup> 20 inches: *approximately 50 centimetres*

## PART B: POETRY

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the following passage and answer the questions on pages 4 to 6 of the written-response booklet.

### Quarry<sup>1</sup> Pigeon Cove

by Maxine Kumin

- 1 The dead city waited,  
hung upside down in the quarry  
without leafmold or pondweed  
or a flurry of transparent minnows.
- 5 Badlands the color of doeskin  
lay open like ancient Egypt
- Frog fins strapped to my feet,  
a teaspoon of my own spit in the mask  
to keep glass from fogging,
- 10 and the thumbsuck rubber air tube in my mouth,  
I slid in on my stomach  
a makeshift amphibian
- Whatever the sky was doing  
it did now on its own
- 15 The sun shone for the first fifteen feet<sup>2</sup> going down,  
then flattened, then petered out  
I hung on the last rung of daylight  
breathing out silver ball bearings,  
and looked for the square granite bottom
- 20 I might have swum down looking  
soundlessly into nothing,  
down stairways and alleys of nothing  
until the city took notice  
and made me its citizen,

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<sup>1</sup> quarry: *a place from which stone can be extracted*

<sup>2</sup> fifteen feet: *approximately 5 metres*

25 except that life stirred overhead.  
I looked up. A dog walked over me.  
A dog was swimming and splashing.  
Air eggs nested in his fur.  
The hairless parts of him bobbed like toys  
30 and the silk of his tail blew past like milkweed  
The licorice pads of his paws  
sucked in and out,  
making the shapes of kisses.

After that,  
35 the nap<sup>3</sup> of the surface resettled.  
Mites danced on both sides of it.  
Coming up, my own face seemed beautiful.  
The sun broke on my back.

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<sup>3</sup> nap: *a wooly or downy covering*

## PART C: PROSE

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the following selection and answer the questions on pages 8 to 11 of the written-response booklet.

The following selection is set at a department store lunch counter.

### “The Visit”

adapted from *The Tin Flute*

by Gabrielle Roy  
translation by Alan Brown

- 1 Florentine stared, amazed to see her mother there.
- 2 “Maw! What a surprise!”
- 3 She couldn’t get over her mother’s appearance. As often happens to members of a family who see each other every day, she had ceased to observe Rose-Anna’s face, and now saw all the changes that had escaped her: the faint wrinkles around the eyes, the listlessness in her expression, the suffering and courage inscribed on her features. At a glance she realized all that had slipped in between today and the remembered image.
- 4 Florentine was stunned. She had helped her mother out of fairness and pride, but without real tenderness, and often with a sense of injury to herself. For the first time she had occasion to be glad that she had never acted meanly toward her family. She felt a sudden desire, akin to happiness, to be good to her mother, to show herself more attentive, gentle and generous.
- 5 She felt the imperious desire to mark the day with some special kindness, the memory of which would stay intact. She now perceived her mother’s life as a long, grey voyage which she, Florentine, would never make; and today, in a way, they were saying good-bye to each other. Maybe their paths were beginning to separate this very minute. Some people need the threat of parting to make them attentive to their own feelings, and in that moment she knew that she loved her mother.
- 6 “Mamma,” she said warmly, “come on, sit down!”
- 7 “I just dropped in, I was going by,” Rose-Anna explained. “Your father’s at home, as you know. And out of work, eh?”
- 8 Oh, that was their mother, starting right off with their troubles! Away from home she had this embarrassed smile, and she didn’t mean to dampen youthful spirits — on the contrary, she liked to warm herself by their fire and often adopted a forced gaiety — but her words of complaint came out all by themselves. They were her real words of greeting. And perhaps they were the right words to reach her family, for apart from their worries, what kept them together?
- 9 She went on, speaking more softly, ashamed to talk of these things in the presence of strangers.
- 10 She’d told her all that this morning. Florentine frowned at her own impatience, but she caught herself in time and answered kindly. “You did right to stop by. And I’ve got just the thing for you. We got chicken today, forty cents. I’m treating you.”

- 11 You could almost hear her murmur, forty cents! That's a fortune! All her life, with her knowledge of the cost of food and her ability to make substantial meals from nothing, she had kept her peasant horror of paying in a restaurant for a meal she could prepare at home for half the price. At the same time she had always repressed a secret desire to treat herself some day to this extravagant pleasure.
- 12 "Oh, very well then," she said, giving in to fatigue and temptation, "but just a smidgen of pie or maybe a doughnut. I could eat that, I guess."
- 13 "No, no!" said Florentine, losing patience.
- 14 "No, no," she said again, "you're goin' to eat a big meal, Mamma. It's not often you get a chance to eat at my place, eh?"
- 15 "That's true," said Rose-Anna, touched by the girl's gaiety. "It's the very first time, I do believe. But just the same, I'll just have a cup of coffee, really, Florentine, that's going to do me just fine."
- 16 She watched the rapid movements of the waitresses, impressed by their youth, and stole a look at Florentine, who seemed to have risen far above her family here in the glitter of mirrors and the colourful crowd. She was silent, feeling almost as much embarrassment as pride. In a confused way she realized how imprudent it was always to bother Florentine with their troubles, casting her shadow on this girl's youth; and suddenly, clumsily, she decided to put on a happier front.
- 17 "I'd better not get in the habit of going out, you might get tired of seein' me here. It's so warm and nice in your store. And does it ever smell good! And don't you look pretty now!"
- 18 This compliment was like balm to Florentine's heart.
- 19 "I'm ordering chicken. You'll see, it's good," she cried, back to her first resolve to be kind to Rose-Anna.
- 20 She wiped the counter in front of her mother, brought her a paper napkin and a glass of water, and lavished on her all the attentions she had to pay to strangers day after day without the slightest satisfaction. Today they filled her with joy, as if this was the first time she had ever wiped a counter or set a place; and a distant sound of music caught her, gave its rhythm to her body, and lightened her heavy chores.
- 21 "You know, you got a nice job. You're well off here," Rose-Anna said, misinterpreting the happiness on Florentine's face.
- 22 "That's what you think!" cried the girl, forgetting her resolve. But then she laughed. "Had good tips today, though," she said.
- 23 "You know something?" she went on. "It's always me gets the most tips."
- 24 Then she brought a plate piled high and, as the crowd was gone, took a few minutes to keep her mother company and watch her eat.
- 25 "Is it good? Do you like it?" she kept asking.
- 26 "Just first-class," said Rose-Anna.

**OVER**

- 27 But she also kept saying, with the tenacity that ruined the smallest extravagance for her, “My, that’s expensive though, forty cents. Seems to me it can’t be worth that much. Just think, Florentine! That’s a lot!”
- 28 When she finished the chicken, Florentine cut her a piece of pie.
- 29 “Oh, I couldn’t! said Rose-Anna. “I had too much already.”
- 30 “It’s all included in the meal,” Florentine insisted. “It doesn’t cost any more.”
- 31 “Well, just a taste then,” said Rose-Anna. “But it’s not out of hunger anymore.”
- 32 Then Florentine, seeing her mother relaxed and almost happy, felt a tenfold desire to add to the joy she had already given her. She reached into her blouse and took out two new bills. She’d been keeping them to buy stockings, and the moment her hands touched the crisp paper she felt a terrible regret, but she sighed and held her hand out to her mother.
- 33 “Here,” she said, “take that. Take it, Mother.”
- 34 “But you gave me your week’s pay already,” Rose-Anna objected.
- 35 Florentine smiled. She said: “This is a little extra. Come on, take it!”
- 36 She was thinking: I’m good to my mother. I’ll get it back. It’ll be counted in my favour. She was still sad at giving up her silk stockings, but she felt a new certainty that she would be happy immediately.
- 37 Rose-Anna had turned red. “Oh,” she said, her fingers busy chasing bread crumbs from her coat, “I didn’t come in to get something from you, Florentine. I know you don’t get to keep much of your pay.”
- 38 She took the bills just the same and put them in her change purse which she slipped into the inside pocket of her bag. Carefully folded and buried so deep, they seemed almost safe from all the pressing needs making their calls upon them.
- 39 “To tell the truth,” she admitted, “I needed that money almost right now.”
- 40 “Oh, Maw,” said Florentine, less pleased with her generosity than she had expected to be, “and you wouldn’t have said a word!”
- 41 She saw the dejected look on her mother, grateful and full of admiration for Florentine, saw her stand up with an effort and go away among the counters, stopping here and there to touch some material or examine an article.
- 42 Her mother! Getting old.... She moved slowly, and her coat, too tight, made her belly stick out more prominently. With the two dollars deep in her purse she wandered off, more uncertain than ever, for now she saw the shining pots and pans and the cloth, so soft to the touch. Her desires grew vast and many, and she left, poorer certainly than when she had come in the store.
- 43 Suddenly all the joy Florentine had felt turned to gall<sup>1</sup>. Her happiness at being generous gave way to an aching stupor. What she had done had led to nothing.

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<sup>1</sup> gall: *bitterness*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Berman, Bob. "Room with a View." *Discover Magazine*. Buena Vista Magazines.  
September 2001.

Brown, Alan. Translation of "The Visit." adapted from *The Tin Flute* by Gabrielle Roy

Kumin, Maxine. "Quarry Pigeon Cove." from *Selected Poems 1960-1990*.  
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