



Cases of Academic Misconduct

May 2015
Examination Session

Subject Group 1

English A: Language and Literature HL
Written Task 1
Infringement: Plagiarism

Original Script

ENGLISH A: LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
WRITTEN TASK 1
PART 2: LANGUAGE & MASS COMMUNICATION
HL

Rationale:

For this written task I have created a modern day speech based upon Nelson Mandela's "I am prepared to die" speech. In this three-hour long speech, Mandela talks about the problems like apartheid, racism and his own ideals. For my speech, I have chosen to change the context of the speech by partially rewriting the last nine paragraphs.

This rewritten speech is inspired by the recent deaths of Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Antonio Martin, which are seen as racial motivated, and the assassinations of two NYPD officers. While Michael Brown and Eric Gardner resisted arrest I believe this does not justify the excessive force used by the police. In the case of Antonio Martin, it is too early to go into the specifics. But their deaths certainly do not justify the vengeance taken on the two NYPD officers. I wanted to rewrite this speech because it seems to be a symptom of modern day racism. The goal of this written task is to illustrate the point that vengeance and violence are never the answers to conflicts like this one.

For this work, the last nine paragraphs of Mandela's speech have been used. I have incorporated the deaths of Michael Brown, Eric Gardner, Antonio Martin and two NYPD officers in my speech. This meant that I had to change the place from South Africa to the United States. Furthermore, I have incorporated in the first paragraph of my speech, a bit about the early history of African Americans. I have used several sentences of the original speech that are rhetorically very strong. The one I am writing this speech for, is a famous civil rights activist namely Reverend Al Sharpton. Rev. Al Sharpton led a series of protests when Sean Bell, an African American, was killed in 2008 by police officers.

Written Task:

The Obama administration answers its critics by saying that the African American community in the United States received their freedom earlier than in any other country. That all blacks received equality when they first received their civil rights and are better off now than in any other country in the world. I do not know whether this last statement is true and doubt whether any comparison can be made without having regard to racism in other countries. But even if it is true, as far as the black people are concerned it is irrelevant. Our complaint is not that we are less equally treated by comparison with the black population in other countries, but that we are less equally treated by comparison with the white population in this country.

This lack of human dignity was first experienced by the African American community and by the media when the grand jury found no probable cause to indict police officer Darren Wilson for the death of Michael Brown. Couple of months later another African American died. Eric Garner was the victim of excessive force. While he pleaded at least 11 times "I can't breathe" officer Pantaleo hold him allegedly in a chokehold while four others pinned him down thus using excessive force. Even with eyewitnesses, the grand jury still found no probable cause to indict the responsible officer. Justice was not served. Not for Eric Garner or for Michael Brown. But avenging their deaths by

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Comments

Although the candidate has cited a source in the bibliography, this is a secondary, rather than a primary source. Candidates should always cite the original author or speaker directly, in this case Nelson Mandela.

Citation in the body of the text is inconsistent, and makes it difficult for the reader to distinguish which words are the candidate's own.

The words that have been copied without direct citation have been highlighted in yellow. Words that have been correctly cited but exhibit an over-reliance on the source material have been highlighted in grey.

The highlighted extract continues on the following page.

<http://www.famous-speeches-and-speech-topics.info/famous-speeches/nelson-mandela-speech-i-am-prepared-to-die.htm>



Nelson Mandela Speech - I Am Prepared To Die

The Nelson Mandela Speech - I Am Prepared To Die featured extracts, passages or lines from the Nelson Mandela Speech. Mandela Speech demonstrates good oratory skills, a great public speaking ability to use clear words and text. Speech Example Topic / Subject: Motivation, Inspiration / Inspiring Speech.

Nelson Mandela Speech - I Am Prepared To Die

Nelson Mandela - "I am Prepared to Die"
April 20, 1964

I am the First Accused.

The Government often answers its critics by saying that Africans in South Africa are economically better off than the inhabitants of the other countries in Africa. I do not know whether this statement is true and doubt whether any comparison can be made without having regard to the cost of living index in such countries. But even if it is true, as far as the African people are concerned it is irrelevant. Our complaint is not that we are poor by comparison with people in other countries, but that we are poor by comparison with the white people in our own country and that we are prevented by legislation from altering this imbalance.

Original Script

assassinating two police officers is not justice either. The problem is the perceived racial discrimination.

Seeing an African American as a usual suspect for a crime and being frisked by the police without any reason is a situation that happens nearly every day. I doubt whether there is a single African American male in the United States who has not at some stage had a brush with the police. Hundreds and thousands of African Americans are being seen by the police with a stereotypical thought; when there is a petty crime a black person must be seen as a potential suspect. Even worse than this is the fact that this stereotypical thought was used to justify the initial arrest of Michael and Eric. When they resisted arrest, they had to pay with their lives.

Their deaths created a chain reaction of protests and violence. While the anger of the protestors is understandable, it does not give them the right to use violence in order to make their point. Neither did it give them the right to take justice in their own hands. Every action has its consequences, foreseen and unforeseen consequences, intended and unintended consequences. The assassination of police officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu was not justice neither vengeance. It was a criminal act, murder. The consequence is that the New York Police feels abandoned and have turned their backs to the city's mayor. The Justice Department has started a full federal investigation in this affair. The African American community just wants justice not vengeance.

Above all, we have equal rights and as such, we want to be treated as equals, because if no one treats us equal our disabilities will be permanent. I know this sounds old to the whites in this country but that is what the situation is right now. The whites want to maintain their supremacy. They fear that they will lose power once we are treated as equals. The whites embrace the principles of democracy yet fear it in terms of their power. (The History Place)

But this fear cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the only solution that will guarantee racial harmony and freedom for all. It is not true that the enfranchisement of all will result in racial domination. Political division, based on color, is entirely artificial and, when it disappears, so will the domination of one color group by another. We have spent half a century fighting against racialism. When it triumphs, we will not change that policy (The History Place)

This then is what we are fighting for. Our struggle is a truly national one (The History Place) It is a struggle of the African American people, inspired by their own suffering and their own experience. It is a struggle for the right to live. More importantly, it is perhaps a struggle that will take on for many decades. Our struggle for full equality in socio-economic perspective. Our idealistic struggle for a just society.

During my lifetime, I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African American people. I have fought against white domination and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal, which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die (The History Place)

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The lack of human dignity experienced by Africans is the direct result of the policy of white supremacy. White supremacy implies black inferiority. Legislation designed to preserve white supremacy entrenches this notion. Menial tasks in South Africa are invariably performed by Africans. When anything has to be carried or cleaned the white man will look around for an African to do it for him, whether the African is employed by him or not. Because of this sort of attitude whites tend to regard Africans as a separate breed. They do not look upon them as people with families of their own; they do not realize that they have emotions that they fall in love like white people do; that they want to be with their wives and children like white people want to be with theirs; that they want to earn enough money to support their families properly to feed and clothe them and send them to school. And what 'house boy' or 'garden boy' or laborer can ever hope to do this?

Pass laws which to the Africans are among the most hated bits of legislation in South Africa render any African liable to police surveillance at any time. I doubt whether there is a single African male in South Africa who has not at some stage had a brush with the police over his pass. Hundreds and thousands of Africans are thrown into jail each year under pass laws. Even worse than this is the fact that pass laws keep husband and wife apart and lead to the breakdown of family life.

But this fear cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the only solution which will guarantee racial harmony and freedom for all. It is not true that the enfranchisement of all will result in racial domination. Political division, based on color, is entirely artificial and, when it disappears, so will the domination of one color group by another. The ANC has spent half a century fighting against racialism. When it triumphs it will not change that policy.

This then is what the ANC is fighting. Their struggle is a truly national one. It is a struggle of the African people, inspired by their own suffering and their own experience. It is a struggle for the right to live.

During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.

Nelson Mandela April 20 1964

Original Script

Candidate session number: 0024

Works Cited

The History Place. *The History Place - Great Speeches Collection: Nelson Mandela Speech - I am Prepared to Die*. sd. 30 November 2014.

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