

**MINISTERIAL EXAMINATION OF COLLEGE ENGLISH
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION AND LITERATURE**

12 AUGUST 2020

WRITING GUIDELINES

Read over the questions below and write a well-written, well-organized **750-word analytical essay** based on a **main idea** in **one** of the three readings. Remember to interpret, rather than summarize, the reading as a whole.

READING 1: A short story
“Ferris Wheel” by Kathy Stinson

Write an essay that develops a thesis statement about a main idea in Stinson’s short story. In your analysis of her text, be sure to explain how Stinson uses literary techniques and devices to construct that idea.* Make specific references to the reading to support your interpretation.

READING 2: An essay
“Making Choices: Ethics and Vegetarianism” by Juliana Devries

Write an essay that develops a thesis statement about a main idea in Devries’s essay. In your analysis of her text, be sure to explain how Devries uses rhetorical techniques and devices to construct that idea.** Make specific references to the reading to support your interpretation.

READING 3: A short story
“The Postcard” by Heinrich Böll

Write an essay that develops a thesis statement about a main idea in Böll’s short story. In your analysis of his text, be sure to explain how Böll uses literary techniques and devices to construct that idea*. Make specific references to the reading to support your interpretation.

Note that essays of fewer than 600 words will automatically receive a failing grade.

- * Literary techniques and devices commonly used in **short stories** include alliteration, allusion, characterization, conflict, dialogue, diction, flashback, foreshadowing, imagery, irony, juxtaposition, metaphor, narrative point of view, setting, simile, symbolism and tone. You may discuss other techniques and devices as well. Note that some authors may use unconventional devices regardless of genre.
- ** Rhetorical techniques and devices commonly used in **essays** include analogy, anecdote, appeal to authority, cause and effect, comparison, contrast, definition, description, diction, empirical evidence, enumeration, ethos, example, irony, level of language, logos, narration, pathos, refutation of opposing views, repetition, rhetorical questions, and tone. You may discuss other techniques and devices as well. Note that some authors may use unconventional devices regardless of genre.