

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

**13 DECEMBER 2017**

<b>WRITING GUIDELINES</b>
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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**  
**“On the San Juan” by Ron Carlson**

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

**READING 2:     An essay**  
**“The Truth about Stories” by Thomas King**

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

**READING 3:     A short story**  
**“The Death of Aunt Alice” by Lesley Glaister**

Write an essay that develops a thesis statement about a main idea in Glaister’s short story. In your analysis of her text, be sure to explain how Glaister 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.**

\* **Techniques and devices, depending on the genre, may include the following:** alliteration, allusion, analogy, appeal to authority, cause and effect, characterization, comparison, contrast, definition, description, dialogue, diction, empirical evidence, enumeration, example, flashback, foreshadowing, imagery, irony, level of language, metaphor, narration, narrative point of view, refutation of opposing views, repetition, rhetorical questions, setting, simile, symbolism and tone. You may discuss other techniques and devices as well.