

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

**8 AUGUST 2018**

**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**  
**“Scrabble Lessons” by Leslie Vryenhoek**

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

**READING 2: An essay**  
**“The Elephant’s Final Bow” by Allen Abel**

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

**READING 3: A short story**  
**“Bedtime Stories” by Justin Campbell**

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