

# LIRA TOWN COLLEGE

END OF TERM III EXAMS 2009

S.5 LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

**P310 / 2      PLAY**

ATHOL FUGARD: THE BLOOD KNOT

*Answer question 1 and two other questions.*

Q.1 Read the extract below and answer the questions that come after it.

Zachariah: Ding – dong ....ong....ong....Ding – dong.....ong.....ong  
Morris: What is that sound I hear?  
Zachariah: The bells. They're closing up. Ding – dong ..... ong.....ong.  
Morris: I'd better hurry home. [Stands]. Yes, it is a good day.....while it lasted.  
Zachariah: Ding – dong.....ong.....ong  
Morris: Ah, that's the gate.  
Zachariah: What's the matter with you?  
Morris: What's the matter with me?  
Zachariah: Can't you see the gate is locked?  
Morris: Is it? [Tries the gate.] It is.  
Zachariah: I locked it before I rang the bell.  
Morris: Heavens above! Then I'd better climb over.  
Zachariah: Over those sharp pieces of glass they got on the top?  
Morris: Then the fence.  
Zachariah: Barbed wire.....very high.....  
Morris: So what do I do?  
Zachariah: You might try calling.  
Morris: Hello! Hello there! Hello, anybody there!!  
Zachariah: Nobody hears you, hey!  
Morris: Now what?  
Zachariah: Now, you think you'll try the gate on the other side.  
Morris: [alarm]. All the way back?  
Zachariah: Ja. [Moves quietly to the lamp on the table.]  
Morris: Through the trees?  
Zachariah: Looks like it.  
Morris: but it's getting dark!  
[Zachariah is turning down the lamp.]  
Zachariah: It happens everyday.  
Morris: And cold....and I never did like shadows....and .....(pause).....where are you?  
Zachariah: Behind a tree.

Morris: But.....but I thought you were the good sort of boy?  
 Zachariah: Me?  
 Morris: The simple, trustworthy type of John-boy. Weren't you that?  
 Zachariah: I've changed.  
 Morris: Who gave you the right?  
 Zachariah: I took it!  
 Morris: That's illegal! They weren't yours!

***Questions:***

- (i) What was happening immediately before this scene?
  - (ii) What is taking place in this extract?
  - (iii) How is this extract important in Fugard's play "The Blood Knot"?
  - (iv) Give a full interpretation of Morris' last statement in this extract, "That's illegal! They weren't yours!"
2. What is the importance of scene one in Athol Fugard's text The Blood Knot?
  3. Although we don't physically meet Ethel in the play The Blood Knot, she is a very important character in the drama. Do you support this statement? Give your views.
  4. What one thing does Fugard use in The Blood Knot as a symbol; and what does it symbolize?

***Merry X – Mas and a Prosperous New Year 2010***