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ABSTRACT

This booklet presents the Written Response part of the English 30 Grade 12 Diploma examination. After instructions for students, the booklet presents the first part of the examination in which students respond to Patricia Keeney's poem "Swimming Alone," which addresses the complexities of risk-taking. The booklet then presents the second part of the examination in which students examine the consequence of the individual response to risk-taking based on the literature they have studied. The booklet provides students with suggested times for completing the examination and space for planning and drafting their responses. (RS)

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January 1997



English 30

Part A: Written Response

Grade 12 Diploma Examination

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January 1997 **English 30** Part A: Written Response Grade 12 Diploma Examination

Description

Part A: Written Response contributes 50% of the total English 30 Diploma Examination mark and consists of **two** assignments:

Reader's Response to Literature Assignment

Suggested time approximately 1/2 hour

Value 30% of the Part A mark

... Page 2

• Literature Composition Assignment

Suggested time approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours

Value 70% of the Part A mark

... Page 10

Time: 2 1/2 hours. You may take an additional 1/2 hour to complete the examination.

Instructions

- Read the **whole** examination carefully before you begin to write.
- Follow instructions carefully.
- Complete **both** assignments.
- Space is provided in this booklet for planning and drafting and for your finished work. Please write your finished work in blue or black ink. Feel free to make changes and corrections.
- You may use the following references:
 - –a print or electronic dictionary(English language and/or translation)
 - -a thesaurus
 - -an authorized writing handbook
- Budget your time carefully; the suggested time for each part is only a guideline for you.
- Do not write your name anywhere in this booklet.



Reading Selection

- 1. Because the Readers' Response to Literature Assignment will prepare you for the Literature Composition Assignment, read **both** assignments before you begin.
- 2. Read "Swimming Alone" carefully and thoughtfully before you start the writing assignments.

SWIMMING ALONE

They warn you not to dangerous they say what if you get in trouble what if in the early morning when pellets of rain rip the mist like whispered rumour, loud in the dark fir circling what if the majesty of one deliberately fracturing glass moving down through pools to make a footprint on mud that's swallowed whole slipping behind the raft and out of sight breathing under the whirled pearl smoke brooding and dreaming, what if

one becomes enough
or meets another single creature
ploughing through this lake
also swimming alone
for the first time since childhood
in cunning furtive spasms
until the strokes are long and steady
what if we two angry isolates
touching souls together
ignoring all the prohibitions, expectations
swimming especially in lightning

Continued



white nudes between each sizzling shaft and always at night, when the sky falls down and we push through fuming stars barely missing the moon's pale hiss what if we two, wrinkled and cold and buoyant never come out of the lake

swimming alone is for the brave and desperate

Patricia Keeney Canadian poet

Reader's Response to Literature Assignment (Suggested time: approximately 1/2 hour)

The poem "Swimming Alone" by Patricia Keeney suggests the complex elements involved in risk-taking.

What does the poem "Swimming Alone" convey to you about the factors involved in risk-taking? Support your response with reference to specific details from the poem.

PLANNING

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PLANNING

There is additional space for Planning on pages 6 and 8.



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PLANNING

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Literature Composition Assignment (Suggested time: approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours)

Literature often portrays the individual confronting the unknown—either stepping back from the brink of risk, hesitating, or plunging in.

Write an essay based on literature that you have studied in which the author examines the consequence of the individual response to risk-taking. What idea does the author develop regarding risk-taking? Develop your essay by providing specific supporting details from the literature that you choose to discuss.

Guidelines for Writing

- Choose your selection from relevant short stories, novels, plays, poems, other literature, or films that you have studied in your high school English classes. You must discuss literature other than the poem provided in this examination booklet.
- **Focus** your essay on your controlling idea regarding risk-taking. Markers will be looking for evidence that you are responding to the requirements of this assignment as you develop and support your controlling idea.
- Organize your composition so that your ideas are clearly and coherently developed.



INITIAL PLANNING

Space is provided here this page.	for your initial planning.	No marks are awarded	l for work done on
Author and title of literature that you have chosen			
Your controlling idea or thesis statement			

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FINISHED WORK

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PLANNING



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FINISHED WORK	





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Credit

Patricia Keeney. "Swimming Alone" from *The Globe and Mail*, August 3, 1966. Reprinted under the Alberta Government Print Licence with CanCopy (Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency.)



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English 30: Part A

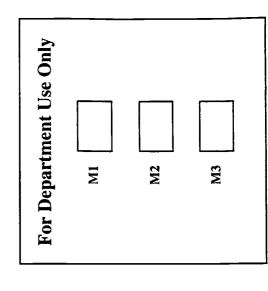
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English 30: Part A

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