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P.4 IB Language and Literature

January 15, 2019

### IB LA Team Practice Final Outline

**Question 1:** Analyse, compare and contrast the following two texts. Include comments on the similarities and differences between the texts and the significance of context, audience, purpose, and formal and stylistic features.

**Thesis:** Although *Shipmates* and *Long enough in Jo'burg* differs in structural approach, both texts address similar themes regarding race -- illustrating both the internal and external conflicts associated with being black.

**BTS 1:** The similar thematic elements regarding race in each passage portrays the interactions of ethnicity within society, conveying how differences in identity create divisions among people.

- Evidence 1: “averted eyes/could not possibly mean/offence at errant blackness... I recognised and shared his pain/my mind wandered/to his history/to our struggles/to our beauty/to our pain”
  - Reactions based on the color of their skin: “faces/black and white”
    - The white passengers “avert their eyes” to avoid looking or staring at ethnic passengers
      - Idea of avoidance of the issue: not willing to reach out, but not trying to make the issue worse
    - Camaraderie between speaker and subject: inclusive language of “our struggles... our beauty... our pain”
      - Identifying with those similar to us, to those with shared backgrounds and histories
  - This illustrates how society’s treatment of ethnicity fails to repair the divides between different races; instead, the sense of camaraderie between

those who have faced the same treatment grows while the issue remains unresolved.

- Evidence 2: “‘WHITES ONLY.’ The letters were huge and belligerent... I saw the sign: ‘BLACKS, ASIAN, COLOREDS’”
  - Government sanctioned division
    - Deliberate separation based on race
    - The speaker’s tone: “To think there is a law that says Fabian can walk in that station, but his sister can’t... I was lost for words.”
      - Prevailing sense of injustice, shock, and indignance conveys how this is a legitimate issue in the lives of ethnic people.
    - Lack of or altogether inability to speak up on the issue: “yet no one seemed to be talking. No noise, just an ominous silence”
      - While this silence is on the part of the non-Caucasian people crammed in the dark room, this highlights how the issue fails to be broached because of perception of their race. Feeling powerless due to the divide in their society that resulted from racial differences, the issue is left to rest as they content themselves with their reality.
  - Synthesis: In both passages, the authors establish a race-based conflict to convey the themes of racial tensions and society’s inability to resolve them.

**BTS 2:** The stylistic structural choices of both pieces highlights the authors’ characterizations of their narrators, emphasizing the importance of perspective in experiences.

- Evidence 1: Poetry
  - Analysis: Collins uses a poetic approach to convey social clashes through a modernist stream of consciousness style. By using poetry, the narrator is not limited to a specific structure, and can convey a multidimensional perspective with an abrupt tone created from interrupted phrases in the lines of each stanza. When the narrator diverts to another passenger they write, “as I recognized and

shared his pain / my mind wandered / to his history / to our struggles / to our beauty / to our pain / and loving him / I wondered". Through this stream of consciousness, Collins connects the two characters--the narrator and the passenger--through their "blackness". It directly portrays the titular theme of being a part of the same boat, or being "shipmates," and how this unity allows them to understand each other's societal struggles and internal conflicts that comes with being black.

- Evidence 2: Prose - "“Why not?” [...] I have read and and about such things, but actually seeing them in front of me [...] shook me to the hilt”
  - Analysis: Longmore uses prose in her article to not only match the format of *The Spectator* magazine, but to also create imagery based upon her own shocking experience within Johannesburg. The use of prose sets the tense mood of the article as the audience recognizes the racial tensions brewing within Johannesburg and further highlights Longmore's own perception of the incident.
  - In addition, Longmore takes advantage of prose through inner and outer dialogue, further emphasizing the shock she experiences.

**Combined Analysis of Evidence 1 and 2:** In contrast to Collin's use of poetry through a stream-of-consciousness style, Longmore's style provides the audience with more direct language. While Collin's poetry illustrates deeper insight into her inner perspective, Longmore's synthesis of what is occurring physically and in the narrator's mind provides a more direct argument.