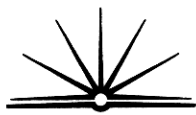




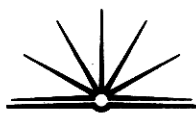
## Section I - Module A

The contexts of the two texts *Emma* by Jane Austen and *Clueless* by Amy Heckerling have shaped both the form and meaning of the two texts. The difference in form between the two texts is evidently a consequence of the difference context by which the two texts are seen in. The meaning of the texts are different from one another, but do have some similarities. The social commentary that is prominent throughout both texts shows a common meaning. Even with the difference in style, language and the modern setting the underlying message from both texts is still very similar. These similarities and differences between the two texts have been shaped by the contexts of the text to quite a large extent. The values shown by both texts are quite different, with one text seeing material possessions and popularity as the important value, where the other has more traditional values of family and friends. These differences in values are what help differentiate the two texts.



The most obvious similarity between Emma and Clueless is the social commentary that comes through from the composer of the text. This gives the stories a similar meaning. Although set in different time periods the two texts still have a meaning that brings a common element to the two texts. This is shown in the opening scenes of the film and the first chapter of the novel. The world by which the two main female characters live is described show what their values are and what their little worlds involve. The film is shown to value commercialism with the reference to the noxema ~~emort~~ commercial, this is representing the values of the generation of that time. This view is shaped by the context of the film. To appeal to the target audience the composer of the film has taken the same meaning of Emma, the social commentary and adapted it to the modern setting.

In the first chapter of the novel Emma is introduced, and described as the person that

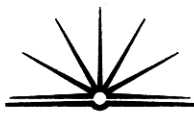


is of a middle to higher class and quite sophisticated. They show that she is used to getting what she wants and that she is quite educated. She is shown to be a match maker, as she set up her governess with her husband.

This shows the shift in values between the two texts, as due to the time and setting of Emma, marriage and afternoon tea are more the way of life in Hartfield. Once again this difference is shaped by the context of text.

The forms of the two texts is shaped by the values of the characters and the context of the text. The modern, commercial form that is given to Clueless is due to the context by which the film is seen, and the audience that the film is targeted at. This is the same for Emma, as the novel was written to be read mostly by educated people of the English country, the form of the novel was also influenced by the target audience and context of the novel.

In comparing the two texts Emma and



and clueless to a large extent it has been my experience that the contexts of these two texts have shaped their form and meaning. The difference in the values of the two texts has resulted from the target audience of the two texts and the context of the text. Both texts make social commentary on the period of time that their text is set, and this shows a common element between the two texts which has been represented in both a traditional and contemporary manner in these two texts.