Write an essay of approximately 400 words on one of the topics below. You may use printed dictionaries and a copy of each text (no written notes should appear inside any of your reference materials).

1. Do you consider Iola or Pigeon to be the protagonist of Aly Conran’s *Pigeon*? Justify your stance with close reference to the narrative.

2. During a dinner Chanu’s friend dr. Azad addresses Nazneen thus, “‘This is another disease which afflicts us,’ […] I call it Going Home Syndrome. Do you know what that means?” (Ali, 2003, 32). Via a careful reading of the text outline whether any of the characters in *Brick Lane* suffer from this ‘syndrome’ and analyse how they cope and ultimately resolve this ‘ailment’.

3. Moshin Hamid’s character Changez informs his American interlocutor in the cafe that he wondered, ‘whether I believed at all in the firmness of the foundations of the new life I was attempting to construct for myself in New York. Certainly I *wanted* to believe; at least I wanted not to disbelieve with such an intensity that I prevented myself as much as possible from making the obvious connection between the crumbling of the world around me and the impending destruction of my personal American dream’ (Hamid, 2007: 106). Do you believe that Changez’s journey of self-discovery ends negatively? Justify your stance with close reference to text.