

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paper 2 Modern texts and poetry

Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes

You should use your own paper to answer the questions.

Section A: Modern prose or drama

Answer **one*** question from this section on your chosen text.

*Note that in the real exam you will have a choice of two questions on your chosen text.

EITHER

① **JB Priestley: *An Inspector Calls***

How does Priestley use the characters of Mr and Mrs Birling in *An Inspector Calls* to explore ideas about class?

Write about:

- how Priestley presents Mr and Mrs Birling
- how Priestley uses these characters to explore ideas about class.

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

OR

② **Willy Russell: *Blood Brothers***

How does Russell use the character of Mrs Johnstone to explore ideas about inequality in *Blood Brothers*?

Write about:

- how Russell presents the character of Mrs Johnstone
- how Russell uses Mrs Johnstone to explore ideas about inequality.

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

OR

③ **Alan Bennett: *The History Boys***

In *The History Boys*, Hector says: 'I count examinations...as the enemy of education.'
To what extent does Bennett present Hector as a wise teacher?

Write about:

- how Bennett presents the character of Hector
- how much Bennett presents Hector as a wise teacher.

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

OR

4 **Dennis Kelly: *DNA***

How does Kelly use the character of Phil in *DNA* to explore ideas about power and control?

Write about:

- how Kelly presents Phil
- how Kelly uses Phil to explore ideas power and control.

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

OR

5 **Simon Stephens: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time***

How and why does Christopher change in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*?

Write about:

- how Christopher responds to events
- how Stephens presents Christopher by the ways he writes.

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

OR

6 **Shelagh Delaney: *A Taste of Honey***

How does Delaney present parenthood in *A Taste of Honey*?

Write about:

- the models of parenthood represented by particular characters
- how Delaney presents parenthood by the ways she writes.

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

OR

7 **William Golding: *Lord of the Flies***

How does Golding use the character of Ralph to explore ideas about leadership in *Lord of the Flies*?

Write about:

- how Golding presents the character of Ralph
- how Golding uses the character of Ralph to present ideas about leadership in the novel.

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

OR**8 AQA Anthology: *Telling Tales***

How do writers present relationships between people from different generations in 'The Darkness Out There' and in one other story from *Telling Tales*?

Write about:

- some aspects of the relationship between people from different generations that are presented in the two stories
- how the writers present their ideas by the ways they write.

[30 marks]**AO4 [4 marks]****OR****9 George Orwell: *Animal Farm***

How does Orwell use the character of Boxer to explore ideas about trust in *Animal Farm*?

Write about:

- how Orwell presents the character of Boxer
- how Orwell uses Boxer to explore ideas about trust.

[30 marks]**AO4 [4 marks]****OR****10 Kazuo Ishiguro: *Never Let Me Go***

How does Ishiguro present ideas about acceptance in *Never Let Me Go*?

Write about:

- how Ishiguro presents how characters accept their role
- how Ishiguro uses characters to explore ideas about acceptance.

[30 marks]**AO4 [4 marks]****OR****11 Meera Syal: *Anita and Me***

How does Syal present a clash of cultures in *Anita and Me*?

Write about:

- examples of culture clashes in *Anita and Me*
- how Syal presents these clashes by the ways she writes.

[30 marks]**AO4 [4 marks]**

Section B: Poetry

Answer **one** question from this section.

AQA Anthology: Poems Past and Present

EITHER

Love and relationships

The poems you have studied are:

Lord Byron	When We Two Parted
Percy Bysshe Shelley	Love's Philosophy
Robert Browning	Porphyria's Lover
Elizabeth Barrett Browning	Sonnet 29 – 'I think of thee!'
Thomas Hardy	Neutral Tones
Charlotte Mew	The Farmer's Bride
C Day Lewis	Walking Away
Maura Dooley	Letters From Yorkshire
Charles Causley	Eden Rock
Seamus Heaney	Follower
Simon Armitage	Mother, any distance
Carol Ann Duffy	Before You Were Mine
Owen Sheers	Winter Swans
Daljit Nagra	Singh Song!
Andrew Waterhouse	Climbing My Grandfather

- 13 Compare how poets present attitudes towards disappointment in love in 'Neutral Tones' and in **one** other poem from 'Love and relationships'.

Neutral Tones

1 We stood by a pond that winter day,
 And the sun was white, as though chidden of God,
 And a few leaves lay on the starving sod;
 – They had fallen from an ash, and were gray.

5 Your eyes on me were as eyes that rove
 Over tedious riddles of years ago;
 And some words played between us to and fro
 On which lost the more by our love.

10 The smile on your mouth was the deadest thing
 Alive enough to have strength to die;
 And a grin of bitterness swept thereby
 Like an ominous bird a-wing....

15 Since then, keen lessons that love deceives,
 And wrings with wrong, have shaped to me
 Your face, and the God curst sun, and a tree,
 And a pond edged with grayish leaves.

Thomas Hardy

[30 marks]

OR

Power and conflict

The poems you have studied are:

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|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Percy Bysshe Shelley | Ozymandias |
| William Blake | London |
| William Wordsworth | The Prelude: stealing the boat |
| Robert Browning | My last Duchess |
| Alfred Lord Tennyson | The change of the Light Brigade |
| Wilfred Owen | Exposure |
| Seamus Heaney | Storm on the island |
| Ted Hughes | Bayonet Charge |
| Simon Armitage | Remains |
| Jane Weir | Poppies |
| Carol Ann Duffy | War Photographer |
| Imitiaz Dharker | Tissue |
| Carol Rumens | The émigree |
| Beatrice Garland | Kamikaze |
| John Agard | Checking Out Me History |

Section C: Unseen poetry

Answer **both** questions in this section.

Number 106

1 We are waving to you from up here,
from the fourth floor to say
don't worry about us, we are fine.
We may be strung out, trousers vest blouse
5 sari skirt on this washing line
but the sun is being kind to us.
Better here than down there
where you are passing
on the Number 106, crammed
10 into a hot window frame
with your loud loneliness.

We are floating here,
our hearts filled with soft evening air
and the sound of conversations
15 in the rooms behind us,
in love with the shape
of each other and the dance
we make together,

waving to you, sending a sign
20 that you would see if
you were looking but

you are not.

Imtiaz Dharker

- 15 In 'Number 106', how does the poet present a contrast between the washing on the line and the passenger on the bus?

[24 marks]

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Continue on separate paper.

In Oak Terrace

1 Old and alone, she sits at nights
nodding before the television.
The house is quiet now. She knits,
rises to put the kettle on,

5 watches a cowboy's killing, reads
the local Births and Deaths, and falls
asleep at 'Growing stockpiles of war-heads'.
A world that threatens worse ills

fades. She dreams of a life spent
10 in the one house: suffers again
poverty, sickness, abandonment,
a child's death, a brother's brain

melting to madness. Seventy years
of common trouble; the kettle sings.
15 At midnight she says her silly prayers,
and takes her teeth out, and collects her night-things.

Tony Connor

16 Both 'Number 106' and 'In Oak Terrace' convey feelings about homes. What are the similarities and/or differences between the ways the poets present those feelings?

[8 marks]

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Continue on separate paper.