

General Certificate of Education  
June 2008  
Advanced Level Examination



**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE  
(SPECIFICATION B)  
Unit 6 Critical Approaches**

**NTB6**

Wednesday 11 June 2008 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm

**For this paper you must have:**

- a 12-page answer book;
- your copy of the pre-release material.

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes  
(including 30 minutes' reading time)

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is NTB6.
- Answer **both** questions.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 70, which will be scaled to give a mark of 40.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.

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Answer **both** questions.

You will be allowed 30 minutes in which to read the unseen Texts 7 and 8 printed on pages 3 and 7 of this question paper.

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**1** Compare the ways in which the topic of fire is presented.

In your answer you **must** refer in detail to Texts 7 and 8 and to at least **two** texts from the pre-release material.

In your answer you should:

- focus on how fire is presented
- make explicit comparisons between your chosen texts
- identify the attitudes and values expressed and implied
- support your claims by reference to relevant aspects of context and genre
- provide precise analysis of relevant language use.

*(50 marks)*

**2** Explain the methods you chose to compare the texts, and show how useful these were in contributing to your understanding of and response to the texts.

*(20 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**Text 7**

The speakers in this text are a leader, Tim Rollins, and younger members of Kids of Survival, an Art and Knowledge workshop based in New York.

Their starting point in the discussion ‘What is this fire?’ was a play called *Prometheus Bound* by the ancient Greek writer Aeschylus, but they go on here to discuss the general significance of fire and what it represents. In the play, Prometheus stole fire from the gods to give to mankind, but was severely punished for it.

The column of writing in this text has been reproduced as on the original website, but the layout of the pages has been simplified by leaving out a column of pictures which were seen side by side with the words.

**Text 7** is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

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## Text 8

***THE LONDON GAZETTE, 10 SEPTEMBER 1666.***

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**A FARTHUR ACCOUNT OF THIS  
LAMENTABLE FIRE.**

This dismal fire broke out at a baker's shop in *Pudding-lane*, by *Fish-street*, in the lower part of the city, neer *Thames-street* (among wooden houses ready to take fire & full of combustible goods) in *Billingsgate-ward*; which ward in a few hours was laid in ashes. As it began in the dead of the night when everybody was asleep, the darkness greatly increased the horror of the calamity; it rapidly rushed down the hill to the bridge; crossed *Thames-street* to *St. Mangus* church at the foot of the bridge; but having scaled and captured its fort, shot large volumes of flames into every place about it. The fire drifted back to the city again & roared with great violence through *Thames-street* aided by the combustible matter deposited there with such a fierce wind at its back as to strike with horror its beholders.

Fire! Fire! Fire! doth resound in every street, some starting out of their sleep & peeping through the windows half-dressed. Some in night dresses rushing wildly about the streets crying piteously & praying to God for assistance, women carrying children in their arms & the men looking quite bewildered. Many cripples were also seen hobbling about not knowing which way to go to get free from the flames which were raging all round them. No man that had the sence of human miseries could unconcertedly behold the frightful destruction made in one of the noblest Cities in the world.

**END OF TEXTS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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