

General Certificate of Education
January 2006
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



ENGLISH LITERATURE (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 1 The Modern Novel

LTA1

Tuesday 17 January 2006 9.00 am to 10.00 am

For this paper you must have:

- an 8-page answer book

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or 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 LTA1.
- Answer **one** question.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

Information

- The texts prescribed for this paper **may not** be taken into the examination room.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 20.
- There are 20 marks for each question.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.
- *The Handmaid's Tale* and *Enduring Love* are examined for the last time in this paper. Questions 11 and 12 and Questions 13 and 14 should therefore be attempted only by candidates who are re-sitting *The Handmaid's Tale* and *Enduring Love*.

Answer **one** question.

EITHER

The Spire – William Golding

- 1 Consider the presentation and importance of Anselm in the novel.

OR

- 2 How appropriate do you find this extract as the opening of the novel? You should consider both subject matter and style.

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OR

Cold Mountain – Charles Frazier

- 3 Consider Frazier's portrayal of Ruby in the novel.

OR

- 4 Remind yourself of this extract from the novel where Ada and Inman are re-united. Using the extract as a starting point, consider the ways Frazier presents their relationship in the novel.

They talked on, and time was what they discussed. They detailed an imaginary marriage, the years passing happy and peaceful. Black Cove put in order to Ruby's specifications. Ada described the plans in detail, and all Inman wished to amend was the absence of goats, for he would like to keep a few. They agreed they neither gave two hoots now as to how marriages were normally conducted. They would do as they pleased and run their lives by the roll of the seasons.

OR

Wise Children – Angela Carter

- 5 Examine Carter's use of doubles in the novel.

OR

- 6 Remind yourself of the following extract which describes the set of the film of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Using the extract as a starting point, consider the importance of the film-making episode in the novel.

The wood near Athens covered an entire stage and was so thickly art-directed it came up all black in the rushes, couldn't see a thing, so they sprayed it in parts with silver paint to lighten it up. The concept of this wood was scaled to the size of fairy folk, so all was twice as large as life. Larger. Daisies big as your head and white as spooks, foxgloves as tall as the tower of Pisa that chimed like bells if shook. Gnarled, fissured tree-trunks; sprays of enormous leaves – oak, ash, thorn, like parasols, or glider planes, or awnings. Bindweed in streamers and conkers, deposited at intervals in heaps on the ground. Yes, conkers. All spikes. And rolling around at random underfoot, or stuck on buds, or hanging in mid-air as if they'd just rolled off a wild rose or out of a cowslip, imitation dewdrops, that is, big *faux* pearls, suspended on threads. And clockwork birds, as well – thrushes, finches, sparrows, larks – that lifted up their wings and lowered their heads and sang out soprano, mezzo, contralto, joining in the fairy songs.

OR

Possession – A.S. Byatt

7 Consider the presentation and importance of Mortimer Cropper in the novel.

OR

8 How appropriate is the following extract as the ending of the novel? You should consider both subject matter and style.

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OR

Spies – Michael Frayn

- 9 Explore the ways Frayn presents uncertainty and threat during war time.

OR

- 10 Remind yourself of the following extract from the novel. Using the extract as a starting point, consider the ways Frayn presents Keith's mother.

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OR

The Handmaid's Tale – Margaret Atwood

- 11 Consider the ways in which Atwood presents the theme of helplessness in the novel.

OR

- 12 Remind yourself of the following extract from the novel. Using the extract as a starting point, explore the ways Atwood uses the theme of words and language in the novel.

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OR

Enduring Love – Ian McEwan

13 Explore McEwan's presentation of Jed Parry.

OR

14 Remind yourself of the following extract from the novel where Joe reads Clarissa's letters. Consider the importance of the episode in the novel as a whole.

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END OF QUESTIONS

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