

General Certificate of Education
June 2006
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



ENGLISH LITERATURE (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 1 The Modern Novel

LTA1

Friday 26 May 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.

Answer **one** question.

EITHER

The Spire – William Golding

- 1 Consider the presentation of the women characters in the novel.

OR

- 2 Remind yourself of the following extract which is taken from the episode in the novel where Jocelin appears before the Commission. Using the extract as a starting point, consider the importance of this episode in the novel as a whole.

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OR

Cold Mountain – Charles Frazier

- 3 Explore the ways Frazier presents Inman's journey of survival.

OR

- 4 Remind yourself of the following extract from the end of the novel. Using the extract as a starting point, explore the importance of telling stories in the novel.

When Ada reached the story's conclusion, and the old lovers after long years together in peace and harmony had turned to oak and linden, it was full dark. The night was growing cool, and Ada put the book away. A crescent moon stood close upon Venus in the sky. The children were sleepy, and morning would dawn as early and demanding as always. Time to go inside and cover up the coals and pull in the latch string.

OR*Wise Children – Angela Carter*

- 5 Explore Carter’s use of Shakespeare in the novel.

OR

- 6 Using the following extract as a starting point, consider Carter’s presentation of family conflicts and disappointments in the novel.

He watched expectantly as they tore off the wrappings. The boxes were of metal, it turned out, with little holes drilled in the top. Curiouser and curiouser. Imogen got hers open first, peered in, then gave a little scream and dropped it. Saskia looked at hers and said: ‘Good God!’

Inside each box was a little nest of leaves and, inside the nest, a caterpillar.

‘Named after you,’ said Peregrine. ‘Saskia Hazard. Imogen Hazard. Two of the most beautiful butterflies in all the rainforest. You’ll go down in all the textbooks. As long as people love butterflies, your names will be on their lips, you’ll have a kind of beautiful eternity. They are rare species, just like you both.’

Saskia and Imogen stared blankly at their boxes. No doubt they’d hoped for a little oil well each.

‘Is that all?’ said Imogen. She poked the caterpillar with her fork. It did not stir. ‘I think mine’s dead,’ she said.

Saskia snapped her box shut and dropped it on the table.

‘Thanks a lot,’ she said, with heavy irony.

OR*Possession – A.S. Byatt*

- 7 Consider the ways Byatt uses the connections between the Victorian and the modern in the novel.

OR

- 8 Remind yourself of the following extract from Ellen Ash’s Journal at the time of Randolph’s death. Using the extract as a starting point, consider the importance of Ellen’s Journal in the novel.

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Turn over ►

OR

Spies – Michael Frayn

9 Explore the ways Frayn presents the adult world in the novel.

OR

10 How appropriate is the following extract as the opening to the novel? You should consider subject matter and style.

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END OF QUESTIONS

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