

AS ENGLISH LITERATURE B

Paper 2A Literary genres: Prose and poetry: Aspects of tragedy

Thursday 26 May 2016 Morning Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book
- a copy of the set text(s) you have studied. These texts must **not** be annotated and must **not** contain additional notes or materials.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7716/2A.
- Do all your rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- In your response you need to:
 - analyse carefully the writers' methods
 - explore the contexts of the texts you are writing about
 - explore connections across the texts you have studied
 - explore different interpretations of your texts.

Section A: Poetry

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0 1 *John Keats selection*

Explore the view that, in Keats' poems, 'the villains are presented as physically cruel'.

You must refer to *Isabella; or, The Pot of Basil* and **at least one** other poem.

In your answer you need to analyse closely Keats' authorial methods and include comments on the extract below.

[25 marks]

From *Isabella; or, The Pot of Basil*

XIV

With her two brothers this fair lady dwelt,
Enrichèd from ancestral merchandise,
And for them many a weary hand did swelt
In torchèd mines and noisy factories,
And many once proud-quivered loins did melt
In blood from stinging whip – with hollow eyes
Many all day in dazzling river stood,
To take the rich-ored driftings of the flood.

XV

For them the Ceylon diver held his breath,
And went all naked to the hungry shark;
For them his ears gushed blood; for them in death
The seal on the cold ice with piteous bark
Lay full of darts; for them alone did seethe
A thousand men in troubles wide and dark:
Half-ignorant, they turned an easy wheel,
That set sharp racks at work to pinch and peel.

or

0 2 *Thomas Hardy selection*

Explore the view that, in Hardy's poems, tragic outcomes are largely the result of misfortune and bad luck.

You must refer to *A Sunday Morning Tragedy* and **at least two** other poems.

In your answer you need to analyse closely Hardy's authorial methods and include comments on the extract below.

[25 marks]

From *A Sunday Morning Tragedy*

'Where is she? O the stealthy miss,'
Still bantered they, alas for me,
'To keep a wedding close as this . . .'
Ay, Fortune worked thus wantonly!

'But you are pale – you did not know?'
They archly asked, alas for me,
I stammered, 'Yes – some days – ago,'
While cofined clay I wished to be.

' 'Twas done to please her, we surmise?'
(They spoke quite lightly in their glee)
'Done by him as a fond surprise?'
I thought their words would madden me.

or

0 3 *Poetry Anthology: Tragedy*

Explore the view that poets writing in the tragic tradition always present the world as uncaring and indifferent to human tragedy.

You must refer to “*Out, out —*” and **at least one** other poem.

In your answer you need to analyse closely the poets’ authorial methods and include comments on the extract below.

[25 marks]

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Section B: Prose

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0 4 *The Great Gatsby* – F Scott Fitzgerald

Explore the view that ‘Gatsby’s obsession with Daisy is the ultimate cause of his tragic isolation’.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Fitzgerald’s authorial methods.
[25 marks]

or

0 5 *Tess of the D’Urbervilles* – Thomas Hardy

Explore the view that Tess is primarily a victim of her poverty.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Hardy’s authorial methods.
[25 marks]

or

0 6 *The Remains of the Day* – Kazuo Ishiguro

Explore the view that Miss Kenton is not a tragic figure.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Ishiguro’s authorial methods.
[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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