

General Certificate of Education
June 2006
Advanced Level Examination



ENGLISH LITERATURE (SPECIFICATION B)
Unit 6 Exploring Texts

LTB6

Tuesday 20 June 2006 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book
- your copy of the Pre-Release Material.

Time allowed: 3 hours (including 30 minutes' reading time)

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 LTB6.
- Answer **both** questions.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

Information

- 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 maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- There are 40 marks for each question.

Advice

- You should divide your time equally between both questions.

There are no questions printed on this page

Representations of Gender

Answer **both** questions.

30 minutes are allocated in the examination to the reading and consideration of the material for this paper.

You may make notes during this time if you wish.

In Question 1 you will be tested on your ability to:

- respond with knowledge and understanding to literary texts of different types and periods, exploring and commenting on relationships and comparisons between literary texts;
- show detailed understanding of the ways in which writers' choices of form, structure and language shape meanings.

- 1 Compare and contrast the ways in which Wordsworth, in 'Lucy Gray', and George Eliot, in the given extract from *The Mill on the Floss*, present children and parents.

(40 marks)

In Question 2 you will be tested on your ability to:

- communicate clearly the knowledge, understanding and insight appropriate to literary study, using appropriate terminology and accurate and coherent written expression;
- articulate independent opinions and judgements, informed by different interpretations of literary texts by other readers;
- evaluate the significance of cultural, historical and other contextual influences upon literary texts and study.

- 2 On the basis of your reading of Items Two, Three and Four, write about:

- the extent to which Item Two and **either** Item Three **or** Item Four have informed your response to the extract from *The Mill on the Floss*;
- what you have found interesting about the representation of gender in at least two literary texts you have read during your Advanced Level studies.

(40 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

Turn over ►

The following poem is by William Wordsworth (1770–1850) and was written in 1799.

LUCY GRAY

OR, SOLITUDE

[Composed 1799. – Published 1800.]

OFT I had heard of Lucy Gray:
 And, when I crossed the wild,
 I chanced to see at break of day
 The solitary child.

5 No mate, no comrade Lucy knew;
 She dwelt on a wide moor,
 –The sweetest thing that ever grew
 Beside a human door!

10 You yet may spy the fawn at play,
 The hare upon the green;
 But the sweet face of Lucy Gray
 Will never more be seen.

15 ‘To-night will be a stormy night –
 You to the town must go;
 And take a lantern, Child, to light
 Your mother through the snow.’

20 ‘That, Father! will I gladly do:
 ’Tis scarcely afternoon –
 The minster-clock has just struck two,
 And yonder is the moon!’

 At this the Father raised his hook,
 And snapped a faggot-band*;
 He plied his work; – and Lucy took
 The lantern in her hand.

25 Not blither* is the mountain roe:
 With many a wanton stroke
 Her feet disperse the powdery snow,
 That rises up like smoke.

30 The storm came on before its time:
 She wandered up and down;
 And many a hill did Lucy climb:
 But never reached the town.

*faggot-band: fastening to secure a bundle of twigs

*blither: happier

35 The wretched parents all that night
 Went shouting far and wide;
 But there was neither sound nor sight
 To serve them for a guide.

40 At day-break on a hill they stood
 That overlooked the moor;
 And thence they saw the bridge of wood,
 A furlong from their door.

45 They wept—and, turning homeward, cried,
 ‘In heaven we all shall meet;’
 —When in the snow the mother spied
 The print of Lucy’s feet.

50 Then downwards from the steep hill’s
 edge
 They tracked the footmarks small;
 And through the broken hawthorn hedge,
 And by the long stone-wall;

55 And then an open field they crossed:
 The marks were still the same;
 They tracked them on, nor ever lost;
 And to the bridge they came.

60 They followed from the snowy bank
 Those footmarks, one by one,
 Into the middle of the plank;
 And further there were none!

60 —Yet some maintain that to this day
 She is a living child;
 That you may see sweet Lucy Gray
 Upon the lonesome wild.

 O’er rough and smooth she trips along,
 And never looks behind;
 And sings a solitary song
 That whistles in the wind.

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Source: *‘Lucy Gray’* by William Wordsworth

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