



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2009

English Literature (Specification B)

LITB1

Unit 1 Aspects of Narrative

Wednesday 14 January 2009 9.00 am to 11.00 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 2 hours

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 LITB1.
- Answer **two** questions. Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- In your response to this paper you must write about **four** different texts: **two** prose and **two** poetry texts. At least **one** of the prose texts you write about must have been written after 1990.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 84.
- The texts prescribed for this paper **may** be taken into the examination room. Texts taken into the examination must be clean: that is, free from annotation.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend **one** hour on Section A and **one** hour on Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question from this section. You must answer **both** parts of the question.

You are advised to spend **one** hour on this section.

EITHER***Selected Poems – W.H. Auden***

- 1 (a) Look again at the first seven stanzas of ‘Ode’ and write about how Auden opens the poem. (21 marks)
- (b) Is ‘Ode’ simply a poem about politics? (21 marks)

OR***Selected Poems – Robert Browning***

- 2 (a) Write about the ways Browning tells the story in lines 1–39 of ‘Fra Lippo Lippi’. (21 marks)
- (b) “‘Fra Lippo Lippi’ is about the significance of art in a civilised society.”
How do you respond to this view of the poem? (21 marks)

OR***The Rime of the Ancient Mariner – Samuel Taylor Coleridge***

- 3 (a) Write about the ways that Coleridge tells the story in Part III of the poem. (21 marks)
- (b) How do you respond to the idea that the most terrifying aspect of the mariner’s experience is the game of dice played by Death and Life-in-Death? (21 marks)

OR***Selected Poems – Thomas Hardy***

- 4 (a) How does Hardy use voices in ‘The Going’ and ‘The Haunter’? (21 marks)
- (b) “The intensity of emotional experience is what is most striking about Hardy’s poetry.”
What do you think about this view? (21 marks)

OR

Lamia, The Eve of St Agnes, La Belle Dame Sans Merci – John Keats

- 5 (a) How does Keats tell the story in stanzas 9–16 of ‘The Eve of St Agnes’? (21 marks)
- (b) Some readers view Porphyro as the poem’s hero; some see him as no more than a seducer.
- How do you respond to his character and role in the poem as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

Selected Poems – Christina Rossetti

- 6 (a) Write about the ways Rossetti tells the story in ‘Maude Clare’. (21 marks)
- (b) “The main interest of ‘Maude Clare’ is the contrast between Maude Clare and Nell.”
- What do you think of this view? (21 marks)

OR

Selected Poems – Alfred Tennyson

- 7 (a) Look again at ‘Godiva’ and write about Tennyson’s narrative method in this poem. (21 marks)
- (b) “The women in Tennyson’s poems are presented as victims of a male world.”
- How far do you agree? (21 marks)

OR

Birdsong – Sebastian Faulks

- 8 (a) Write about how Faulks tells the story in the first section of Part 2, beginning with the words “JACK FIREBRACE LAY forty-five feet underground ...” and ending with the words “... a rising melody under the scratch of a thick gramophone needle.” (pages 121–138 Vintage Edition). (21 marks)
- (b) Some readers think that the tunnels in the novel represent the one-way journey from cradle to grave.
- What do you think is significant about Faulks’s use of tunnels in *Birdsong* as a whole? (21 marks)

Turn over ►

OR

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time – Mark Haddon

- 9 (a) Write about Haddon’s method of telling the story in Chapters 2, 3 and 5. (21 marks)
- (b) *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* won the Guardian Children’s Fiction prize but is it just a children’s story? (21 marks)

OR

Small Island – Andrea Levy

- 10 (a) How does Levy tell the story in Chapter 2? (21 marks)
- (b) To what extent can a reader sympathise with Gilbert in the novel as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

The Kite Runner – Khaled Hosseini

- 11 (a) Write about the ways Hosseini tells the story in Chapter 10. (21 marks)
- (b) What significance do journeys have in *The Kite Runner* as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

Enduring Love – Ian McEwan

- 12 (a) How does McEwan tell the story in Chapter 19? (21 marks)
- (b) How far do you agree with the claim that McEwan is “a master of surprises” in *Enduring Love*? (21 marks)

OR

The God of Small Things – Arundhati Roy

- 13 (a) How does Roy tell the story in Chapter 21? (21 marks)
- (b) “*The God of Small Things* is primarily a story about the desperate desire of human beings to be loved.”
- What do you think of this view? (21 marks)

OR

Digging to America – Anne Tyler

- 14 (a) Write about some of the ways Tyler tells the story in Chapter 2. (21 marks)
- (b) “Maryam’s story is ultimately the most engaging in the whole of *Digging to America*.”
- What do you think of this view? (21 marks)

OR

The Great Gatsby – F Scott Fitzgerald

- 15 (a) Write about some of the ways Fitzgerald tells the story in Chapter 3. (21 marks)
- (b) “Gatsby’s world is corrupt but ultimately glamorous.”
- How do you respond to this view of the novel? (21 marks)

OR

Dubliners – James Joyce

- 16 (a) Write about the ways Joyce tells the story in ‘A Mother’. (21 marks)
- (b) Some readers condemn Mrs Kearney for her greed; some admire her defiance.
- How do you respond to her character and role? (21 marks)

Turn over ►

OR***Pride and Prejudice* – Jane Austen**

17 (a) How does Austen tell the story in Chapter 16? (21 marks)

(b) Some readers see Wickham simply as a villain.

How do you respond to his character and role in *Pride and Prejudice* as a whole?

(21 marks)

OR***Great Expectations* – Charles Dickens**

18 (a) How does Dickens tell the story in Chapter 34? (21 marks)

(b) How far do you think that *Great Expectations* is a condemnation of the privileged classes?

(21 marks)

END OF SECTION A

SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section. You must **not** answer on the text used in **Section A**.

You are advised to spend **one** hour on this section.

- EITHER** **19** Writers often choose their titles carefully to allow for different potential meanings.
- Write about some potential meanings of titles in the **three** texts you have studied.
(42 marks)
- OR** **20** Write about the significance of **one** or **two** key events in each of the **three** texts you have studied.
(42 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page