



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2009

English Literature (Specification B)

LITB1

Unit 1 Aspects of Narrative

Wednesday 20 May 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) Write about the ways Auden tells the story in ‘Miss Gee’. (21 marks)
- (b) Is ‘Miss Gee’ ultimately a comic poem? (21 marks)

OR*Selected Poems – Robert Browning*

- 2 (a) How does Browning tell the story in ‘My Last Duchess’? (21 marks)
- (b) “The disturbing behaviour of both the Duke of Ferrara and of Porphyria’s Lover makes it impossible for readers to sympathise with them.”
- How far do you agree with this view? (21 marks)

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

- 3 (a) How does Coleridge open the story in Part I? (21 marks)
- (b) How far do you agree with the idea that in *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* order is disrupted and never restored? (21 marks)

OR*Selected Poems – Thomas Hardy*

- 4 (a) Write about Hardy’s poetic method in ‘Afterwards’. (21 marks)
- (b) To what extent does death in Hardy’s poetry have universal significance? (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 ‘La Belle Dame Sans Merci’? (21 marks)
- (b) How far do you agree with the view that ‘La Belle Dame Sans Merci’ is about imagination and illusion? (21 marks)

OR

Selected Poems – Christina Rossetti

- 6 (a) Write about the ways Rossetti tells the story in the concluding section of ‘Goblin Market’ from “In a smart, ache, tingle ...” to the end of the poem. (21 marks)
- (b) ‘Goblin Market’ ends by affirming “there is no friend like a sister”.
Is the relationship between Lizzie and Laura simply one of sisterly friendship? (21 marks)

OR

Selected Poems – Alfred Tennyson

- 7 (a) Look again at ‘Mariana’ and write about Tennyson’s narrative methods in the poem. (21 marks)
- (b) How far do you agree with the view that stagnation and inactivity dominate the worlds of Tennyson’s poems? (21 marks)

OR

Birdsong – Sebastian Faulks

- 8 (a) Write about some of the ways Faulks tells the story in Part 6 beginning with the words “WHEN STEPHEN RETURNED to his company ...” and ending with the words “... weeping at the bitter strangeness of their human lives.” (pages 435 – 483 Vintage 2005 Edition or pages 352 – 390 Vintage 1994 Edition). (21 marks)
- (b) “The relationship between Jack and Stephen is the most significant relationship in the whole of *Birdsong*.”
What do you think of this view? (21 marks)

Turn over ►

OR

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

- 9 (a) Write about the ways Haddon tells the story in Chapter 233, including the Appendix. (21 marks)
- (b) In Chapter 233 Siobhan tells Christopher: “people wouldn’t want to read the answers to a maths question in a book”.

How do you respond to the writer’s inclusion of the mathematical material in the novel as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

***Small Island* – Andrea Levy**

- 10 (a) How does Levy tell the story in Chapter 9? (21 marks)
- (b) On the cover of some editions, *Small Island* is described as being “a great history lesson”.

Is *Small Island* simply “a great history lesson”? (21 marks)

OR

***The Kite Runner* – Khaled Hosseini**

- 11 (a) Write about the ways Hosseini tells the story in Chapter 12. (21 marks)
- (b) Is it possible to see Baba as a tragic hero? (21 marks)

OR

***Enduring Love* – Ian McEwan**

- 12 (a) How does McEwan tell the story in Chapter 10? (21 marks)
- (b) Some readers feel that the relationship between Joe and Jed is the most compelling aspect of the whole novel.

What do you think about this view? (21 marks)

OR

The God of Small Things – Arundhati Roy

- 13 (a) How does Roy tell the story in Chapter 4? (21 marks)
- (b) What do you think about the view that *The God of Small Things* is more about politics than love? (21 marks)

OR

Digging to America – Anne Tyler

- 14 (a) Write about the ways Tyler tells the story in Chapter 5. (21 marks)
- (b) Some readers have commented on the importance of parties and celebrations in the design of *Digging to America*.
What significance can you find in the parties and celebrations in the novel? (21 marks)

OR

The Great Gatsby – F Scott Fitzgerald

- 15 (a) Write about the ways Fitzgerald tells the story in Chapter 4. (21 marks)
- (b) What do you think about the view that there are no women in *The Great Gatsby* with whom the reader can sympathise? (21 marks)

OR

Dubliners – James Joyce

- 16 (a) Write about the ways Joyce tells the story in 'Araby'. (21 marks)
- (b) How far do you agree that the childhood experiences portrayed in *Dubliners* are largely painful? (21 marks)

Turn over ►

OR

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

- 17 (a) How does Austen tell the story in Chapter 35? (21 marks)
- (b) What uses does Austen make of letters in *Pride and Prejudice* as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

***Great Expectations* – Charles Dickens**

- 18 (a) How does Dickens tell the story in Chapter 38? (21 marks)
- (b) What do you think about the view that *Great Expectations* is “a very dark love story”? (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** Write about some of the ways characters are created in the three texts you have studied. *(42 marks)*
- OR** **20** Write about the ways authors use time to shape the order of events in the three texts you have studied. *(42 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page