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## English Literature

### Assessment Unit A2 2

*assessing*

The Study of Prose – Theme Based

[AL221]



WEDNESDAY 16 MAY, AFTERNOON

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#### TIME

2 hours.

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **two** questions. Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.  
This is a closed book examination. Extracts referred to in Section A can be found in the Resource Booklet provided.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 120.  
All questions carry equal marks, i.e. 60 marks for each question.  
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.  
A Resource Booklet is provided for use with Section A only.



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## THE STUDY OF PROSE – THEME BASED

### Section A: Close analysis of an extract from a post-1990 novel

Answer **one** question on an extract from your chosen novel on a given theme.

#### In Section A you will be marked on your ability to

- articulate an informed and relevant response to a given extract using appropriate terminology and concepts (AO1)
- show detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which the writer uses narrative point of view, structure, language (including imagery) and tones to shape meanings (AO2)

## Section A

Answer **one** question in this section.

### 1 **War: *The Things They Carried***

By close analysis of extract **1**, printed in the accompanying Resource Booklet, taking account of **narrative methods** – narrative point of view, structure, language (including imagery) and tones – show how effective you think O’Brien has been in showing how a soldier deals with the memories of war.

### 2 **Women in Society: *The Illusionist***

By close analysis of extract **2**, printed in the accompanying Resource Booklet, taking account of **narrative methods** – narrative point of view, structure, language (including imagery) and tones – show how effective you think Johnston has been in presenting the relationship between the woman and her husband.

### 3 **The Outsider: *The Butcher Boy***

By close analysis of extract **3**, printed in the accompanying Resource Booklet, taking account of **narrative methods** – narrative point of view, structure, language (including imagery) and tones – show how effective you think McCabe has been in writing about the encounter between Dr. Roche and the outsider, Francie Brady.

### 4 **Childhood: *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha***

By close analysis of extract **4**, printed in the accompanying Resource Booklet, taking account of **narrative methods** – narrative point of view, structure, language (including imagery) and tones – show how effective you think Doyle has been in presenting events from a child’s point of view.

**Section B: Comparison of two novels on the same theme as that chosen in Section A**

Answer **one** question on your chosen pair of novels on a given theme.

**In Section B you will be marked on your ability to**

- articulate informed and relevant responses that communicate effectively your knowledge and understanding of two novels on a given theme (AO1)
- show detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which the writers use narrative point of view, structure, language (including imagery) and tones (AO2)
- demonstrate understanding of the context in which texts are written and received by drawing on appropriate information from outside the novels (AO4)
- respond to a stimulus statement which expresses a particular reading of the two novels (AO3)
- sustain a comparison/contrast of the two novels (AO3)

## Section B

Answer **one** question in this section.

### 1 War

The nature of warfare at the times these novels were written makes it impossible for the writers you have studied to present war as a romantic or thrilling adventure.

By **comparing and contrasting** appropriately selected parts of the two novels you have studied for this question, show how far you would agree with the view expressed above. Your **argument** should include relevant comments on each writer's **methods** and **relevant external contextual information** on the nature of warfare at the times these novels were written.

### 2 Women in Society

In these novels, the difficulties which women experience in their sexual and marital relationships are never simply due to the clash of individual personalities but rather the situation of women in society.

By **comparing and contrasting** appropriately selected parts of the two novels you have studied for this question, show how far you would agree with the view expressed above. Your **argument** should include relevant comments on each writer's **methods** and **relevant external contextual information** on the situation of women in the societies relating to each of these novels.

### 3 The Outsider

The twenty-first century reader is always on the side of the outsider.

By **comparing and contrasting** appropriately selected parts of the two novels you have studied for this question, show how far you would agree with the view expressed above. Your **argument** should include relevant comments on each writer's **methods** and **relevant external contextual information** on the twenty-first century reader.

### 4 Childhood

The novels you have studied offer a serious challenge to traditional ideas about childhood.

By **comparing and contrasting** appropriately selected parts of the two novels you have studied for this question, show how far you would agree with the view expressed above. Your **argument** should include relevant comments on each writer's **methods** and **relevant external information** on traditional ideas about childhood.

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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