



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2014

Creative Writing

CREW1

Unit 1 Writing on Demand

Thursday 22 May 2014 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-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 **Paper Reference** is CREW1.
- Answer **two** questions.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for all questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- There are 30 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Please read this advice carefully before you turn to the material.

Instructions

Answer **two** questions.

Planning

You are advised to spend **one hour** on each of the two questions you choose. It is recommended that, for **each** question, you spend around **15 minutes** reading, thinking and planning.

Answer **two** questions.

Question 1

0 1 The following texts are quotations from established writers about keeping a journal.

Drawing on the ideas expressed below, and your own experiences, write a 300 word article entitled 'The Writers' Journal'. It will be published in a magazine for new writers called *Get Writing*.

[30 marks]

Two quotes have been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

Ray Bradbury

'As soon as I get an idea, I write a short story, or I start a novel, or I do a poem. So I have no need for a notebook. I do keep files of ideas and stories that didn't quite work a year ago, five years ago, ten years ago. I come back to them later and I look through the titles. It's like a father bird coming with a worm. You look down at all these hungry little beaks — all these stories waiting to be finished — and you say to them, "Which of you needs to be fed? Which of you needs to be finished today?" And the story that yells the loudest, the idea that stands up and opens its mouth, is the one that gets fed. And I pull it out of the file and finish it within a few hours.'

Jessamyn West

'People who keep journals have life twice.'

Turn over for the next question

Question 2

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A national charity is running a campaign bringing attention to the way loneliness can affect the lives of teenagers and young adults.

You have been commissioned to write a 300 word fictional account, using a central character, to show the devastating effects of loneliness. This will be used in the campaign. You may choose the form and content of the piece but it should create an impact on your audience.

Write your account.

[30 marks]

Question 3

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A national newspaper runs a monthly column where different contributors describe their ideal places. This month it is looking for descriptions of the ideal library.

Write a 300 word submission describing your ideal library. The library may be real or imagined but you must explain why you think it is an ideal place.

[30 marks]

Turn over for the next question

Question 4**0 4**

You have been commissioned by a local sixth form college, Newtown College, to write a press release celebrating the achievements of its students during the past year. The Principal of Newtown College asked several members of staff to report on student successes. She has asked you to make your own selection from the following information, taken from their email replies.

Write a 300 word press release that will be sent to local newspapers, radio and television stations.

[30 marks]**Physical Education** (Mike Brown, Head of P.E.)

- First XI football team reached final of county cup, losing in extra time
- Gareth Jones and Simon Watson chosen to play for county football side at U19
- Girls' football team formed and played first match
- Boys' cricket team won county cup and played in national finals in Nottingham. Got through to third round. Arun Puri had trials for England U19 at cricket and was selected for squad training
- Sarah Robertson-Smith is national rowing champion at single sculls for U17 age group
- A group of interested boys has formed a rugby league side which played its first two games this year. They lost both quite heavily but it's the spirit that counts
- There is an 80% participation rate in organised sports in the college

Music and Drama (Sally Marshall, Drama teacher)

This year has been a highly successful year for all concerned in the performing arts. The Theatre Studies A-level group took their production of 'Romeo and Juliet' to several local secondary schools where they drew enthusiastic responses. Rob Stewart, as 'Mercutio', stole the show with his witty and extravagant interpretation of the role and has since been selected to audition for the National Youth Theatre. Meanwhile the big annual Christmas production of 'Hairspray' involved a cast of over 50 students and drew capacity houses for all four nights of its run. A special thanks here to Mr Lewis for his work on the musical side of things and to Mike Harvey, Sarah Norman, Iqbal Mohammed and Georgie McPherson (aka folk rock band, 'The Damp Squids') for their brilliant set during the interval. The Damp Squids, by the way, have already filmed their performance and their YouTube clip has had over 10,000 hits.

The school orchestra continues to thrive, both in chamber music and orchestral work. The string quartet (Fiona Chaing, Sally Li, Crystal Holding and Stu Barrow) played in the foyer during the recent International Enterprise Conference at the City Hall, while the orchestra did a three day tour of the West Country, the highlight being when they played excerpts from Haydn's Mass in Exeter Cathedral. We must not forget singing too. We have a choir of over 40 students who meet every week and perform regularly in the area, and we even have a barbershop quartet which grew out of the unlikely source of the college rugby league side.

Student Affairs (Jennifer Agbabi, Student Services Manager)

- student union raised £3,000 for Age Concern
- 90% of university applicants gained university places
- only 15 out of an intake of 450 failed to complete their first year
- over 50% of our students do voluntary work
- we have established a formal link with a local hospice. Over 20 students now make regular visits which staff say really helps boost patient morale.

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Humanities (Mary Bolton, Head of Humanities)

In Geography over 40 students took part in a highly successful field trip to the Jurassic Coast in Dorset. They stayed in a youth hostel near Lyme Regis and, by all accounts, had a thoroughly good time. Oh, by the way, John Trego, as a result of his work on coastal erosion, was part of a national team of students who gave a lecture to the Royal Geographical Society in London last March.

We also had a trip for the Historians who went to York to look at everything from the industrial heritage of the railways to an archeological dig at Hungate. And did you know that former student Rachel Murray has just published a book on medieval drinks and potions? Apparently the Discovery Channel are thinking of making a tv prog about it.

In a year of major trips it was the R.E. department who stole the show. A group of 12 students travelled to Nepal as part of an exchange programme. They visited many Buddhist sites and got fully involved in the cultural life of their hosts. Later in the year a group of Nepalese students came over to Newtown and they too were shown all aspects of our local culture.

Maths and Science (David Thistle, Head of Maths)

1. Peter Jones won a silver medal in this year's 'Maths Challenge', a national competition for A-level students
2. Susan Parker, Courtney Leeson and David Mather have been 'Maths Mentors' to a group of year 9 students at Newtown Secondary School
3. Newtown College once again hosted the Chemistry event 'Chemistry Explodes!', that was attended by over 100 pupils from local schools and got positive press coverage
4. Five aspiring medical students gained work placements at Newtown Hospital.

English and Creative Writing (Deidre Hickey, English teacher)

Deanne Marshall had her wonderful article, '*My Favourite Book*', all about her love of 'Wuthering Heights' published in the 'A-level English Magazine'. We hope to see other students submitting their work soon.

Two of our poets, Sam Fearly and Alanna Fantini, won prizes in the 'Newtown Words' poetry competition. Both were invited to read their work at a special event at Newtown Library. Their poems will be published in a forthcoming local anthology.

Our college magazine goes from strength to strength, now reporting a wide range of news and events for our college students. Our A-level Literature students have set up their own book group, aiming to read a new book every half term. They are currently reading 'Room' by Emma Donoghue.

The celebrated local novelist, Toni Levie, very generously visited the college to work with our creative writers. The afternoon was a great success with students (and teachers!) producing lots of writing. We have photos of this inspirational event.

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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