

General Certificate of Education
January 2007
Advanced Level Examination



**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
(SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 4 Comparative Literary Studies**

NTA4

Friday 19 January 2007 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

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 NTA4.
- Answer **one** question on two linked texts.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The texts prescribed for this paper **may** be taken into the examination room.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 150.
- All questions carry 150 marks.
- You will be marked on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate. The legibility of your handwriting and the accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be considered.
- The following texts will be examined for the **final** time in this paper:

The Dead Sea Poems and *Mean Time*
The Shipping News and *Snow Falling on Cedars*

These texts should therefore be attempted **only** by candidates who are **re-sitting** these texts.

Answer **one** question.

The Pardoner's Prologue and Tale – Geoffrey Chaucer
and
Death of a Salesman – Arthur Miller

EITHER

- 1 Compare the ways in which Chaucer and Miller explore human weakness.

You should write in detail about **one** or **two** sections from *The Pardoner's Prologue and Tale* and **one** or **two** sections from *Death of a Salesman*.

OR

- 2 Compare how Chaucer and Miller present ideas about death.

You should refer in detail to:

the section of 'The Pardoner's Tale' beginning "Thise riotoures thre of whiche I telle" and ending "For which ful pale and welked is my face" (lines 375 – 452 in the recommended edition)

and

the section of *Death of a Salesman* beginning "CHARLEY: It's getting dark, Linda" and ending "[...the apartment buildings rise into sharp focus.]" (REQUIEM: pages 110 – 112 in the recommended edition).

The Whitsun Weddings – Philip Larkin
and
Ariel – Sylvia Plath

OR

- 3 Compare the ways in which Larkin and Plath explore loneliness in *The Whitsun Weddings* and *Ariel*.

You should write in detail about **two** or **three** poems by each poet.

OR

- 4 Compare Larkin's 'First Sight' with Plath's 'Morning Song'.

King Lear – William Shakespeare
and
A Thousand Acres – Jane Smiley

OR

- 5 Compare Shakespeare’s presentation of Goneril with Smiley’s presentation of Ginny.

OR

- 6 Compare the ways in which Shakespeare and Smiley create a sense of tension.

You should refer in detail to:

the section of *King Lear* beginning “CORNWALL (to *Goneril*) Post speedily to my lord your husband...” and ending “...Vengeance overtake such children” (Act III, Scene 7, lines 1 – 65 in the recommended edition)

and

the section of *A Thousand Acres* beginning “IN THE DAYS AFTER THE CHURCH SUPPER...” and ending “...to the hospital in Mason City” (Chapter 30, pages 230 – 232 in the recommended edition).

Wuthering Heights – Emily Brontë

and

The French Lieutenant’s Woman – John Fowles

OR

- 7 Compare Brontë’s presentation of Lockwood with Fowles’ presentation of Dr Grogan.

OR

- 8 Compare the ways in which Brontë and Fowles use settings.

You should refer in detail to:

the section of *Wuthering Heights* beginning “On an afternoon in October...” and ending “...till I heard her laughing, and exclaiming –” (Volume II, Chapter VIII, pages 229 – 232 in the recommended edition)

and

the section of *The French Lieutenant’s Woman* beginning “The sun was just redly leaving the insubstantial dove-grey waves of the hills...” to “ – he could stand here in Eden, but not enjoy it, and only envy the wren its ecstasy” (Chapter 29, pages 232 – 234 in the recommended edition).

Turn over ►

The Woman in White – Wilkie Collins
and
An Evil Cradling – Brian Keenan

OR

- 9 Compare the ways in which Collins and Keenan make use of first person narration.

You should write in detail about **two** sections from *The Woman in White* and **two** sections from *An Evil Cradling*.

OR

- 10 Compare Collins’ presentation of Hartright’s arrival at Limmeridge House with Keenan’s presentation of his own arrival in Beirut.

You should refer in detail to:

the section of *The Woman in White* beginning “WHEN I rose the next morning...” and ending “...in her own frank, lively way” (Chapter VI, pages 23 – 26 in the recommended edition)

and

the section of *An Evil Cradling* beginning “They say that an aircraft...” and ending “...to make his point more clearly” (‘Arrival’, pages 22 – 24 in the recommended edition).

The Perfect Storm – Sebastian Junger
and
Life of Pi – Yann Martel

OR

- 11 Compare the ways in which Junger and Martel present the conflict between Man and Nature.

You should write in detail about **one** or **two** sections from *The Perfect Storm* and **one** or **two** sections from *Life of Pi*.

OR

- 12 Compare the ways in which Junger and Martel use descriptive detail in their narratives.

You should refer in detail to:

the section of *The Perfect Storm* beginning “DAWN at sea...” and ending “...the fish refuse to feed” (pages 54 – 57 in the recommended edition)

and

the section of *Life of Pi* beginning “I noticed the presence of sharks...” and ending “...push into them and be registered” (Chapter 46, pages 124 – 126 in the recommended edition).

RE-SIT QUESTIONS – TO BE ATTEMPTED BY RE-SIT CANDIDATES ONLY

The Dead Sea Poems – Simon Armitage
and
Mean Time – Carol Ann Duffy

OR

Re-sit A Compare the ways in which Armitage and Duffy make use of ideas about the past in their poems.

You should refer in detail to **one** or **two** poems by each poet.

OR

Re-sit B Compare ‘Man with a Golf Ball Heart’ by Armitage with ‘Small Female Skull’ by Duffy.

The Shipping News – E. Annie Proulx
and
Snow Falling on Cedars – David Guterson

OR

Re-sit C Compare the ways in which Proulx and Guterson present human relationships in their novels.

You should write in detail about **one** or **two** sections from each text.

OR

Re-sit D Compare Proulx’s presentation of Quoye with Guterson’s presentation of Chambers.

You should refer in detail to:

the section of *The Shipping News* beginning “Quoye shambled, a head taller...” and ending “...but Quoye didn’t know” (Chapter 1 ‘Quoye’, pages 2 – 6 in the recommended edition)

and

the section of *Snow Falling on Cedars* beginning “Ishmael Chambers found a seat in the gallery...” and ending “And so Ishmael turned to journalism” (Chapter 4, pages 24 – 27 in the recommended edition).

END OF QUESTIONS

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