

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Advanced GCE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

2719/RB

Experience into Words

Tuesday

20 JUNE 2006

Afternoon

2 hours 15 minutes

Reading Booklet

TIME 2 hours + 15 minutes' reading time

- **The first fifteen minutes of the examination are for reading the passages in this reading booklet.**
- During this time you may make any annotations you choose on the passages themselves.
- The questions for this examination are given on a separate sheet.
- **You must not turn over the question sheet, or write anything in your answer booklet, until instructed to do so.**
- The Invigilator will tell you when the fifteen minutes begin and end.
- You will then be allowed to open the question paper.
- You will have **two hours** to work on the tasks.

This reading booklet consists of 4 printed pages.

Passage A

The poem below was written by William Blake. He presents his view of London at the end of the eighteenth century.

London

I wander thro' each charter'd street,
Near where the charter'd Thames does flow,
And mark in every face I meet
Marks of weakness, marks of woe.

In every cry of every Man, 5
In every Infants cry of fear,
In every voice, in every ban,
The mind-forged manacles I hear.

How the Chimney-sweeper's cry 10
Every black'ning Church appalls;
And the hapless Soldier's sigh
Runs in blood down Palace walls.

But most thro' midnight streets I hear
How the youthful Harlot's curse 15
Blasts the new born Infants tear,
And blights with plagues the Marriage hearse.

Passage B

The passage below is a transcription taken from an interview with a woman who lived in London after the Second World War.

The following key can be used as a guide:

- (.) – micro pause
 _____ – stressed word or phrase

o (.) it was lovely here then (.) it was much nicer then than it is now (.) because they were all families in these flats (.) er (.) i mean we made friends for life (.) erm (.) we used to have parties in one anothers places (.) y cos cos (.) course we all had children you couldn't go far (.) but you could leave the children while you went upstairs to a party or (.) next door for a party (.) and er o were happy been (.) weve been happy ever since we first (.) came through 5
 the door of this place really (.) they were middle class what id call (.) upper-working class (.) lets say (.) cos cos cause theres n n not much between those two for me (.) but they were families with children well behaved children (.) all that back used to be kept beautiful as a communal garden and we looked after it (.) we didnt garden it (.) but we kept it clean (.) the kids would play out in the daytime (.) weed go up there with a hose of an evening (.) sweep it 10
 all down and all the rest of it (.) but now the people in these flats are professional people (.) who once theyre home from work (.) they shut their door (.) they dont care about the back or the front or the stairs or the door as as long as their flats okay (.) i mean (.) because they are (.) theyre busy (.) theyre working (.) and the flats are astronomic as you know (.) but i mean families couldnt afford them really (.) theyre all like (.) couples living together or whatever but 15
 theyre not (.) theres no babies been born in these flats now for years

Passage C

The extract below is taken from *London: A Biography* by Peter Ackroyd. He offers his personal view of the city at the end of the twentieth century.

If you were to....

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Details:

An extract from 'London: A Biography by Peter Ackroyd'
ISBN: 0385497717

... of air invisibly mingling.

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