

General Certificate of Education
June 2005
Advanced Level Examination



ENGLISH LITERATURE (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 6 Reading for Meaning

LTA6

Wednesday 15 June 2005 9.00 am to 12.00 noon

In addition to this paper you will require:
a 16-page answer book.

Time allowed: 3 hours

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 LTA6.
- Answer **both** parts of the question.

Information

- Materials from your wider reading **may not** be taken into the examination room.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.

Advice

- This unit assesses your understanding of the relationships between the different aspects of English Literature.
- You will be assessed 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 degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

LTA6

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

1 Reading

- Here are the materials taken from the prescribed area for study. You will be using this material to answer the questions in the examination which appear on the facing page.
- Alongside the four pieces (**B, C, D and E**) about The First World War (the prescribed area for study) you will find **Extract A**, an extract from a pre-twentieth century poem, *Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington* by Tennyson. This also has **war** as its theme.
- Read all five pieces and their introductions carefully and closely several times in the light of the specific questions set.

2 Timing

- You should plan to spend about 1 hour and 15 minutes on Question 1(a); this will include reading and planning time.
- You should plan to spend about 1 hour and 45 minutes on Question 1(b); this will include reading and planning time.

3 Wider Reading

- Question 1(b) tests your wider reading on the subject of **War in Literature** with specific reference to literature of and about **The First World War**.
- In your answer, you should take every opportunity to refer to this wider reading and to your knowledge of this specific area of study.

Answer **both** parts of Question 1.

1 (a)

You should spend about 1 hour and 15 minutes on this question.

Basing your answer on **Extract A and Extract B**, you should:

- write a comparison of the ways the writers describe the different funeral ceremonies
- say how far you agree with the view that Tennyson's description of a Victorian ceremony is more moving and effective than Owen's account of death on the Western Front.

(20 marks)

(b)

You should spend about 1 hour and 45 minutes on this question.

By comparing **Extracts C, D and E**, and by referring to your **wider reading**, examine how typical in both style and treatment of subject matter these writings are of literature from and about The First World War.

You should consider:

- language, form and structure
- the writers' thoughts and feelings about war and contemporary society
- the influence of the time of composition
- the gender of the writers.

(20 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

Turn over ►

THE READING

Extract A

This extract consists of the first few verses of the long poem, *Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington*, first published by Tennyson in November 1852 on the occasion of the death of a great military leader.

Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington

I.

BURY the Great Duke
 With an empire's lamentation,
 Let us bury the Great Duke
 To the noise of the mourning of a mighty nation,
 Mourning when their leaders fall,
 Warriors carry the warrior's pall,
 And sorrow darkens hamlet and hall.

II.

Where shall we lay the man whom we deplore?
 Here, in streaming London's central roar.
 Let the sound of those he wrought for,
 And the feet of those he fought for,
 Echo round his bones for evermore.

III.

Lead out the pageant: sad and slow,
 As fits an universal woe,
 Let the long long procession go,
 And let the sorrowing crowd about it grow,
 And let the mournful martial music blow:
 The last great Englishman is low.

IV.

Mourn, for to us he seems the last,
 Remembering all his greatness in the Past.
 No more in soldier fashion will he greet
 With lifted hand the gazer in the street.
 O friends, our chief state-oracle is mute:
 Mourn for the man of long-enduring blood,
 The statesman-warrior, moderate, resolute,
 Whole in himself, a common good.
 Mourn for the man of amplest influence,
 Yet clearest of ambitious crime,
 Our greatest yet with least pretence,
 Great in council and great in war,
 Foremost captain of his time,
 Rich in saving common-sense,
 And, as the greatest only are,
 In his simplicity sublime.
 O good grey head which all men knew,
 O voice from which their omens all men drew,
 O iron nerve to true occasion true,
 O fall'n at length that tower of strength
 Which stood four-square to all the winds that blew!
 Such was he whom we deplore.
 The long self-sacrifice of life is o'er.
 The great World-victor's victor will be seen no more.

Extract A, contd

v.

All is over and done:
Render thanks to the Giver,
England, for thy son.
Let the bell be toll'd.
Render thanks to the Giver,
And render him to the mould.
Under the cross of gold
That shines over city and river,
There he shall rest for ever
Among the wise and the bold.
Let the bell be toll'd:
And a reverent people behold
The towering car, the sable steeds:
Bright let it be with his blazon'd deeds,
Dark in its funeral fold.

Extract B

Wilfred Owen, a poet who fought in The First World War, wrote this poem in 1917.

Extract B is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

Turn over ►

Extract C

This extract is taken from *The Accrington Pals* by Peter Whelan, first performed in 1981. The “pals” are the men from the local volunteer battalion, and in this extract, as news from the Battle of the Somme reaches Accrington, we see the reactions of the women of the town.

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Extract C, contd

TURN OVER FOR EXTRACT D

Turn over ►

Extract D

This extract is taken from *Letters from a Lost Generation*, edited by Alan Bishop and Mark Bostridge and published in 1998. This letter, written by Vera Brittain to her brother on 27th February 1916, gives him information about her fiancé's death.

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Extract E

This poem was written by the Irish poet, Katharine Tynan (1861 – 1931). She was a nurse in The First World War.

Extract E is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

END OF EXTRACTS

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Extract A: *Source*: ALFRED LORD TENNYSON, *Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington*

Extract B: *Source*: JON STALLWORTHY (ed.), *Wilfred Owen: The Complete Poems and Fragments* (Phoenix) 1983

Extract C: *Source*: PETER WHELAN, *The Accrington Pals* (French) 1981

Extract D: *Source*: ALAN BISHOP and MARK BOSTRIDGE (eds.), *Letters from a Lost Generation* (Abacus) 1998

Extract E: *Source*: 'A Girl's Song' by Katharine Tynan, from CATHERINE REILLY (ed.), *Scars upon my Heart* (Virago) 1981

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