



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2009

English Literature

Assessment Unit AS 2

assessing

The Study of Poetry Written after 1800
and the Study of Prose 1800–1945

[AL121]



FRIDAY 12 JUNE, MORNING

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.

Section A is open book.

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.

READ ALL OF THIS PAGE FIRST – CAREFULLY

SECTION A: THE STUDY OF POETRY WRITTEN AFTER 1800

Answer **one** question on your chosen pair of poets.

In section A you will be marked on your ability to

- articulate informed and relevant responses that communicate effectively your knowledge and understanding of poetry (AO1)
- demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meaning (AO2)
- sustain a comparison and contrast (AO3).

This means that

In your answers, you must

- express your ideas in a clear and well-organised way, paying careful attention to spelling, punctuation and grammar and using appropriate literary terms
- show an understanding of the **methods** the poets use such as form and structure, language (including imagery) and tone, **and** relate your comments on methods to the point of the question
- compare and contrast the methods which the two poets use to present their themes.

Carol Ann Duffy: *Selected Poems*

Liz Lochhead: *The Colour of Black and White*

- 1 Duffy and Lochhead both write about personal relationships.

Compare and contrast the methods which the two poets use to explore the theme of personal relationships in two poems you have studied.

John Montague: *New Selected Poems*

Seamus Heaney: *Opened Ground*

- 2 Montague and Heaney have both written about their rural Irish childhoods.

Compare and contrast the methods which the two poets use to present their rural Irish childhoods in two poems you have studied.

Gerard Manley Hopkins: *Selected Poems*

Emily Dickinson: *A Choice of Emily Dickinson's Verse*

- 3 Hopkins and Dickinson both write about nature in their poetry.

Compare and contrast the methods which the two poets use to explore the theme of nature in two poems you have studied.

Edward Thomas: *Selected Poems*

Robert Frost: *Selected Poems*

- 4 Thomas and Frost both write about old age in their poetry.

Compare and contrast the methods which the two poets use to explore the theme of old age in two poems you have studied.

W. B. Yeats: *Selected Poems*

Patrick Kavanagh: *Selected Poems*

- 5 Yeats and Kavanagh both write about places in their poems.

Compare and contrast the methods which the two poets use to explore the theme of place in two poems you have studied.

READ ALL OF THIS PAGE FIRST – CAREFULLY

SECTION B: THE STUDY OF PROSE 1800–1945

Answer **one** question in this section.

In section B you will be marked on your ability to

- articulate informed and relevant responses that communicate effectively your knowledge and understanding of a novel (AO1)
- show awareness of the interpretations of other readers (AO3)
- demonstrate understanding of the context in which texts are written and received by drawing on appropriate information from outside the novel (AO4).

This means that

In your answers you must

- express your ideas in a clear and well-organised way, paying careful attention to spelling, punctuation and grammar and using appropriate literary terms
- develop an argument expressing your views on a statement about the novel given at the beginning of the question
- show a knowledge of relevant context in giving your response to the view of the novel expressed at the beginning of the question.

Jane Austen: *Mansfield Park*

Answer either (a) or (b)

- 6 (a) As a hero, Edmund Bertram is not at all appealing to the twenty-first century reader.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

- (b) In *Mansfield Park* the interests of nineteenth-century society are seen as being much more important than the interests of the individual.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

Emily Bronte: *Wuthering Heights*

Answer either (a) or (b)

- 7 (a) Cathy is a typical nineteenth-century heroine.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

- (b) *Wuthering Heights* certainly cannot be termed a feminist novel as the female characters are all victims.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

F. Scott Fitzgerald: *The Great Gatsby*

Answer either (a) or (b)

- 8 (a) Jay Gatsby is too foolish and ridiculous a figure to be seen as a “great” hero.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

- (b) The failure of Gatsby’s dream represents the failure of the American Dream.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

E. M. Forster: *A Passage to India*

Answer either (a) or (b)

- 9 (a) *A Passage to India* is a reflection of what India was really like at the time the novel was written. (The novel was written in the early 1920s.)

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

- (b) As a novel about the relationship among different cultures, *A Passage to India* is even more relevant to today’s world than it was to Forster’s original readers.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

Mrs. Gaskell: *North and South*

Answer either (a) or (b)

- 10 (a) *North and South* is more a novel about the growth of Margaret Hale's character than it is an Industrial Novel.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

- (b) Even in the twenty-first century, *North and South's* consideration of labour–employer relations is still relevant.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

Thomas Hardy: *The Mayor of Casterbridge*

Answer either (a) or (b)

- 11 (a) The novel offers a fair reflection of women's position in society in nineteenth-century England.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

- (b) *The Mayor of Casterbridge* cannot be called a Realist Novel as the story contains far too many coincidences.

With reference to appropriately selected parts of the novel, and **relevant contextual information**, give your response to the above view.

THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER
