



Examiners' Report June 2015

GCE English Literature 6ET01 01

Edexcel and BTEC Qualifications

Edexcel and BTEC qualifications come from Pearson, the UK's largest awarding body. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers. For further information visit our qualifications websites at www.btec.co.uk.

Alternatively, you can get in touch with us using the details on our contact us page at www.edexcel.com/contactus.



Giving you insight to inform next steps

ResultsPlus is Pearson's free online service giving instant and detailed analysis of your students' exam results.

- See students' scores for every exam question.
- Understand how your students' performance compares with class and national averages.
- Identify potential topics, skills and types of question where students may need to develop their learning further.

For more information on ResultsPlus, or to log in, visit www.edexcel.com/resultsplus. Your exams officer will be able to set up your ResultsPlus account in minutes via Edexcel Online.

Pearson: helping people progress, everywhere

Pearson aspires to be the world's leading learning company. Our aim is to help everyone progress in their lives through education. We believe in every kind of learning, for all kinds of people, wherever they are in the world. We've been involved in education for over 150 years, and by working across 70 countries, in 100 languages, we have built an international reputation for our commitment to high standards and raising achievement through innovation in education. Find out more about how we can help you and your students at: www.pearson.com/uk.

June 2015

Publications Code US041511

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Pearson Education Ltd 2015

Introduction

Centres continue to prepare students effectively for this exam. Even as it comes to the end of its life, however, there are some points from previous series which bear repeating.

The primary focuses for Unit 1 are AO1, AO2 and AO3 and even then, the first and second of these dominate – only 20 out of the 100 marks available are apportioned to AO3.

Accordingly, structure, form and language, concepts and terminology remain the key contributing factors, along with coherent, accurate written expression. Although many of the tasks attempt to support candidates by directing them explicitly towards techniques such as imagery, irony, tone and mood, language choices, dialogue, contrast, setting and characterisation, there remains a tendency amongst a significant proportion to opt for narration and description, particularly in Sections B and C.

The tendency amongst some centres to take the 'other readers' injunction expressed in the specification to mean 'discuss schools of criticism' was perhaps slightly less marked this year but, once again, there is little need for, or use in, bolted-on comments beginning 'a Marxist / feminist / structuralist (delete as necessary) would say that...' Some students can construct compelling arguments based on theoretical constructs but they tend to be in the minority. In this case, the 'other reader' is the voice of the question prompt and whilst it would be wrong to discourage teachers or lecturers from exploring wider issues with their students, there needs to be a judicious address of how such material is best used.

Handwriting was, again, a problem in more cases than might have been desired. Examiners are instructed to do their best to decode what has been committed to the page and there is plenty of understanding about how the pressures of time mitigate against utter legibility. However, it was often very difficult to decipher what some students had written.

The prompts for the tasks in Sections B and C are often intended to provoke argument, however nuanced, and it was good to see more students taking issue with the injunction as opposed to simply agreeing.

Question 1

In the poem the use of full masculine themes air of assertiveness and thythm. Kh and "flare" crease a soft sound " dil,, poem and makes it seem all the more sensitive. "air" and "flore" thyme, coupled with the fact that they chime together well done to their assonance also reinforces the idea of a peaceful city scene. In addition the ABBA shyme scheme of the first the poem, the octave before the volta shifts the Mime scheme is also roteworth. The scheme emphasises the regularity and millions the traditional conventions of sonnett, although the poem is in itself not a sonnet. illegularity of the last 8 lines in terms of the Thyme scheme indicates a shift in the poem's mood and the suggesting something more sinister. They shyming couplet of "cries", "butterflies"as it emphasises this know new shift of lone. the end is effective



There was a lot of variation here - more than might have been anticipated at this point. 'Rhyme' simply threw a lot of candidates who either left the answer blank, talked about something else altogether such as rhythm or resorted to the tried and tested 'lyrical or song-like feel', which has been much commented on in previous Reports. Weaker responses were often noticeable by their use of some form of 'helps to make it flow'. At the other extreme, candidates delineated the whole scheme, sometimes without any comment on effect at all. In this example however, the candidate responds very well, scoring 5.

(b) Poets often make use of language choices.Using two examples from the poem, explore the effect of language choices in the poem.

(AO2 = 5)

Struell describes people Chasing 'the jewelled butterfly'.

The pre-moditying adjective, combined with the noun,

'butterfly' creates a phrase with connotations of
beauty wealth and describing highlighting to the
exciting the peoples' chase for a glomorous on a

exciting lite.

In addition, the onlittletical description of 'baby cries' as

'lovely', on adjective often conying positive and bussil cornotations,

implies to the listner that happiness on be found in the

Must nexpected places.



Language choice seemed like much firmer ground for a lot of candidates, including this one, who scored 5/5.

(c) In poetry, themes are explored in different ways.

Using your knowledge of poetry, discuss what you think the themes in this poem are and comment on the ways in which they are developed.

(AO1 = 5, AO2 = 5)

There of regret and the struggles are exploned. ' Thought to the scene described Though the Syans beauty. final implying that They I lave long The Mune

nearly to active the function botte fly bight the them of the strangle of we true class by the northern the magery of the City 'knowed wange works' lightly the the northern the city having a lender pull' astable a claying the company of the way having a lender pull' astable as a claying metalic heat at the cost of Sugaroung to forming suggest the implementation of metalic heat of the influence of metalic heat of the influence of the negurific beggin and uponing a third theme' industrialization.



The candidate scored 9 (4 + 5) for a proficient consideration of themes in the poem. It was often the case that students didn't seem to know the difference between 'theme' and 'motif', so quite a lot of interesting but not too relevant writing about 'light' and 'dark' or 'butterflies and moths' went relatively unrewarded.

Question 2

(a) Novelists use imagery to create interest.

Identify and comment on the effect of the writer's use of imagery in this extract.

(AO1 = 5)

The hostile comp-fires are described as having a red, eyelike glean which conveys the best of the enemy keeping watch on the soldiers.

The brooking watch on the soldiers.

The brooking is described of changing from brown to green suggesting a development in the seasons emphasting how long the soldiers have been walting for.

The men 'scattered' when heaving the news which not only presents their excitement at something to talk about but foreshadows the scattering of shrappel.

A soldier waves his garment barnerlike, displaying the eagerness of his return and conveying of news but foreshadowing a the waving of white flags.

The soldier is described as having the sir of a herald' which portrays how making much attention the other soldiers are a giving him. And to attention the other



Imagery is, by now, mainly well understood as a concept for exploration in 6ET01. Here, a focused answer runs sensibly through a few examples. It could be said to be short on evaluation, but there is some discussion of effect and the eventual mark was 5 out of 5.

(b) Novelists use sound devices to create particular effects.

Identify **two** examples of sound devices that add to the effect of the narrative, and comment on their use in the extract.

(AO2 = 5)

Crana uses dibitance at first its reflect the hostile damptives at the enamines in the distance. The is saidle every concernors a danger and are also onemats poetic at the sixtling and history of the first themselves. Thus earle sand is also rejectly at the sixtena across the "somewhold blackness" at the shear as a seperates the the poes.

Cran atto uses plosive named to murch the men's excrement about the new news" elaborat plan a a very brilliant campaign ". The plasive b' and 'p' demonstrate to the newfound (choustness in the men's attitudes and a also retractive at the bolaness of their "elaborate pran". Thus now adols excrement for the readle as they are intrigued by the new plan also



Although there was still some confusion about 'sound devices', it was more residual. This response illustrates the sort of work which many candidates produced - effectively two features are identified and discussed in a generally competent manner. The answer was given 5 out of 5.

(c) Novelists use voice to create interest in their work. Using your knowledge of voice, discuss ways in which Stephen Crane uses it in this extract. (AO1 = 5, AO2 = 5)ele narrater c's traice as COMU RUS am

au linas Cood type Figure as the ell nomarie vaire shi depices elle Emarices out elle chassel encacters 'His 8mcolle Face las Clustere He cas as vaire es Ponticury Offerse here as le sibilence creates e very soft tone. This is also minicula by no assertion a en 'Smooth'.



This student deals well enough with some of the issues of voice in the extract, including style of narration and the use of colloquialisms. The overall mark was 4 + 5 and therefore 9/10.

Question 3 (a)

The House' writer attempt to make projoured exploration of the theme of home the former aiming to ridicule the protection and grandeur of homes of the rich outbring the impersonable, while Sweeney does the opposite, exploring what makes his childhood home special to him. In each attempting to escape stereotype to present these personal and impersonal views of home both fail due to their use of affered stereotypes to create ivory and deepe meaning Long Possibly winter present by other weadons



In this thoughtful opening, the candidate engages well with the question, choosing to take issue with the prompt. The argument was well-developed in what followed and the answer scored maximum marks.

Question 3 (b)

Both of the poems look at the important theme of lagacy and, more peticularly, legacies which might be better forgotten writing in the mid at of the I wish Civil wer, Yeats is actually fairly positive the about the legacy of the encast ral houses the seems to admine the with man's flowering lawns' and the 'glory of escutcheoned' doors. This suggests that Yeats can appreciate the houses for their beauty and design, a warright he gapes acknowledges the history of them and the fact that

Deveals that attack Yeaks is in admiration of the way the houses were contructed. He beloves that they are home to a water and bloody history that the aut wardly stately nature does not reveal. Walcott also wontes a length about an English house on Jarcian the describes how the 'decideous beauty propered and is gone? The adject is 'decideous' suggests the sheet scale and grandion nature that

Sall of an empire. He also talks about how

"He imperious rates are gone, their bright

gir ls gons histing est the legacy left by Howkins

Walter Raleigh Dicke and how with the death of

the british Empire, those men have lost their

grip on this land and their hostight legacy has been

destroyed, but not forgotten. However, it is also



Though the candidate begins to drift mildly towards narrative by the end of excerpt, there is enough evidence of sophistication and specific analysis here to warrant a high award. The overall response gained 35 (13, 4, 18).

Question 4 (a)

The first poem, I am going to write about it a poem called funt Julia This poem describes an Aunt who is dies but pe before she dies she tries to teach her necce/nephew how to speak Gaelic. "By the time I had learned a little, she lay silenced in the absolute black of a sandy grave at Luskentyne."

This quote from the poem shows the reader how devistated they were when think julia clied they were when they fully a clied they were when they form they haved, we also see that this poem has repitition towards the End "getting argry, getting argry" and "funt Julia Spoke Gaelic, think julia spoke & Gaelic." This is Shown as Memories they don't want to forget about and the repition of her name shows the andrews.



Reports on 6ET01 have tended to suggest that narration and description need to be avoided in favour of analysis and argument. It isn't always easy to exemplify the former, but this answer does provide some idea of what might be meant. It scored 14 out of 40 (6, 1, 7).

Question 4 (b)

This was a less popular task than 4a. However there were plenty of opportunities and many candidates commented well on the lives presented in chosen poems, with the best answers keeping the concept of "vivid" in clear focus. Though it is hard to be precise, 'Going, Going' and 'Bermudas' seemed to attract more answers than 'Welsh Landscape'.

Question 5 (a)

On the other hand, Tanton promos a look at power Day Maling presents equality amenges people in socia woch comes some power The goem is an insurand morely me, on free flew of Droughes judapening the lin stanza poem 'O Lumber-leving cellier', inmediating promong me and harmony in work rather show it's power. Pastoral inaging, veryly - magical is presented in Day - Making; " Du glishwing sugar and Du fragrant hong periodicy a Neigent pilhor de aparisan De Mas of Siden. The comming of week the old and young, me week and shong! all pulling dagether is presented by Baillie, Dis pomer adding Do Du poemi- of posision Ane. Ballie prour men . - less adheres Do De ve go nambie perdamese sommich my Don pour Druger it's dype cal in him pressy, considing on it Mant were presing in a Source person. Allowout a

De post is one unreliable navional so De is

prosenas of Maria maid and vallage oracle's

De and comment of Deichert power unique don't

controlly Maria Dodoners.



Here a candidate uses 'Hay-Making' to draw an effective parallel and to extend an argument. Though not everything here is totally compelling, it is certainly credible enough and the response is discursive, which is positive. The overall mark was 33 (13, 4, 16).

Question 5 (b)

The language in the poem Thaights

after Eushin' is also effective in

conveying the Satinial poetic vaice.

The diction of hives and roses conveys

how Rushin believed women were

allicate flowers who had to be uft

to ploom However the contrast and

plosive language of 'bood' and 'bleed'

to junt aroses this and highinghes

by such a sit persons how

this is effective as it persons how

thoman women are seen as delicate

creatures who have to be proceeded were

really women are just as how tagen as men implying how severtying women is morally wrong the use a be present participles and styling pickling and styling pickling and preserving is also effective in conveying a repulsive tare with a somplete contrast to Rushin iews. The

Domplete contrast to Rushins views. The lose of the personal granain me' also implies how the poet is challenges the views that women should stay at home and be naislewires, with he conveying had a woman the moral point that a womans work in the name is not lasy.



If anything, this excerpt is indicative of an almost overly-linguistic focus on 'Thoughts after Ruskin', a poem which proved popular here. Nonetheless, there is much to credit in the student's steadfast approach to addressing both the task and what is being assessed. The overall mark was 31 (11, 4, 16).

Question 6 (a)

in the magic Toyshop Melanie has one CHECK desire and this is sexual. As a teen i She is developing an idea for romance and she is desperate to find this wist, most people Melanue is for conventional love. An when Melame preys ' please God married, or, let me have sex ed of smaw wino that she can explore her sexuality. Melanies tension reaches its peak when ouress reterning order to lose your virgult melame does not symbol of love, but have sex. She is so empowered desire that she ventures into the destroys the others She

Results lus

Sometimes candidates find themselves dealing with what might be termed 'adult content'. In this extract it is handled deftly and whilst retaining a good focus on the terms of the question. Pleasingly, this sort of writing has become increasingly typical in 6ET01 and is indicative of sensitivity and maturity both in learning and, one imagines, teaching. The overall mark here was 32 (12, 20).

Question 6 (b)

Bronto continues to being suspense una chandregion sorder "a demoniac Caugh-Low, Supressed and deep-usered", again the use Of the west "demoniae" andolare a same here connon-entions of enil and the denil, but when put but before the word "/aux" we created a sinter anscence to the en carges which reinforce me gom's hopor theme, "low supressed and deep-elsered", purmer deserber the lough and melles it day seem palpable to a degree, as if it is ringing throughout me house. These sub-ements prepare the reader for ene mais ener, to which all Jane's hiddles want and desires, biguratively set above Rochester Bedroom; "Tonque of plane darred round me bed: me certains neede on pine", once agein me siducine of me sentine snack its content, The meterphorical "tourques" one

prom energyming else due to it being experted by a colon, it suggests is what the meader first sporting on while is significant by and June where is trying to super, has sexual desires her "fine", the "flame or it is the continuation of the conti

ResultsPlus

Čandidates sometimes neglect to comment in sufficient detail on the extract specified in the task for the b.) questions. Equally, they sometimes forget to broaden their discussion into the rest of the main novel (or the second text). Here, there is a sense that the writing is fully engaged with the named passage. The mark was 29 (11, 18).

Question 7 (a)

By setting up an opposition between he acceticism and bleakness of them provides the character of Pichie and the indulgence and bedonism of the he character of Ida, the foil to Pichie Greene explores selforh—to mithin human nature However whether or not Greene tales pleasure in depicting the cold separate of Pichie's life as a model of unselfishness and the care-free altitude of Ida as a model of selforness is another matter. A companion with Burgers' A Clockwork Orange can purpose that light on the selforness of human nature and whether an author can possibly nevel in it.



This script was used at standardisation and thoroughly commended by almost everyone who read it. Its introduction is indicative of the kind of thing that followed, at some length, on the way to achieving full marks.

Both write



It's often interesting when students evince some sense of their own personality in their writing (assuming that's not all they do)! This response earned 25 marks (9, 16).

Question 8 (a)

Austen carefully croffs a variety of characters in order to mock the Regency period's patriorchal and social dar focussed society. The protagonist, Ecizabeth, is presented with fatal flaw-prejudice. However, Suggest that she is Ecizabeth 's Aboten takes the reader conflict journey to overcome her selfand when she does, we do indued love and expreciate the character and her forward-thinking attitude in the society usten mocks. The other characters are merely props in order, to either encouncil her habit of marking, the novel's original title, "first Impressions". In TYWP, the narrator in to express Gilman's hatred for the rest cure and is mistreated. At the readlers Sympathise with her, they also feel a sense of love.



This eminently sensible start lays out a clear programme for the rest of the response - it's a long, long way from the sorts of 'In this essay I have been asked to write about...' beginnings which used to be a staple even of AS-Level answers. It is neatly emblematic of how a student can take issue with the proposition from the outset and prosper - the mark in this case was 37 (14, 23).

Question 8 (b)

Therefore to conclude it

is clear that both muster and gilman
are successful in creating arama in this
texts. The slaw dephenon of character is
one method used by thisten in the case
of catherne as Boxes and possibly Doxup
revelation of his mer fellings at the cumax
of the noveligious total is ouse seen mastered
by gilman to illustrate he peauxis growing
invanity. In the passage, The windrawar
of in formation is a common structural
device by both thisten to deplay drama in
the simplesses.

of her events, the maximise the reach one from the specific and the characters the manufactures, as seen with by Danys dramatic and humed manner of presenting his true feelings to Eugaketh, and her 'astonishment' being beyond expression,



Here, a candidate offers a purposeful conclusion to a fairly well-argued essay about drama and dramatic scenes in 'Pride & Prejudice' and 'The Yellow Wallpaper'. The overall mark was 32 (12, 20).

Question 9 (a)

In Wuthering Heights, the main female protagonist is arguebleg Catherine Earnshaw and, ironically, she is perhaps the most unfeminine. As a child growing up at three Heights, she is wild - described as a 'hattes little savage', a norm implying a destructive force, to be reckoned with. In spite of this, though, she is continually pard oned of her behaviour, with Nelly stating she was 'much too food of Heathcliff as though the mischeviouswess was not, could not be an inborn trait of a girl, but a characteristic intiod from hanging around the wrong people. Furtherway, her behaviour is separated from her by implying she was not acting of her own accord, but was irrestistably compelled by a naughty spirit within her. This influence of the narrative voice shapes the readers'

perception of Catherine; showing Nelly designates blame on a naughty spirit, the and the coupling of a trivial adjective (naughty) and supernatural imagery (spirit) creates a ludicrons atmosphere in which the act of her hitting Nelly grows insignificant and unblamable. Do one hand, this could be seen as an advantage - Catherine Sr. doesn't struggle for she never has to claim res-

ponsibility. In actual fact, however it is a diluting of her character which stems from deeply entrenched expectations of womanhood at the time of Brointe's writing. It is as if Brointe is highlighting that the stubborn, and shop-tongued character she created struggles from a dismissal of her innate characteristics, and thus her personality is oppressed and she concludes her timeline as an ill and distant woman, for from the active boyishness of her youth. Thus,



This extract is representative of an emerging trend towards disputatious, opinionated response which, where it is as well expressed and cogent as it is here, is to be welcomed. Love it or hate it, there is no denying this candidate's engagement with what they have read. The overall mark was 36 (13, 23).

Question 9 (b)

The notion that 'time heals all wounds' was seemingly understood and often interestingly addressed here, with some good, detailed focus on the extract specified and some effective development of argument. What was perhaps missing in many responses was an approach to the second part of the stem which asked whether or not candidates felt that this was a 'disappoint(ment)' in the context of the texts in question. Many candidates felt that for Celie and Nettie in 'The Color Purple' there was nothing wrong at all - they richly deserved their happy endings, given their previous suffering. This was also largely true for Hester in 'The Scarlet Letter'. There was much less clarity as regards 'Wuthering Heights' and quite a lot of answers simply dodged the issue altogether.

Question 10 (a)



Questions 10a and 10b have tended, as often previously noted, to draw lots of high quality responses. This year was no exception. Here a student gets straight to the heart of class issues in 'Howards End' in an eloquent and informed manner. This essay gained full marks - 40.

Question 10 (b)

It is the lesser characters who present much of the interest here." the author of Howards End; Forster, creates an agitared tone during this extract, "he protested, suddenly siting up, afert and angry", to portray the childishness of Tibby's in The Remains of the Day' thered, Ishiguro, presents lesser characters' such as Mr Cardenal of with an impatient tone, " (ardinal gove a sigh and exict: 'I'm only too aware of that". Would you mind getting to she point?" Both characters are "young gentlemen", with a kein arterest for study, " seen in Cardinal's "Utensive reading and back ground work", and Tiphy heng "now on his second year of Oxford" Although these men are considered lesser characters; they are also intellectuals ones, Buch explains their agitated tones when their knowledge is doubted -"IVINOTA & BESSEL FOR SOME regular work", "Sir Devid wither you to know, sv, that bedier and gentle men.

The conversation between Tibby and Margaret is structured so as to make Margaret a more Significant character, due to her large sections of dialogue "So take warning: you must work. regularly and honestly." Whereas Tippy gets short, punches sentences, "Spare me the Wilcoxes", which automatically portrays him at lesser character. # On the other hand, Ishiguro prosess structures the conversation between stavens and liv Cardonal the start defenity - Stevens, the main character & given short, repeated lines, "Is that so, sir?", and Mr Cambrial, is given long-winded lines - "Father & perpetually underestimatong me... I his made ensures the conversation is award and unconfortable between the buo characturs. "meleant so far back in his chair that he extended in a horizontal lone "- here, Forster mentions Tiphy's physical appearance through ouggery of Homsiness This se gives the character a sense of weakness, revealing Tibby at the boy ish character he is typically known as

Contrastorgly, Isnigur portrays the lesser pusor on

'The Lema on of the Day'- He Cardinal "as one

of mitiative and protection; through magazy of

the person being alest, "the young man gentleman

suddenly one to his feet and dutching..."

Forster of uses diction of fondner when describing

Tithing, despite his defects; as having "a genuine

personality", group the pader the an impression

of his "lesser character", whereas or the

situation in The Renaux of the Day', ovolving

He Cardinal, there is only diction of discomfort; steppes

"I conghed again..."



Despite the comments on 10a, there was some indifferent work on this cluster. In this case, quite unusually, the candidate pretty much fails to look beyond the named extract in any meaningful way, thereby limiting their chances severely. The total mark was 16 (7, 9).

Paper Summary

As 6ET01 nears the end of its short life, all those who taught it are warmly thanked for their efforts, as are the students themselves, the officers of the Board and the examining teams. Though examining itself is often quite a time-pressured business, it has been genuinely rewarding to see the development of candidates' work over the series since the unit's inception - there has been much to enjoy.

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- Address the terms of the task as precisely as possible in Section A.
- Avoid narrative re-count, plot focus and solely character-driven discussions in Section C.
- At least parts of the response should be on the set passage in Section C if a (b) task is chosen.
- Remember that some part of the answers in Section C need to deal in relatively close detail with the secondary text.
- Ensure that answers are based on the correct named text for the poetry anthology in Section B.
- Quote from the text/s in all sections.
- Use, as a general rule, two examples in Q1(a) and Q1(b) or Q2(a) and Q2(b).
- Make use of appropriate terminology in Section A.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link: http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx





