

Modified Enlarged 42pt

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Wednesday 24 May 2023 – Afternoon

A Level English Literature

H472/01 Drama and poetry pre-1900

**Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes
plus your additional time allowance**

YOU MUST HAVE:

the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF



INSTRUCTIONS

Use black ink.

Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.

Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.

Answer **one** question in Section 1 and **one** in Section 2.

All the questions in Section 1 have two parts, (a) and (b). Answer **both** parts of the question on the text you have studied.

Answer **one** question on the texts you have studied in Section 2.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is **60**.

The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].

ADVICE

Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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Section 1

Shakespeare

‘Coriolanus’

‘Hamlet’

‘Measure for Measure’

‘Richard III’

‘The Tempest’

‘Twelfth Night’

Answer **one** question from this section. You must answer **both** parts **(a)** and **(b)**. You should spend about **1 hour and 15 minutes** plus your additional time allowance on this section.

1 Coriolanus

Answer **BOTH** parts (a) and (b).

(a) Discuss the following passage from Act 3 Scene 3, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and its dramatic effects. **[15]**

PLEBEIANS

To th' rock, to th' rock, with him!

SICINIUS

Peace!

We need not put new matter to his charge.

✓

What you have seen him do and heard him speak,

Beating your officers, cursing yourselves,

5

Opposing laws with strokes, and here defying

Those whose great power must try him – even this,

So criminal and in such capital kind,

Deserves th' extremest death.

BRUTUS

But since he hath

Serv'd well for Rome –

10

CORIOLANUS

What do you prate of service?

∞

BRUTUS

I talk of that that know it.

CORIOLANUS

You!

MENENIUS

Is this the promise that you made your mother?

15

COMINIUS

Know, I pray you –

9

CORIOLANUS

I'll know no further.

Let them pronounce the steep Tarpeian death,

Vagabond exile, flaying, pent to linger

But with a grain a day, I would not buy

Their mercy at the price of one fair word,

20

Nor check my courage for what they can give,
To have't with saying 'Good morrow'.

SICINIUS

For that he has –

As much as in him lies – from time to time

25

Envi'd against the people, seeking means

To pluck away their power; as now at last

Given hostile strokes, and that not in the presence

Of dreaded justice, but on the ministers

That do distribute it – in the name o' th' people,

30

And in the power of us the tribunes, we,

Ev'n from this instant, banish him our city,

In peril of precipitation

From off the rock Tarpeian, never more

To enter our Rome gates. I' th' people's name,

35

I say it shall be so.

11

PLEBEIANS

It shall be so, it shall be so! Let him away!

He's banish'd, and it shall be so.

COMINIUS

Hear me, my masters and my common friends –

SICINIUS

He's sentenc'd; no more hearing.

40

COMINIUS

Let me speak.

I have been consul, and can show for Rome

Her enemies' marks upon me. I do love

My country's good with a respect more tender,

More holy and profound, than mine own life,

My dear wife's estimate, her womb's increase

And treasure of my loins. Then if I would

Speak that –

45

SICINIUS

We know your drift. Speak what?

BRUTUS

There's no more to be said, but he is banish'd,

50

As enemy to the people and his country.

13

It shall be so.

PLEBEIANS

It shall be so, it shall be so.

CORIOLOANUS

You common cry of curs, whose breath I hate

As reek o' th' rotten fens, whose loves I prize

55

As the dead carcasses of unburied men

That do corrupt my air – I banish you.

And here remain with your uncertainty!

14

Let every feeble rumour shake your hearts;

Your enemies, with noddling of their plumes,

60

Fan you into despair! Have the power still

To banish your defenders, till at length

Your ignorance – which finds not till it feels,

Making not reservation of yourselves

Still your own foes – deliver you 65

As most abated captives to some nation

That won you without blows! Despising

For you the city, thus I turn my back;

There is a world elsewhere.

15

[Exeunt Coriolanus, Cominius, Menenius, with the other

Patricians.

70

And

(b) 'The play sometimes suggests that Coriolanus is an enemy of the people.'

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of the character Coriolanus.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations. **[15]**

2 Hamlet

Answer **BOTH** parts (a) and (b).

(a) Discuss the following passage from Act 2 Scene 2, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and its dramatic effects. **[15]**

HAMLET

Now I am alone.

O, what a rogue and peasant slave am I!

Is it not monstrous that this player here,

But in a fiction, in a dream of passion,

Could force his soul so to his own conceit

118

5

That from her working all his visage wann'd;

Tears in his eyes, distraction in's aspect,

A broken voice, and his whole function suiting

With forms to his conceit? And all for nothing!

For Hecuba!

10

What's Hecuba to him or he to Hecuba,
That he should weep for her? What would he do,
Had he the motive and the cue for passion
That I have? He would drown the stage with tears,
And cleave the general ear with horrid speech;
Make mad the guilty, and appal the free,
Confound the ignorant, and amaze indeed
The very faculties of eyes and ears.

Yet I,

A dull and muddy-mettl'd rascal, peak,
Like John-a-dreams, unpregnant of my cause,

15

19

20

And can say nothing; no, not for a king
Upon whose property and most dear life

A damn'd defeat was made. Am I a coward?

Who calls me villain, breaks my pate across,

25

Plucks off my beard and blows it in my face,

Tweaks me by the nose, gives me the lie i' th' throat

20

As deep as to the lungs? Who does me this?

Ha!

'Swounds, I should take it; for it cannot be

30

But I am pigeon-liver'd and lack gall

To make oppression bitter, or ere this

I should 'a fattened all the region kites

With this slave's offal. Bloody, bawdy villain!

Remorseless, treacherous, lecherous, kindless villain! 35

O, vengeance!

Why, what an ass am I! This is most brave,

That I, the son of a dear father murder'd,

Prompted to my revenge by heaven and hell,

Must, like a whore, unpack my heart with words, 40

And fall a-cursing like a very drab,

A scullion! Fie upon't! foh!

About, my brains. Hum – I have heard

That guilty creatures, sitting at a play,
Have by the very cunning of the scene

45

Been struck so to the soul that presently
They have proclaim'd their malefactions;
For murder, though it have no tongue, will speak
With most miraculous organ. I'll have these players
Play something like the murder of my father

50

Before mine uncle. I'll observe his looks;
I'll tent him to the quick. If 'a do blench,
I know my course. The spirit that I have seen
May be a devil; and the devil hath power

T' assume a pleasing shape; yea, and perhaps

55

Out of my weakness and my melancholy,

As he is very potent with such spirits,

Abuses me to damn me. I'll have grounds

More relative than this. The play's the thing

Wherein I'll catch the conscience of the King.

60

23

[Exit.]

And

(b) ‘Ideas and images drawn from the theatre are central to the play **‘Hamlet’.**’

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of the play **‘Hamlet’.**

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations. **[15]**

3 Measure for Measure

Answer **BOTH** parts (a) and (b).

(a) Discuss the following passage from Act 2 Scene 4, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and its dramatic effects. **[15]**

[Enter ISABELLA.]

ANGELO

How now, fair maid?

ISABELLA

26

I am come to know your pleasure.

ANGELO

That you might know it would much better please me

Than to demand what 'tis. Your brother cannot live.

5

ISABELLA

Even so! Heaven keep your honour!

ANGELO

Yet may he live awhile, and, it may be,

As long as you or I; yet he must die.

27

ISABELLA

Under your sentence?

ANGELO

Yea.

10

ISABELLA

When? I beseech you; that in his reprieve,
Longer or shorter, he may be so fitted
That his soul sicken not.

ANGELO

28

Ha! Fie, these filthy vices! It were as good
To pardon him that hath from nature stol'n
A man already made, as to remit

15

Their saucy sweetness that do coin heaven's image
In stamps that are forbid; 'tis all as easy

Falsely to take away a life true made
As to put metal in restrained means
To make a false one.

20

ISABELLA

'Tis set down so in heaven, but not in earth.

29

ANGELO

Say you so? Then I shall pose you quickly.
Which had you rather – that the most just law
Now took your brother's life; or, to redeem him,

25

Give up your body to such sweet uncleanness
As she that he hath stain'd?

ISABELLA

Sir, believe this:

I had rather give my body than my soul.

30

ANGELO

I talk not of your soul; our compell'd sins
Stand more for number than for accompt.

30

ISABELLA

How say you?

ANGELO

Nay, I'll not warrant that; for I can speak

31 Against the thing I say. Answer to this:

I, now the voice of the recorded law,

35

Pronounce a sentence on your brother's life;

Might there not be a charity in sin

To save this brother's life?

ISABELLA

Please you to do't,

I'll take it as a peril to my soul

It is no sin at all, but charity.

40

ANGELO

32

Pleas'd you to do't at peril of your soul,

Were equal poise of sin and charity.

ISABELLA

That I do beg his life, if it be sin,

Heaven let me bear it! You granting of my suit,

45

If that be sin, I'll make it my morn prayer
To have it added to the faults of mine,
And nothing of your answer.

ANGELO

☯
☯ Nay, but hear me;

Your sense pursues not mine; either you are ignorant 50

Or seem so, craftily; and that's not good.

ISABELLA

Let me be ignorant, and in nothing good
But graciously to know I am no better.

ANGELO

Thus wisdom wishes to appear most bright

When it doth tax itself; as these black masks

55

Proclaim an enshielded beauty ten times louder

Than beauty could, display'd. But mark me:

To be received plain, I'll speak more gross –

34

Your brother is to die.

And

(b) 'The effects of sexual behaviour are significant throughout the play.'

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of '**Measure for Measure**'.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations. **[15]**

4 Richard III

Answer **BOTH** parts (a) and (b).

(a) Discuss the following passage from Act 1 Scene 1, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and its dramatic effects. **[15]**

[Enter RICHARD, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, solus.]

GLOUCESTER

Now is the winter of our discontent

Made glorious summer by this sun of York;

37 And all the clouds that lour'd upon our house

In the deep bosom of the ocean buried.

5

Now are our brows bound with victorious wreaths;

Our bruised arms hung up for monuments;

Our stern alarums chang'd to merry meetings,

Our dreadful marches to delightful measures.

Grim-visag'd war hath smooth'd his wrinkled front, 10

And now, instead of mounting barbed steeds

To fright the souls of fearful adversaries,

He capers nimbly in a lady's chamber

To the lascivious pleasing of a lute.

But I – that am not shap'd for sportive tricks, 15

Nor made to court an amorous looking-glass –

I – that am rudely stamp'd, and want love's majesty

To strut before a wanton ambling nymph –

I – that am curtail'd of this fair proportion,

Cheated of feature by dissembling nature, 20

Deform'd, unfinish'd, sent before my time
Into this breathing world scarce half made up,
And that so lamely and unfashionable
That dogs bark at me as I halt by them –

Why, I, in this weak piping time of peace,

25

39 Have no delight to pass away the time,

Unless to spy my shadow in the sun

And descant on mine own deformity.

And therefore, since I cannot prove a lover

To entertain these fair well-spoken days,

30

I am determined to prove a villain

And hate the idle pleasures of these days.

Plots have I laid, inductions dangerous,

By drunken prophecies, libels, and dreams,

To set my brother Clarence and the King

35

In deadly hate the one against the other;

And if King Edward be as true and just

40

As I am subtle, false, and treacherous,

This day should Clarence closely be mew'd up –

About a prophecy which says that G

40

Of Edward's heirs the murderer shall be.

Dive, thoughts, down to my soul. Here Clarence comes.

[Enter CLARENCE, guarded, and BRAKENBURY.]

Brother, good day. What means this armed guard
That waits upon your Grace?

45

CLARENCE

41

His Majesty,
Tend'ring my person's safety, hath appointed
This conduct to convey me to th' Tower.

GLOUCESTER

Upon what cause?

CLARENCE

Because my name is George.

50

GLOUCESTER

Alack, my lord, that fault is none of yours:

He should, for that, commit your godfathers.

42

O, belike his Majesty hath some intent

That you should be new-christ'ned in the Tower.

But what's the matter, Clarence? May I know?

55

CLARENCE

Yea, Richard, when I know; for I protest

As yet I do not.

And

(b) 'Richard's great talent is to make villainy attractive.'

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of the character Richard.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations. **[15]**

5 The Tempest

Answer **BOTH** parts (a) and (b).

(a) Discuss the following passage from Act 4 Scene 1, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and its dramatic effects. **[15]**

[They sing.]

JUNO

Honour, riches, marriage-blessing,

Long continuance, and increasing,

Hourly joys be still upon you!

46

Juno sings her blessings on you.

5

CERES

Earth's increase, foison plenty,

Barns and garnerers never empty;

Vines with clust'ring bunches growing,

Plants with goodly burden bowing;

Spring come to you at the farthest,

10

In the very end of harvest!

Scarcity and want shall shun you,

Ceres' blessing so is on you.

47

FERDINAND

This is a most majestic vision, and

Harmonious charmingly. May I be bold

15

To think these spirits?

PROSPERO

Spirits, which by mine art
I have from their confines call'd to enact
My present fancies.

FERDINAND

48

Let me live here ever; 20

So rare a wond'ring father and a wise
Makes this place Paradise.

[Juno and Ceres whisper, and send Iris on employment.]

PROSPERO

Sweet now, silence;

Juno and Ceres whisper seriously. 25

There's something else to do; hush, and be mute,

Or else our spell is marr'd.

49

IRIS

You nymphs, call'd Naiads, of the wind'ring brooks,

With your sedg'd crowns and ever harmless looks,

Leave your crisp channels, and on this green land 30

Answer your summons; Juno does command.

Come, temperate nymphs, and help to celebrate
A contract of true love; be not too late.

[Enter certain Nymphs.]

50 You sun-burnt sicklemen, of August weary, 35

Come hither from the furrow, and be merry;
Make holiday; your rye-straw hats put on,
And these fresh nymphs encounter every one
In country footing.

[Enter certain Reapers, properly habited; they join with
the Nymphs in a graceful dance; towards the end whereof
Prospero starts suddenly, and speaks; after which, to a
strange, hollow, and confused noise, they heavily vanish.]

PROSPERO

51

[Aside] I had forgot that foul conspiracy

Of the beast Caliban and his confederates

45

Against my life; the minute of their plot

Is almost come. [To the Spirits] Well done; avoid; no more!

FERDINAND

This is strange; your father's in some passion
That works him strongly.

MIRANDA

Never till this day

Saw I him touch'd with anger so distemper'd.

52

50

PROSPERO

You do look, my son, in a mov'd sort,
As if you were dismay'd; be cheerful, sir.

Our revels now are ended. These our actors,

As I foretold you, were all spirits, and 55

Are melted into air, into thin air;

And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,

The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,

The solemn temples, the great globe itself,

53

Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve,

60

And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,

Leave not a rack behind. We are such stuff

As dreams are made on; and our little life

Is rounded with a sleep. Sir, I am vex'd;

Bear with my weakness; my old brain is troubled;

65

Be not disturb'd with my infirmity.

If you be pleas'd, retire into my cell

And there repose; a turn or two I'll walk

To still my beating mind.

And

(b) 'A play about theatrical illusion and the power of performance.'

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of '**The Tempest**'.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations.

[15]

6 Twelfth Night

Answer **BOTH** parts (a) and (b).

(a) Discuss the following passage from Act 2 Scene 4, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and its dramatic effects. **[15]**

[Enter DUKE, VIOLA, CURIO, and Others.]

DUKE

Give me some music. Now, good morrow, friends.

Now, good Cesario, but that piece of song,

That old and antique song we heard last night;

Methought it did relieve my passion much,

More than light airs and recollected terms

Of these most brisk and giddy-paced times.

Come, but one verse.

CURIO

He is not here, so please your lordship, that should sing it.

DUKE

Who was it?

10

58

CURIO

Feste, the jester, my lord; a fool that the Lady Olivia's father took much delight in. He is about the house.

DUKE

Seek him out, and play the tune the while.

[Exit Curio. Music plays.]

Come hither, boy. If ever thou shalt love, 15

In the sweet pangs of it remember me;

For such as I am all true lovers are,

Unstaid and skittish in all motions else

59

Save in the constant image of the creature

That is belov'd. How dost thou like this tune?

20

VIOLA

It gives a very echo to the seat

Where Love is thron'd.

DUKE

Thou dost speak masterly.

My life upon't, young though thou art, thine eye

Hath stay'd upon some favour that it loves;

25

Hath it not, boy?

60

VIOLA

A little, by your favour.

DUKE

What kind of woman is't?

VIOLA

Of your complexion.

DUKE

She is not worth thee, then. What years, i' faith?

30

61

VIOLA

About your years, my lord.

DUKE

Too old, by heaven! Let still the woman take

An elder than herself; so wears she to him,
So sways she level in her husband's heart.

For, boy, however we do praise ourselves, 35

Our fancies are more giddy and unfirm,
More longing, wavering, sooner lost and won,
Than women's are.

62

VIOLA

I think it well, my lord.

DUKE

Then let thy love be younger than thyself,

40

Or thy affection cannot hold the bent;
For women are as roses, whose fair flow'r
Being once display'd doth fall that very hour.

VIOLA

And so they are; alas, that they are so!
To die, even when they to perfection grow!

63

45

[Re-enter CURIO and Clown.]

DUKE

O, fellow, come, the song we had last night.

Mark it, Cesario; it is old and plain;
The spinsters and the knitters in the sun,
And the free maids that weave their thread with bones, 50
Do use to chant it; it is silly sooth,
And dallies with the innocence of love,
Like the old age.

64

CLOWN

Are you ready, sir?

DUKE

Ay; prithee, sing.

[Music.]

55

Feste's Song.

Come away, come away, death;
And in sad cypress let me be laid;

Fly away, fly away, breath,

I am slain by a fair cruel maid.

60

My shroud of white, stuck all with yew,

65

O, prepare it!

My part of death no one so true

Did share it.

Not a flower, not a flower sweet,

65

On my black coffin let there be strown;

Not a friend, not a friend greet

My poor corpse where my bones shall be thrown;

A thousand thousand sighs to save,

Lay me, O, where

70

Sad true lover never find my grave,

To weep there!

And

(b) ‘The lovers in **‘Twelfth Night’** must learn the importance of constancy in love.’

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of **‘Twelfth Night’**.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations. **[15]**

Section 2

Drama and Poetry pre-1900

Answer **ONE** question from this section.

You should spend about **1 hour and 15 minutes** plus your additional time allowance on this section.

You should use **one drama text** from the list and **one poetry text** from the list in your answer:

Drama

Christopher Marlowe: 'Edward II'

John Webster: 'The Duchess of Malfi'

Oliver Goldsmith: 'She Stoops to Conquer'

Henrik Ibsen: 'A Doll's House'

Oscar Wilde: 'An Ideal Husband'

Poetry

Geoffrey Chaucer: 'The Merchant's
Prologue and Tale'

John Milton: 'Paradise Lost Books 9 & 10'

Samuel Taylor Coleridge: 'Selected Poems'

Alfred, Lord Tennyson: 'Maud'

Christina Rossetti: 'Selected Poems'

7 'Literature suggests that strong desire is always difficult to control.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers present behaviour motivated by desire. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists. **[30]**

Or

8 'The modern interest in inclusivity is rarely satisfied in literature from earlier periods.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers respond to diversity and equality. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists. **[30]**

Or

9 'A cautious attitude to life is often a wise one.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers explore cautious attitudes and behaviour. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists. **[30]**

Or

10 'It is important to be true to yourself
before you are true to other people.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in
which writers explore the need to reconcile
one's own beliefs with the needs of society.
In your answer, compare one drama text
and one poetry text from the above lists.

[30]

Or

11 ‘Literature often explores the gulf between the “haves” and the “have nots”.’

In the light of this view, consider how writers explore issues of advantage and disadvantage. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists. **[30]**

Or

12 'Rules were made to be broken.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers present characters dealing with rules and restrictions. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists. **[30]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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