

General Certificate of Secondary Education  
June 2008



**ENGLISH LITERATURE (SPECIFICATION B)  
Higher Tier**

3711/H

**H**

Tuesday 20 May 2008 9.00 am to 11.15 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- a 12-page answer book;
- unannotated copies of the three texts which you have been studying for this examination.

Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes (includes recommended reading time of 15 minutes)

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black 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 3711/H.
- Answer **three** questions.
- Answer **one** question from each of the three Sections: A, B and C.
- This is an open text examination. You should have copies of the texts you have studied in the examination room. These texts must **not** contain any additional materials, highlighting, any annotations, or notes other than those present in the texts as published.
- Write your answers in the answer book provided.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.
- You must **not** use a dictionary in this examination.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 78.
- Three of these marks are for Quality of Written Communication.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are two questions set on each text. Answer only **one** question on each of your chosen texts.
- In Section B some poetry texts are set for pre-1914 and some for post-1914. Check your choice of questions carefully.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.

**Advice**

- You are advised to spend 15 minutes reading the paper and planning your answers.
- You should refer to the texts for evidence to support any points you make in your answers.

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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**SECTION A – DRAMA**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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You are reminded to:

- answer the question using appropriate evidence from the texts
- explore language and structure
- relate texts to their contexts and traditions.

**Pre-1914*****The Merchant of Venice* – William Shakespeare****EITHER**

- 1 Write about the role and character of Shylock in this play. You should look closely at language, actions and other characters' opinions in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 2 What points does Shakespeare make about love and friendship in this play? You should look closely at language, actions and characters in your answer. (25 marks)

***Romeo and Juliet* – William Shakespeare****EITHER**

- 3 In what ways does Romeo change during the play and in what ways does he stay the same? You should look closely at language, actions and other characters' opinions in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 4 What does Shakespeare have to say about the nature of love and marriage in this play? You should refer closely to language, actions and characters in your answer. (25 marks)

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***She Stoops To Conquer – Oliver Goldsmith***

**EITHER**

- 5 What is your opinion of the role and character of Mrs. Hardcastle in this play? You should refer closely to language, actions and characters in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 6 What is the importance of the relationship between Hastings and Constance Neville to the success of this play? (25 marks)

***The Importance of Being Earnest – Oscar Wilde***

**EITHER**

- 7 What is the importance of Gwendolen Fairfax to the success of this play? You should look closely at language, actions and other characters' opinions in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 8 What elements make this play comic? You should look closely at language, actions and characters in your answer.

You may wish to consider:

- the dialogue
- the deceptions
- mistaken identity

as well as any ideas of your own.

(25 marks)

**Turn over for the next question**

**Turn over ►**

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**Post-1914*****Pygmalion* – George Bernard Shaw****EITHER**

- 9 Write about the role and character of Colonel Pickering in this play. You should look closely at language, actions and other characters' opinions in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 10 What points does Shaw make about social behaviour at the time of the play? You should refer closely to language, actions and characters in your answer.

You may wish to consider:

- incidents which appear cruel
- incidents which seem to reflect decent behaviour
- characters' views about how others should behave

as well as any ideas of your own.

(25 marks)

***An Inspector Calls* – J B Priestley****EITHER**

- 11 What is the importance of the role of Inspector Goole in this play? You should look closely at language, actions and other characters' opinions in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 12 What elements make this play successful? You should look closely at language, actions and characters in your answer.

You may wish to consider:

- the ways in which Priestley presents the characters and action
- the attitudes of the characters to their situations
- the comments of the Inspector

as well as any ideas of your own.

(25 marks)

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***Hobson's Choice* – Harold Brighouse**

**EITHER**

- 13** In what ways does Willie Mossop change during the play and in what ways does he stay the same? You should look closely at language, actions and other characters' opinions in your answer. *(25 marks)*

**OR**

- 14** What is the importance of conflicts between characters to the success of this play? You should refer closely to language, actions and characters in your answer.

You may wish to consider:

- conflicting attitudes to success in business
- conflicting attitudes to relationships
- conflicting attitudes to family

as well as any ideas of your own.

*(25 marks)*

**Turn over for the next question**

**Turn over ▶**

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**SECTION B – POETRY**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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You are reminded to:

- answer the question using appropriate evidence from the texts
- explore language and structure
- look at the relationships between poems.

*The General Prologue – Geoffrey Chaucer*

**Pre-1914**

**EITHER**

- 15** Refer to the descriptions of the Yeman and the Knyght. How does Chaucer make us aware of the differences between them and do they have anything in common? You should look closely at the ways in which he chooses to present the two characters. *(25 marks)*

**OR**

- 16** Compare the means by which Chaucer presents dishonesty in **at least two** of the pilgrims.

You may wish to consider:

- the descriptions of the pilgrims
- the use of irony in each case
- the way in which language is used in each case

as well as any ideas of your own.

*(25 marks)*



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*Poems from Other Centuries* – edited Tissier

**Pre-1914**

**EITHER**

17 Read again *London 1802*. In this poem Wordsworth expresses strong feelings powerfully.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the selection, which also expresses feelings powerfully. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

**OR**

18 Read again *A Birthday*. In this poem Christina Rossetti expresses her joy about love.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the selection, which also expresses a view about love. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

*A Choice of Poets* – edited Hewett/Edwards

**Pre-1914**

**EITHER**

19 Read again the poem *Holy Thursday* which begins, “Is this a holy thing to see”. In this poem Blake expresses strong indignation.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the pre-1914 selection, which expresses strong views. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

**OR**

20 Read again *The Prelude (II)*. In this poem Wordsworth describes a happy experience.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the pre-1914 selection, which also uses description to express a state of mind. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

**Turn over ▶**

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**War Poems – edited Martin**

**Pre-1914**

**EITHER**

- 21 Read again *A Wife in London*. In this poem Hardy powerfully presents a view of the suffering caused by war.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the pre-1914 selection, which also presents the suffering caused by war in a powerful way. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 22 Read again *The Battle of Blenheim*. In this poem Southey presents the waste of war in an effective way.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the pre-1914 selection, which also conveys the poet's views on war in an effective way. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

**Best Words**

**Pre-1914**

**EITHER**

- 23 Look again at *First Love*. In this poem Clare presents his subject in a dramatic way.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the pre-1914 selection, which also presents its subject in a dramatic way. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 24 Read again *La Belle Dame Sans Merci* by Keats. This poem expresses feelings about life and death in an imaginative way to appeal to the reader.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the pre-1914 selection, which also appeals to the reader. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

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*A Choice of Poets* – edited Hewett/Edwards

**Post-1914**

**EITHER**

- 25 Read again *Cynddylan on a Tractor* by Thomas in which he reflects on change.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the post-1914 selection, which also in some way presents the poet's reflections. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems.

(25 marks)

**OR**

- 26 Read again *An Old Man's Winter Night* by Frost. This poem uses language and imagery to create a disturbing atmosphere.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the post-1914 selection, which also uses language and imagery to create an atmosphere. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems.

(25 marks)

*War Poems* – edited Martin

**Post-1914**

**EITHER**

- 27 Read again *The Hero* by Sassoon. This poem presents contrasting attitudes to the harsh reality of war.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the post-1914 selection, which also presents war as grim. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems.

(25 marks)

**OR**

- 28 Read again *Into Battle* by Grenfell. This poem uses nature as a background to death in battle.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the post-1914 selection, showing how imagery and language are used to convey attitudes to war. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems.

(25 marks)

**Turn over ▶**

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*Axed Between the Ears* – edited Kitchen

**Post-1914**

**EITHER**

- 29 Read again *Beautiful Old Age* by Lawrence.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the selection, in which the poet also conveys a message effectively. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 30 Look again at *Killing a Whale* by Gill.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the selection, which also uses imagery to powerful effect. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

*Best Words*

**Post-1914**

**EITHER**

- 31 Look again at *My Grandmother* by Jennings.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the post-1914 selection, showing in detail how language and imagery are used to capture your attention in both poems. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 32 Look again at *I Shall Return*. In this poem McKay presents strong feelings about his origins.

Compare this poem with **one other** poem from the post-1914 selection, which also presents strong feelings in some way. You should refer closely to the language used in both poems. (25 marks)

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**SECTION C – PROSE**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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You are reminded to:

- answer the question using appropriate evidence from the texts
- explore language and structure.

**Pre-1914*****Pride and Prejudice* – Jane Austen****EITHER**

- 33** What is the importance of the role and character of Darcy to the novel? You should refer closely to his words, to events and to the actions and opinions of other characters in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 34** Examine the importance of prejudice in the novel. You should refer closely to language, events and characters in your answer. (25 marks)

***Wuthering Heights* – Emily Brontë****EITHER**

- 35** In what ways and for what reasons does Heathcliff change in the novel? You should refer closely to his words, to events and to the actions and opinions of other characters in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 36** Examine the part played by cruelty in the novel. You should refer closely to language, events and characters in your answer. (25 marks)

**Turn over ▶**

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*Far from the Madding Crowd* – Thomas Hardy

**EITHER**

- 37 What is the importance of Troy in the novel? You should refer closely to his words, to events and to the actions and opinions of other characters in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 38 Examine the part played by social status in this novel. You should refer closely to language, events and characters in your answer. (25 marks)

**Post-1914**

*Lord of the Flies* – William Golding

**EITHER**

- 39 By what means and how successfully is the character of Piggy made sympathetic? You should refer closely to his words, to events and to the actions and opinions of other characters in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 40 How important is it to the success of this novel that the characters are schoolboys? You should refer closely to language, events and characters in your answer. (25 marks)

*Of Mice and Men* – John Steinbeck

**EITHER**

- 41 What is the importance of the role of Curley's wife in this novel? You should refer closely to her words, to events and to the actions and opinions of other characters in your answer. (25 marks)

**OR**

- 42 Examine the part played by isolation in the novel. You should refer closely to language, events and characters in your answer. (25 marks)

***Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* – Mildred Taylor**

**EITHER**

- 43** In what ways and for what reasons does Cassie change in the novel? You should refer closely to her words, to events and to the actions and opinions of other characters in your answer. *(25 marks)*

**OR**

- 44** Examine the part played by racism in the novel. You should refer closely to language, events and characters in your answer. *(25 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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