

# **GCSE**

# **English Literature**

General Certificate of Secondary Education 2442/01

Unit 2: Poetry and Prose Post -1914

# Mark Scheme for June 2010

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This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which marks were awarded by Examiners. It does not indicate the details of the discussions which took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking commenced.

All Examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the Report on the Examination.

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# Your mark scheme consists of the following:

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Your first task as an Examiner is to become thoroughly familiar with the material on which the examination depends. This material includes:

- the specification, especially the assessment objectives
- the question paper and its rubrics
- the texts which candidates have studied
- the mark scheme.

You should ensure that you have copies of these materials.

You should ensure also that you are familiar with the administrative procedures related to the marking process. These are set out in the OCR booklet **Instructions for Examiners**. If you are examining for the first time, please read carefully **Appendix 5 Introduction to Script Marking: Notes for New Examiners**.

Please ask for help or guidance whenever you need it. Your first point of contact is your Team Leader.

# **ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES**

# **AO1**

respond to texts critically, sensitively, and in detail, selecting appropriate ways to convey their response, using textual evidence as appropriate.

# AO2

explore how language, structure and forms contribute to the meaning of texts, considering different approaches to texts and alternative interpretations.

#### AO3

explore relationships and comparisons between texts, selecting and evaluating relevant material.

# AO4

relate texts to their social, cultural and historical contexts and literary traditions.

# **WEIGHTING OF ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES**

Assessment Objectives are weighted equally and are tested as shown in the following grid. All Assessment Objectives apply equally to papers set at both Foundation and Higher Tiers.

Unit	Task	AO1	AO2	AO3	AO4
1	1 Drama Post – 1914	✓	✓		
2	1 Poetry Post – 1914	✓	✓	✓	
	2 Prose Post – 1914	✓	✓		✓
	3 Literary Non – fiction Post – 1914	✓	✓		✓
3	1 Drama Pre – 1914	✓	✓	✓	✓
	2 Poetry Pre – 1914	✓	✓	✓	✓
	3 Prose Pre – 1914	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	1 Drama Pre – 1914	✓	✓		
	2 Poetry Pre – 1914	✓	✓	✓	
	3 Prose Pre – 1914	✓	✓		✓
5	1 Drama Pre – 1914	✓	✓		
6	1 Poetry Pre – 1914	✓	✓	✓	
	2 Prose Pre – 1914	✓	✓		✓
7	1 Drama Post – 1914	✓	✓	✓	✓
	2 Poetry Post – 1914	✓	✓	✓	✓
	3 Prose Post – 1914	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4 Literary Non – fiction Post – 1914	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	1 Poetry Post – 1914	✓	✓	✓	
	2 Drama Post – 1914	✓	✓		
	3 Prose Post – 1914	✓	✓		✓
	4 Literary Non – fiction Post – 1914	✓	✓		✓

#### **USING THE MARK SCHEME**

Please study this Mark Scheme carefully. The Mark Scheme is an integral part of the process that begins with the setting of the question paper and ends with the awarding of grades. Question papers and Mark Schemes are developed in association with each other so that issues of differentiation and positive achievement can be addressed from the very start.

This Mark Scheme is a working document; it is not exhaustive; it does not provide 'correct' answers. The Mark Scheme can only provide 'best guesses' about how the question will work out, and it is subject to revision after we have looked at a wide range of scripts.

The Examiners' Standardisation Meeting will ensure that the Mark Scheme covers the range of candidates' responses to the questions, and that all Examiners understand and apply the Mark Scheme in the same way. The Mark Scheme will be discussed and amended at the meeting, and administrative procedures will be confirmed. Co – ordination scripts will be issued at the meeting to exemplify aspects of candidates' responses and achievements; the co – ordination scripts then become part of this Mark Scheme.

Before the Standardisation Meeting, you should read and mark in pencil a number of scripts, in order to gain an impression of the range of responses and achievement that may be expected.

In your marking, you will encounter valid responses which are not covered by the Mark Scheme: these responses must be credited. You will encounter answers which fall outside the 'target range' of bands for the paper which you are marking – for example, above Band 4 on a Foundation Tier paper or below Band 5 on a Higher Tier paper. Please mark these answers according to the marking criteria.

Please read carefully all the scripts in your allocation and make every effort to look positively for achievement throughout the ability range. Always be prepared to use the full range of marks.

#### INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXAMINERS

- 1 The co ordination scripts provide you with *examples* of the standard of each band. The marks awarded for these scripts will have been agreed by the Team Leaders and will be discussed fully at the Examiners' Co ordination Meeting.
- The specific task related notes on each question will help you to understand how the band descriptors may be applied. However, these comments do not constitute the mark scheme. They are some thoughts on what was in the setter's mind when the question was formulated. It is hoped that candidates will respond to questions in a variety of ways and will give original and at times unexpected interpretations of texts. Rigid demands for 'what must be a good answer' would lead to a distorted assessment.
- Candidates' answers must be relevant to the question. Beware of prepared answers that do not show the candidate's thought and which have not been adapted to the thrust of the question. Beware also of answers where candidates attempt to reproduce interpretations and concepts that they have been taught but have only partially understood.
- 4 Candidates' answers should demonstrate knowledge of their chosen texts. This knowledge will be shown in the range and detail of their references to the text. Re telling sections of the text without commentary is of little or no value.

# **INSTRUCTIONS TO EXAMINERS:** Unit 2 (Foundation Tier)

#### A INDIVIDUAL ANSWERS

- The NOTES ON THE TASK indicate the expected parameters for candidates' answers, but be prepared to recognise and credit unexpected approaches where they show relevance.
- 2 Using 'best-fit', decide first which BAND DESCRIPTOR best describes the overall quality of the answer. There are three marks at each band.
  - **Highest mark**: If clear evidence of the qualities in the band descriptor is shown, the HIGHEST Mark should be awarded.
  - **Lowest mark**: If the answer shows the candidate to be borderline (ie they have achieved all the qualities of the bands below and show limited evidence of meeting the criteria of the band in question) the LOWEST mark should be awarded.
  - Middle mark: This mark should be used for candidates who are secure in the band.
     They are not 'borderline' but they have only achieved some of the qualities in the band descriptor.
- 3 Be prepared to use the full range of marks. Do not reserve very high marks 'in case' something turns up of a quality you have not yet seen. If an answer gives clear evidence of the qualities described in a band descriptor, reward appropriately.
- 4 Band 'ABOVE 4' should be used **ONLY for answers which fall outside (ie above) the range targeted by this paper.** See C2.

#### **B** ASSESSMENT OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

1 A further mark must be awarded according to the descriptions of performance that follow:

BAND	DESCRIPTOR	MARK
4	Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with <b>limited accuracy,</b> so that <b>basic meaning</b> is apparent. Some relevant material is offered.	1
3	Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with reasonable accuracy, so that meaning is generally clear. Material is generally relevant and presentation is organised.	2
2	Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with considerable accuracy, so that meaning is consistently clear. Relevant material is presented in appropriate form(s).	3
1	Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with almost faultless accuracy, deploying a range of grammatical constructions so that meaning is always absolutely clear. Well – chosen material is cogently presented, in appropriate form(s).	4

#### C TOTAL MARKS

- 1 Transfer to the front of the script **three** marks: for answer (1) out of 21; for answer (2) out of 21; for Written Communication out of 4. Write the total mark for the script.
- **2** FOUNDATION TIER: The maximum mark for the paper is **46** (21+21+4).
  - This represents performance consistently at the top of Band 4.
  - An answer which clearly falls into the 'Above 4' band may be acknowledged with a mark above 21. However, the maximum mark that may be recorded for the paper is 46.
  - This is essential, otherwise candidates entered for the correct tier will have their marks unfairly depressed by others entered incorrectly.

1901 English Literature – Generic Band Descriptors

Unit 2442/01 – Foundation Tier

BAND	MARK	DESCRIPTOR		
		***Be prepared to use the FULL range!***		
		The band descriptors which are shaded (headroom/footroom) reward performance		
		above or below that expected on this paper.  In response to the demands of the text and of the task, answers will		
Above 4	22	Exceptional performance on Foundation Tier task. Refer to Higher Tier for		
Above 4	Z.C	Band 1, 2 descriptors		
		show understanding supported by careful and relevant reference to the text		
_		respond with some thoroughness to language		
4	21	make a reasonably developed personal response		
	20 19	show overall understanding using appropriate support from the text      show overall understanding using appropriate support from the text		
5	18	make some response to language		
3	17	<ul><li>begin to organise a response</li><li>show some understanding</li></ul>		
	16	<ul> <li>give some relevant support from the text or by reference to language</li> </ul>		
6	15	make some relevant comments		
	14	show a little understanding		
	13	give a little support from the text or by reference to language		
7	12	make a few straightforward points		
	11	occasionally refer to the text		
	10			
8	9	show a little awareness		
	8 7	make some comment		
Below 8	6	show a little awareness		
	5 4	make very limited comment		
	3 2 1 0	fails to meet criteria for the task and shows scant knowledge of the text		

Text:	OCR: Opening Lines – Section G: How It Looks From Here
Question 1 (21 marks)	Defying Gravity (McGough); Sometimes (Pugh)
	What do you find particularly moving about these two poems?
	You should consider:  what the poet writes about life, death and gravity (in <i>Defying Gravity</i> )  what the poet writes about things sometimes turning out well (in <i>Sometimes</i> )
	the words and phrases each poet uses.

The bullet points should guide the responses. The situation in *Defying Gravity* is that 'one of my closest friends' is about to die. By using the extended metaphor of gravity to portray the death of 'the man that I love (not the armful of bones)' nor the 'box of leftovers' and by linking it with the further image of a game of rugby ('freeing himself from the tackle ... sidestep ... streak down the wing'), the sadness of the impending event is turned to the perhaps more optimistic circumstance of moving 'towards a dimension as yet unimagined'. The plethora of imagery - 'yoyo' with an 'invisible string' -, enjambment – 'aw/Kwardly' -, and technique – '(open brackets ...') - should give plenty of scope for response. Sometimes is an ambiguous poem and we may find answers which do not view it as totally optimistic but which point out the underlying pessimistic attitude towards human achievements. There are indications that 'Sometimes things don't go, after all,/from bad to worse' but the situations cited in the second stanza - 'step back from war;/elect an honest man' - are ones that invite cynicism, a feeling that can be seen to spill over into the final stanza, perhaps causing the last half line to sound rather unhopeful. The word 'sometimes' in the question should allow either interpretation to be accepted provided there is textual support and discussion. Basic answers will paraphrase and explain; sound responses will focus on the interpretations of life and death and make some comment on the poetic technique. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion but there should be comment of substance on each poem.

Text:	OCR: Opening Lines – Section G: How It Looks From Here	
Question 2	What do you find striking about the portrayal of moments of happiness in	
(21 marks)	Wedding-Wind (Larkin) and In Your Mind (Duffy)?	
, , ,		
	Remember to refer closely to the words and phrases of the poems.	

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

In both poems the moments of happiness are recalled from the past. The first stanza of Wedding-Wind contains these memories and they are detailed and vividly described – the wind, the stable-door, the reflection ...-. Although, whilst reading this stanza, it might appear that the happiness was incomplete ('high wind ... leaving me'), the last line and the second stanza belie this thought and it is as though the wind and the interruption to the love-making were needed to make the night perfect. The use of alliteration and repetition, the rhythm and enjambment, as well as the language used, are worthy of comment. The trigger for the memories of happiness in In Your Mind is a wet autumn day at work. The events are at first 'half-remembered' and 'muffled' but the memories and the emotions ('You love this job') gradually, through the stanzas, become more detailed and intense, culminating in the blurring of memory and reality ('For a moment/you are there'). The imagery (eg 'dawdling/ on the blue bridge... six swans ...'), the structure (questions, one word sentences, enjambment ...) almost convey a stream of consciousness. Basic answers will recognise the portrayal of happiness, show understanding and make some comment on the way the poets express it. Answers will move up the bands according to how they focus on and respond to the language of the poems. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion but there should be comment of substance on each poem.

Text:	OCR: Opening Lines – Section G: How It Looks From Here		
Question 3 (21 marks)	What criticisms of modern life do you think the poets are making in <i>A</i> Consumer's Report (Porter) and I Am a Cameraman (Dunn)?		
	<ul> <li>You should consider:</li> <li>what Porter writes about life being a 'product' (in A Consumer's Report)</li> <li>what Dunn writes about film and real life (in I Am a Cameraman)</li> <li>the words and phrases each poet uses.</li> </ul>		

Both structure and language express Porter's criticisms: he writes his poem in the form of a parody of answers to questions in an annoying consumers' questionnaire, subtly criticising this modern market research tool ('please ask your man/to stop calling me "the respondent" ...'). The very idea that society can view life as a 'product' and that it can therefore be evaluated like washing-up liquid ('it seemed gentle on the hands') is a powerful criticism of the 'experts' (philosophers or market researchers or historians) mentioned later. The poem is, of course, lighthearted but beneath the humour Porter is making serious points about life from his middle-aged perspective: that it lacks excitement ("I didn't feel much while using it"), is over complex ('instructions ... so many'), dangerous ('I'm not sure such a thing/should be put in the way of children') and to him and some other people apparently meaningless ('It's difficult to think of a purpose/for it'), though Porter ends with accepting life ('I'd buy it') but not committing himself as to whether it really is the 'best buy'. His comments on the nuisance of individuality ('sizes and colours should be uniform') and the inconveniences of the human body ('the shape is awkward ... waterproof ... not heat resistant') are obviously ironic. In I Am a Cameraman, Dunn criticises 'young friends' who think that they will always record the truth through their lenses, for he realises that 'film' (and indeed all art) does not show reality. This reality, as stated in the first line, is that people 'suffer' and that today there is 'matchless despair' which has been reduced to a documentary for political purposes. Lower band answers will paraphrase or explain; middle band responses will focus on the question and make some comment on the poets' techniques and language. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion but there should be comment of substance on each poem.

Text:	OCR: Opening Lines – Section H: The 1914 – 18 War (ii)
Question 4 (21 marks)	The Seed-Merchant's Son (Herbertson); The Send-Off (Owen)
	What feelings of sadness do these two poems memorably convey to you?
	Remember to refer closely to the words and phrases of the poems.

#### NOTES ON THE TASK:

The Seed-Merchant had only one son ('His dear, his loved, his only one') and he has 'lost' him. The sadness is introduced in the first two lines of the poem and the emphasis on the vitality of the boy ('race ... bright, bright ... fair and healthy') and especially his youth, with the poignant phrase 'His school books ... Have scarcely had time to gather dust' is a reminder of what the father has lost and a reason for his sadness. The Seed-Merchant has prematurely aged ('last glint of his youth is gone') and seems to have lost the will to live ('so still he was') until one reads the last section with the ambiguity -'Thank God, Thank God' – is he thanking God that he had a son? Or that he has seeds for new life? The Send-Off shows the sadness of the soldiers leaving for the front, though they put a brave face on it - 'grimly gay' and the whole scene evokes pathos as they are given funeral flowers by women, the station staff (and the signals) watch unmoved and the only person who will miss them is the sponging tramp. The sadness continues when Owen projects forward to the return from war of 'A few, a few, too few' who will not be greeted (as they were not dispatched) with fanfares but will 'creep back' to half-remembered places. Paraphrase and/or explanation will only reach the lower bands. To gain higher marks there must be some comment on the language. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion but there should be comment of substance on each poem.

Text:	OCR: Opening Lines – Section H: The 1914 – 18 War (ii)
Question 5 (21 marks)	What do you find particularly moving about the reactions of the women to the loss of their loved ones in <i>Reported Missing</i> (Keown) and <i>Perhaps-</i> (Brittain)?
	Remember to refer closely to the words and phrases of the poems.

The key word in this question is 'reactions' because the two women are reacting to their loss in different ways. *Reported Missing* concerns the effect on a woman back home whose lover, husband or son (it doesn't matter which) has been posted missing. She is 'in denial' and refuses to believe that he will not return as can be seen in the telling omission of 'presumed dead' in the title, the repetition, and rhyme of 'dead' and 'dread', the word 'culling', the hysterical reaction to well-meaning comforters as expressed by the plosive alliteration of 'piteous platitudes of pain' and the repetition of 'I laugh!' and the 'very sure' of the final line. Brittain, on the other hand, despite the repetition of 'perhaps', is not very sure that she will live fully again now her fiancé is dead. She utilises imagery of nature and the seasons to express her loss and grief, especially Christmas time as that was when Leighton was killed. The dedication, the capitalisation of 'You' and the brief, interrupted last line (almost with a sob in it) make this a very moving poem. Lower band answers will paraphrase and explain, perhaps with textual support; middle band responses will focus on the question and understand the different reactions and make some comment on the language. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion but there should be comment of substance on each poem.

Text:	OCR: Opening Lines – Section H: The 1914 – 18 War (ii)		
Question 6 (21 marks)	What criticisms of the war do the poets powerfully convey to you in any <b>TWO</b> of the following poems?		
	Recruiting (Mackintosh) The Target (Gurney) The Bohemians (Gurney)		
	Remember to refer closely to the words and phrases of the poems.		

### NOTES ON THE TASK:

Propaganda is a key word for Recruiting and Mackintosh clearly expresses his criticism of war by contrasting, in the first and last lines of the poem - "Lads, you're wanted, go and help"/ 'Lads, you're wanted. Come and die' -: the lie of the recruiting poster and the truth of the reality of war. The bitter, ironic tone ("swell the names in the casualty list", 'Help to make the column's stuff/For the blasted journalists') accentuated by the colloquial ('blasted'), vulgar ('fat old men') and more noble ('martyrdom', 'gallant sacrifice') perfectly portrays this difference. The jolly rhythm and black humour ('nice and safe') add to the damning indictment of the government. Gurney's persona in The Target is tortured by guilt because 'I shot him, and it had to be' and the poem gives a moving picture of a man so distraught by the effect of the war on himself and his mother that he wishes to die and has lost his faith in God. Well might he call the war 'a bloody mess indeed' with the ambiguity of 'bloody' adding to the effect. The Bohemians does not criticise the 'free spirits' who will not accept army regulations but the regulations, the army and the war which, for those who took soldiering seriously 'wrenched/What little soul they had still further from shape'. Everyone ends up dead – there are no winners or losers. Answers will move up the bands depending on how well they demonstrate understanding of the criticism of the war in the chosen poems and especially how the poets express this. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion but there should be comment of substance on each

Text:	Poems 2: Larkin and Fanthorpe		
Question 7 (21 marks)	What feelings about love do Wild Oats and Going Under vividly convey to you?		
	You should consider:  the speaker and the girls in <i>Wild Oats</i> the speaker's worries in <i>Going Under</i> the words and phrases the poets use.		

Answers should show understanding of both poems and of the feelings about love that they convey. Larkin's feelings are hardly deep; "the whole shooting-match" might have been started off if the bosomy English rose had been more forthcoming. But Larkin had to make do with the "friend in specs" with whom he drifted into an unenthusiastic courtship and a finally broken engagement. An air of wryly comic disappointment hangs over the poem and a sense of "What if?" The existence of the two snaps suggests perhaps what might have been. *Going Under* reflects the way love can comfort and support when a would-be sleeper, anxious not to disturb her sleeping partner, suffers the agonies of insomnia and is given the casual heavy arm that anchors her. Basic answers here will offer a brief paraphrased point or two. They will rise through the bands as understanding of the poems becomes clearer and better sustained. Best answers will be those which comment on the language the poets use to present their feelings. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion, but there should be comment of substance on each poem.

Text	Poems 2: Larkin and Fanthorpe		
Question 8 (21 marks)	What feelings about people and places do <b>TWO</b> of the following poems convey to you?		
	An Arundel Tomb((Larkin) Home Is So Sad (Larkin) Old Man, Old Man (Fanthorpe)		
	Remember to refer to words and phrases from the poems in your answer.		

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

Answers should show reasonable understanding of each of the two chosen poems and of the feelings about people and places the poets portray. In *An Arundel Tomb* candidates might write about how they feel about the earl and countess and the "sharp tender shock" of seeing the hand-holding; or about the way Larkin measures the passage of time as generations of visitors tread the church paths; or about the tomb and its setting. About *Home Is So Sad* they might recognise the sad failure of "the joyous shot at how things ought to be". Response to *Old Man, Old Man* is likely to focus on the old man and the changes wrought in him by age and on the house and garden, where he was "Lord once of shed, garage and garden". Basic answers here will do little more than provide a few comments on two poems, whilst better answers will offer a more extended paraphrase showing some understanding of what the poems are about. Best answers here will attempt to engage with and respond to the language used in the poems. Answers do not need to comment on each poem at equal length, but there should be comment of substance on each.

Text:	Poems 2: Larkin and Fanthorpe
Question 9 (21 marks)	What powerful sympathies for people do the poets create in you in any <b>TWO</b> of the following poems?
	Toads (Larkin) Half-past Two (Fanthorpe) Casehistory: Alison (head injury) (Fanthorpe)
	Remember to refer to words and phrases from the poems in your answer.

It is expected that responses will focus on the little boy and Alison. However, *Toads* is deliberately included as a possible choice since the voice in the poem so powerfully expresses his desire to escape from the toad squatting on his life and envies those who've apparently escaped it (perhaps because of the poet's choice of the letter I). His own inner toad, and inner cautiousness or lack of courage, doom him to submission to the squatting toad. The little boy, a committer of "Something Very Wrong" who has fallen foul of a cross teacher, has sadly made a rite of passage "for ever" ... "into ever". Alison's contemplation of her photograph and the contrast between what she was with what she has become should call forth powerful sympathies. Basic answers here are likely to make brief comment on one or two aspects of the characters for whom they feel sympathy. Better answers will show a little understanding of why the "voice", the little boy, and Alison deserve sympathy. Best answers will make a link between the situation the characters find themselves in with the language the poets use. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion, but there should be comment of some substance on each of the two poems.

Text:	Touched with Fire ed. Hydes
Question 10	Mid-Term Break (Heaney); Digging (Heaney)
(21 marks)	
	What do you find particularly striking about Heaney's memories of his family in these two poems?
	Remember to refer closely to the words and phrases of the poems.

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

The question asks about family members, which in *Mid-Term Break* are the schoolboy, his parents, the baby and the dead four year old brother. The most striking thing about the schoolboy is his lack of emotion (apart from embarrassment at 'old men standing up to shake [his] hand'), though there is the proleptic 'knelling' in the first stanza. He uses clinical terminology ('corpse, stanched and bandaged'), sees the 'poppy bruise' as an item of clothing ('wearing') and the simple last line, which is heartbreaking for the reader, is merely the boy's factual observation. The other family members do show emotion: the father crying, the mother beyond tears, the baby oblivious and happy. In Digging, some answers may mention the poet's familiarity with his pen ('snug as a gun') and his desire to work as hard and as successfully with it as his forebears did in digging, but the main focus should be on the father and grandfather at their work where the images emphasising their expertise are particularly vivid, invoking the senses ('rasping sound', 'cool hardness', 'cold smell', 'squelch and slap'), using alliteration ('curt cuts') and assonance ('Nicking and slicing') etc. Stronger answers here will not merely describe the family members but will make some comment on the language. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion but there should be comment of substance on each poem.

Text:	Touched with Fire ed. Hydes
Question 11 (21 marks)	What do you find memorable about the clashes of cultures portrayed in <i>Piano and Drums</i> (Okara) and <i>Our History</i> (Dipoko)?
	Remember to refer closely to the words and phrases of the poems.

Both poems are about Africa. *Piano and Drums* has the poet's childhood rooted in the culture of that country with 'jungle drums', animals and hunters with primitive spears – a simple life with 'no innovations'. This is contrasted with present adulthood in a new culture and the sophistication and 'labyrinth' of the piano with its 'complexities'. The two cultures combine in the final stanza: 'wandering ... jungle drums and the concerto'. There is no such union in *Our History*, which also uses imagery of wildlife for the past African culture, but there is a sinister undertone in this past as the colonialists' canoes look like the 'carcass of drifting whales' and 'Their lustre gave the illusion of pearls' After the 'gun-fire of conquest', the present, Westernised culture, is 'false' (and not only literally, in that real hide has given way to printed T-shirts!), has destroyed the indigenous culture and left it in 'tatters', using the striking image of a fragile beautiful butterfly being viciously 'whipped'. The clash is at the heart of each poem and is vigorously portrayed. There is a wealth of imagery in each poem and more is required than paraphrase, explanation or 'metaphor-spotting' for marks above the lower bands. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion but there should be comment of substance on each poem.

Text:	Touched with Fire ed. Hydes
Question 12 (21 marks)	What do you find striking about what people say in <i>Telephone Conversation</i> (Soyinka) and <i>In Westminster Abbey</i> (Betjeman)?
	<ul> <li>You should consider:</li> <li>what the would-be lodger and the landlady say (in <i>Telephone Conversation</i>)</li> <li>what the lady prays for (in <i>In Westminster Abbey</i>)</li> <li>the words and phrases the poets use.</li> </ul>

# **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

The 'lady' in In Westminster Abbey gives a monologue, whilst Telephone Conversation is a dialogue, with added thoughts. The 'lady' in the first poem is jingoistic, selfish, snobbish, avaricious (one could go on) and totally un-Christian, whilst the landlady in Telephone Conversation is a racist. So much is clear and needs to be stated but it is the use that the poets make of direct speech that should be explored here. All personae are, as it were, 'condemning' themselves out of their own mouths by what they say and how they speak. The lady's prayer contains non sequitors ('Democracy and proper drains'), hypocrisy and self interest ('do not let my shares go down') and there is a clear 'voice' ('And now, dear Lord ...') just as Telephone Conversation has minutely observed detail about the landlady's diction ('lipstick coated ...clanged her accent') and, of course, the way she speaks in CAPITAL LETTERS. She has 'pressurized good-breeding' which slips when she is confused by the would-be lodger. The man, however, has natural good-breeding ('Madam') and this never slips even when he mischievously invites the lady to scrutinise the colour of his bottom. Simple paraphrase will not reach higher than the lower bands; to move up the bands there must be comment on the poets' techniques. Comparison and/or contrast are not required. Answers do not need to preserve an even balance of discussion but there should be comment of substance on each poem.

Text:	OCR: Opening Worlds
Question 13	(a) The Red Ball
(21 marks)	'Suddenly the boy recognised his father' to ' his mother took hold of the switch in his hand.' (b) <i>Two Kinds</i> 'She yanked me by the arm' to 'like a small brown leaf, thin, brittle, lifeless.' What makes the confrontations between parents and children here so disturbing for you?
	Remember to refer to details from both extracts.

There are several ways of approaching these extracts: some answers may focus on the violence of the parent, for example Bolan's father beating him with a piece of wood (and redoubling his efforts when the mother tries to intervene) until the boy's legs are 'marked with thin red welts' (*The Red Ball*) and the mother dragging her daughter to the piano stool (*Two Kinds*). Others may also look at the confrontations between father and mother in the first story and the point where the girl retaliates in *Two Kinds* by bringing up the unmentionable topic, the dead babies, so that her mother is silenced and stunned. Whichever approach is adopted, paraphrase will only earn a place in the lower bands. To gain higher marks there must be an awareness of the context of the confrontation, and textual support. Comparison is not required in this question.

Text:	OCR: Opening Worlds
Question 14 (21 marks)	What makes the portrayal of hardship so moving for you in <i>The Gold-Legged Frog</i> (Srinawk) and <i>The Pieces of Silver</i> (Sealy)?
	Remember to refer closely to details from the stories.

#### NOTES ON THE TASK:

The description of the poverty-stricken, inhospitable land at the beginning of *The Gold-Legged Frog* portrays the hardship suffered by Nak in that he has sunstroke, burned feet, lives in a land where there is 'portent of drought, want, disaster, and death', has no money and has to catch frogs for food. Added to this is the lack of proper medical care in the village, the insulting attitude of the officials when he goes to collect the money and the fact that his son dies. His financial hardship may have been alleviated but the other troubles of his life remain and have been increased by the loss of his child. In *The Pieces of Silver*, Clement's hardship is shown in the description of the house 'a wretched coop of a room', the 'one substantial meal' a day of rice and the obvious malnutrition of the mother. The poverty of the Dovecots is the reason that he is humiliated at school too. It will be easy for answers to fall into the trap of narrative in this question and we should be looking for responses that are focused on the question and give suitable detail from the two stories. Comparison is not required in this question.

Text:	OCR: Opening Worlds
Question 15 (21 marks)	In some stories in this collection, events do not turn out how characters expected them to.
	What makes unexpected events memorable for you in any <b>TWO</b> of the following stories?
	Dead Men's Path (Achebe) Games at Twilight (Desai)
	The Train from Rhodesia (Gordimer)

There will, of necessity, be some narrative in answers to this question but we are asking for more than story telling. For example, in *Dead Men's Path* it is not only the destruction of the school gardens and part of the buildings that is unexpected to both Obi and the reader but the irony of the white Supervisor visiting the following day and the comment in his report that there was 'a tribal-war situation developing ...arising in part from the misguided zeal of the new headmaster'. In *Games at Twilight* Desai has built Ravi up (both in his own mind and to the reader) to be a conquering hero in the game of hide and seek. The outcome is unexpected when he realises that the game has finished, he has not won and the children have forgotten about him. This is then compounded by his reactions and realisation at the end of the story that he is, after all, insignificant. The young wife in the third story is devastated to discover that her marriage has not turned out as she expected, whilst her husband is dismayed at her attitude to his 'bargain' of the lion. Either character or both may be considered. Answers will move up the bands according to how they go beyond narrative into examination as to why the outcomes are unexpected. Comparison is not required in this question.

Text:	LAWRENCE: Ten Short Stories (ed. Whittle and Blatchford)
Question 16	(a) Tickets, Please
(21 marks)	'There is in the Midlands' to 'jaunty sprig of parsley out of a black colliery garden.' (b) The Shades of Spring 'Syson was extraordinarily glad.' to 'It was quite unaltered.'  What do you find so memorable about the descriptions here of town (in Tickets,
	Please) and country (in The Shades of Spring)?  Remember to refer to details from both extracts.

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

Extract a) is a fast moving description of the route of a tram through a Midland town. It begins sedately but, with 'plunges', sets off in a long sentence listing the features 'tilting' on its way until, after a 'rush', the terminus is reached. A short sentence indicates the 'pause', as does the metaphorical description of the tram as a cat ('purr'). Then it's off again and the sentence and language once more mirror the action, including the rhyme 'reckless swoops ... bouncing the loops', the drawn out 'so on and on', the alliteration of 'sidle ... standstill', until the final audacious metaphor 'green as a jaunty sprig of parsley out of a black colliery garden' bringing the 'adventure' to a halt and the passenger back home. In extract b) Syson returns to the home of his youth and finds it 'quite unaltered'. The countryside is welcoming him ('hazel ... spread glad little hands') and the personification is continued in 'diapered'. There are hints of a cathedral in 'as through a great window' which contrast with the 'stiff, modern, grey little church' in the village which is like a pile of bricks fallen from a cart. Even the coal mine seems attractive with the 'twinkling headstocks' and the bleak land without trees is celebrated like a naked human form. Paraphrase will not climb higher than the lower bands. What we should be looking for to reward at Foundation Tier is textual support and some comment on the language. Comparison is not required in this question.

Text:	LAWRENCE: Ten Short Stories (ed. Whittle and Blatchford)
Question 17 (21 marks)	What brings the relationship between teachers and pupils to life for you in <i>A Lesson on a Tortoise</i> and <i>Lessford's Rabbits</i> ?
	Remember to refer to details from the stories.

The teacher in *A Lesson on a Tortoise* begins the lesson feeling 'pleased' with himself watching a 'great gold sunset ... immense gold beauty' and ends it 'very tired and very sick' as the clouds are 'moving darkly'. The pathetic fallacy says it all! The cause of the change, the reason for the sunset being 'smeared out', is four missing rubbers and the fact that the thief will not own up. Lawrence magnificently catches the voices of these London boys – 'I've never 'ad no rubbers' – and the exasperation of the teacher who 'Like a bad teacher ... went back on [his] word' and then pays the price by having to accuse his monitor, one of his favourites. In *Lessford's Rabbits* the equally unfortunate teacher has to supervise Tuesday breakfast where he too comes across a thief, Lessford, who is taking bread for his rabbits. In this story it is the boy who is to the fore rather than the teacher and his distress at the loss of his animals, as seen by the teacher, is very vivid: "My rabbits has all gone!' he cried, as a man would announce his wife and children slain'. Lower band answers will rely on narrative; middle band ones will make some comment. Comparison is not required in this question.

Text:	LAWRENCE: Ten Short Stories (ed. Whittle and Blatchford)
Question 18 (21 marks)	What do you think makes any <b>TWO</b> of the following relationships between men and women vivid?
	Frances and Tom (in Second Best) Nellie and Fred (in A Prelude) Hilda and Syson (in The Shades of Spring)

#### NOTES ON THE TASK:

Tom is initially 'Second Best' for Frances as she is still hankering after Jimmy ('If she could not have the best ... she would have second best'). However, his taunting her about her inability to kill a mole, opens her eyes to her feelings and she does the deed (killing the mole which she finds 'after a secret persistent hunt' and her previous love) and accepts Tom. Thus one of the ways in which the relationship is portrayed is through the symbolism of the mole. The love discussed in The Shades of Spring may be either that between Arthur Pilbeam and Hilda or Hilda and Syson or both. Hilda and Syson are past lovers and Hilda took Arthur as her lover deliberately on the night of Syson's wedding and has found her soulmate and can love him in his and her own setting ('I am like a plant ... I can only grow in my own soil') as he allows her to be herself. The complexity of her feelings and the difference between her current relationship with Arthur and earlier one with Syson is expressed by the unusual description of the keeper's hut with its combination of barbaric furs and fragile scented honeysuckle and the moment when Hilda removes the bee poison from Arthur's arm. Again symbolism and metaphor are employed by Lawrence. A Prelude is less symbolic, being more of a 'poor man and a lady' story but both the holly bough and the humble yet warm and homely kitchen play their part in this charming love story. Lower band answers will present narrative or perhaps character study. Middle band responses will begin to look at the relationships and make some comment on them. Comparison is not required in this question.

Text:	J G BALLARD: Empire of the Sun
Question 19	'Jim returned to his Latin primer.' to ' had killed several of the prisoners.'
(21 marks)	
	What do you think makes this such an exciting and dramatic moment in the novel?
	You should consider:
	the attack by the planes
	what Jim sees and hears
	the words and phrases Ballard uses.

The question asks for the extract to be grounded in the novel so we should expect some comment on the context: Jim is in a vulnerable position in the assembly hall with a damaged roof, quietly doing his prep when suddenly there is an American air raid. The contrast between the calm of the Latin homework and the personified fighter '... shadow crossed ... raced along the ground' and the 'tornado of noise' of the plane with wings 'broader than the assembly hall' only thirty feet above Jim's head is exciting and shocking, as is the anti-aircraft guns' response, especially as it is compared to a domestic peacetime image of Christmas lights. The bravery of the US pilots 'undeterred' and their cunning 'hid until the last moment' is dramatic. There is much to comment on in this extract and stronger answers will do more than just describe the actions; they will pick out suitable details and comment on how they, and Jim's thoughts and reactions, make this such an exciting and dramatic moment.

Text:	J G BALLARD: Empire of the Sun
Question 20	What do you think makes Dr Ransome such a good friend to Jim?
(21 marks)	
	Remember to refer closely to details from the novel.

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

Dr Ransome is a good friend to Jim (even though the latter does not initially accept it -'there was a self-confident air about this young physician that he distrusted' -) from the first meeting on the journey from the detention centre but it is at Lunghua camp that the doctor really cares for the wayward boy, keeping him occupied with lessons and homework, attempting to discipline him and keep him out of danger, ensuring, as far as possible, that he remains healthy ('had given too much of his own food to Jim') and that he does not annoy the Japanese guards too much ('Don't argue with Sergeant Nagata today'). Finally Dr Ransome reunites Jim with his parents. But, despite being a friend and surrogate father, Jim feels (quite correctly) that 'in many ways the physician disapproved of him' and his turning into a 'war child'. More than just a character study of Ransome is required for higher bands; there should be examples of the doctor's kindly actions and care and Jim's responses to them and to the man.

Text:	J G BALLARD: Empire of the Sun
Question 21	What makes the conditions in Lunghua Camp so vivid for you?
(21 marks)	

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

There is a vast amount of information that can be used to answer this question: Jim living with the Vincents and being literally 'squeezed out'; the food; the Japanese soldiers and how they treat the prisoners; the violence and uncertainty; how the inmates adapt or make the best of it ... Lower band answers will describe or narrate and answers will move up the bands according to their personal response as to what makes these descriptions vivid.

Text:	ACHEBE: Things Fall Apart
Question 22 (21 marks)	'Okonkwo sat in his obi crunching happily' to 'a peaceful dance from a distant clan.'
	What are your feelings as you read this extract leading up to the death of Ikemefuna?
	You should consider:  • what Ezeudu says  • the reactions of Okonkwo and his family  • the words and phrases Achebe uses.

The emphasis of the question is on the feelings of the candidate as reader, and it is anticipated that likely feelings will be shock, indignation, and strong sympathy for Ikemefuna, and, to a lesser extent, Nwoye. Although Ikemefuna's death is only a matter of time, he has been with Okonkwo for three years and Okonkwo has even been planning his future. So Ezeudu's words come as a shock, both to Okonkwo's family and to the reader. Candidates are likely to note Ezeudu's first words to Okonkwo, which he will, of course, disregard. Nwoye's tears at the departure of someone he has come to regard as a brother bring, unsurprisingly, a heavy beating. Perhaps ominously, Ikemefuna knows he will not see his mother and sister, and Okonkwo's wife knows the purpose of the boy's departure. The almost ceremonial procession to the outskirts of Umuofia creates suspense, as do the change of mood of the men and the references to silence, emphasised by the shortness of the sentences, the beating of the ekwe and the contrast between the peaceful dance it accompanies and the murderous intentions of these men. Basic responses are likely to paraphrase part of the passage and link that paraphrase to what they feel here. Answers will move up the bands as more detailed response is made to the extract. Reasonably developed understanding of how feelings are provoked here by some consideration of language will characterise best answers.

Text:	ACHEBE: Things Fall Apart
Question 23 (21 marks)	What do you think makes Ekwefi and Ezinma's relationship with each other so moving?
	Remember to support your ideas with details from the novel.

# **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

The thrust of the question is personal response to the relationship rooted in knowledge of the text. The relationship is moving because Ekwefi bore ten children, nine of whom had died in infancy, and had become bitter and resigned to the deaths of her children. Ezinma's survival, despite bouts of worrying ill-health, overcomes Ekwefi's bitterness. Her anxiety over Ezinma partly results in the episode over the iyi-uwa, which reveals the playful side of Ezinma, and is powerfully revealed when Chielo abducts Ezinma on Agbala's orders. Her concern over her daughter is moving, as are the stories they tell. Their relationship brings out the softer side of life in the lbo tribe, which can often seem harsh and violent. Basic answers here will make a simple comment about the relationship and possibly about how it is moving. Answers will move through the bands as they look in more detail at the relationship. Best answers will show reasonably sustained understanding of the relationship and the light it throws on both characters, using textual detail in support.

Text:	ACHEBE: Things Fall Apart
Question 24 (21 marks)	What are your thoughts about the ways in which the white men behave in Umuofia?
	Remember to support your ideas with details from the novel.

This is a completely open question. Candidates may approve of what the white man does, principally bringing Christianity and government to Umuofia; or disapprove strongly with the imposition of an alien religion and cold colonialism on Umuofia's traditional way of life. The discussion of particular moments will be vital. There will be responses to injustice in the Umuofian way of life (the cutting down of Ikemefuna; wife-beating; firing a gun at a wife; exposing twins in the forest, burning down a church ...); and responses to the white man's injustice (the massacre at Abame, the intolerance of Mr Smith, the bad faith of the District Commissioner, his absence of sympathy with the people for whom he is responsible ...). It is hoped that candidates will be able to make a strong response to what the white man does. Basic answers here are likely to choose a moment and make a simple comment on it. Responses will move up the bands as they explore the white man's actions in more detail showing greater response to them. Best responses here will show a reasonably developed understanding of, and response to what the white man does and link that response to the language Achebe uses.

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#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

Responses may refer to the change of tempo when the contented old man becomes suddenly aware of the great weight of the fish. It moves away and then stops, encouraging the old man to feel that this is the moment to strike. When he does, using all the strength of his arms and weight of his body, "Nothing happened". The fish tows the old man who, despite his skill and experience, is no longer certain of what to do. After four hours, the fish is not dead, but swimming steadily, with the old man in his solidly braced position. The outcome of the battle with the fish remains uncertain here. The words of the old man reflect his respect for the fish, and his need of and fondness for the boy. His thoughts reflect his awareness that he is engaged in a struggle with an adversary of a kind he has not previously encountered. Basic responses to the extract will offer paraphrase only. Responses will move through the bands as the excitement/suspense it generates becomes ever more clearly defined and supported. Best answers here will link understanding of the relationship to the words and phrases of the extract.

Text:	HEMINGWAY: The Old Man and the Sea
Question 26 (21 marks)	"I will show him what a man can do and what a man can endure."
	What does <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i> tell you about what a man can do and endure?
	Remember to support your ideas with details from the novel.

Candidates are expected to respond to aspects of the old man's struggle to catch and bring in the marlin. Santiago does a great deal, showing his strength, courage, refusal to give up; he also endures a great deal, whether it is in the form of ill-luck, pain, disappointment, physical exhaustion ... However, acceptable responses may refer to the early part of the novel to show that he endures poverty, bereavement and, despite the boy's attention, loneliness. Responses may show some of the old man's methods of enduring; thinking of Joe DiMaggio, for example. Basic answers are likely to make some supported comment about what the old man does and suffers. Answers will move through the bands as the textual detail becomes denser, and the response more securely based on an understanding of what the old man does and endures. The best answers here will refer to some of the language Hemingway uses.

Text:	HEMINGWAY: The Old Man and the Sea
Question 27 (21 marks)	What, in your view, makes the old man so different from the other members of the Cuban community in <i>The Old Man and the</i> Sea?
	Remember to support your ideas with details from the novel.

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

Responses are expected to identify some of the qualities of the old man and show how these make him different from other members of the community. They might focus on his age and appearance, his poverty which seems greater than that of others; his methods of fishing, his ill-luck, his determination to go out far to catch a big fish, his references to the sea as feminine, and his heroic qualities evident in his catching of the marlin and fighting off the sharks. It is a fair assumption for candidates to make that the old man's personal qualities make him different from others; after all, these attract the devotion of Manolin, who does not show similar admiration for other fishermen. Responses will move through the bands as they become more detailed and the understanding of the old man and the community more secure. Best responses here will provide appropriate reference to language to support a reasonably sustained understanding of the way the old man is different from other members of the community.

Text:	ORWELL: Nineteen Eighty-Four
Question 28 (21 marks)	'The prisoners sat very still' to 'all the fight gone out of him.'
,	What do you find so horrifying about this extract?
	You should consider:
	what the skull-faced man says and does
	what the guards do
	the words and phrases Orwell uses.

The setting is a windowless cell in the Ministry of Love. The skull-faced man is dying of starvation and the chinless (it is hoped no candidates will take this literally) man has offered him a piece of grimy bread, an act of kindness which has earned him "a frightful blow" in the mouth. It is therefore horrifying that the skull-faced man should try to save himself by denouncing the chinless man as one who has spoken against the Party. The skull-faced man's terror of Room 101 is palpable. Also horrifying is his readiness to "give away" his wife and three children and watch their throats being cut rather than face Room 101. His terror gives him superhuman strength, but his resistance is broken along with his hand. The physical violence and terror in the extract make it horrifying. Basic answers here will make some comment on what is happening in the extract or provide a straightforward paraphrase with a nod to the word "horrifying". Better answers will support their response with detail from the extract, whilst the best are likely to look at some aspects of the language Orwell uses.

Text:	ORWELL: Nineteen Eighty-Four
Question 29 (21 marks)	What do you think makes Winston's relationship with Julia so important in <i>Nineteen Eighty-Four</i> ?
	Remember to support your ideas with details from the novel.

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

Candidates are expected to do more than simply summarise what happens between Winston and Julia, although they should show a sound knowledge of the relationship. There should be some discussion of rebellion against the Party, the development of the relationship from being simply physical to something much more fulfilling, of the way that Winston and Julia believe that they will not truly betray each other, and the power the Party possesses to "get inside" both Winston and Julia and destroy their love. Basic responses here will make some comment on the relationship and re-tell parts of the story. Responses will move through the bands as awareness of how central this relationship is to defeating the Party and that it is itself defeated. Best answers here are also likely to make some link between the relationship and some detail of Orwell's language.

Text:	ORWELL: Nineteen Eighty-Four
Question 30 (21 marks)	What do you find particularly horrifying about the Party and its methods in <i>Nineteen Eighty-Four</i> ?
	Remember to support your ideas with details from the novel.

Candidates are expected to feel horror/disgust/determination never to tolerate a totalitarian state. At Foundation Tier it is very unlikely that there will be a clear understanding of Goldstein's book and its abstract outlining of the basis of the Party's position. However, even fairly basic responses should be able to identify concrete examples of why the Party is detestable (for example, the kind of living conditions it forces upon the people in the early pages of the novel) and say something about such things as telescreens, the Thought Police or the Ministries. Basic responses here will indicate feelings with a little textual support. Answers will move through the bands as understanding of how the Party operates becomes clearer and better supported by textual detail. The best will link their feelings to some detail of Orwell's writing.

Text:	Susan Hill (ed.) Modern Women's Short Stories
Question 31 (21 marks)	Stone Trees: 'Sweetie, do you remember the smell' to 'the Robertsons went away.'
	Weekend: 'I wish you'd wear scent' to 'established spouses.'
	What do you find so striking about the relationships between husbands and wives in these two extracts?
	You should consider:  • what the wife says to her husband in <i>Stone Trees</i> • what she says about Tom and Anna  • Martha's thoughts in <i>Weekend</i> • the words and phrases the writers use.

# **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

Answers are expected to show knowledge of both stories through a close focus on these extracts. Comparison of the extracts and the stories from which they are taken is not required. Candidates should show that the wife in the first extract is "talking" to her dead husband, reviewing the past. She knows that, after marriage, there were many "others" for her husband, possibly because of her obsession, her loving of him so much. She seems unaware that Anna was one of the others, since she looks upon both Anna and Tom with slight contempt; yet Tom's not noticing Anna might have driven her to the speaker's husband. At the end of the story the narrator is well aware of the affair and how Peter is Anna's and her husband's son. The Weldon extract catches "the dreary world of established spouses" where Martha's low, Martin-induced self-esteem and indeed exploitation by her husband make their relationship striking. Basic responses will make a brief comment on each story. They will move through the bands as knowledge of the details of the stories becomes more secure and the response more closely linked to the stories in general, and the language used in the extracts.

Text:	Susan Hill (ed.) Modern Women's Short Stories
Question 32 (21 marks)	What do you find so unkind about any <b>TWO</b> of the following?
	<ul> <li>The way Alison treats Millicent in <i>The New People</i> (Tremain)</li> <li>The way Mrs Burton treats Addy in <i>Addy</i> (Blackwood)</li> <li>The way Rudi treats Faith in <i>Another Survivor</i> (Fainlight)</li> </ul>

Knowledge and reasonably sustained understanding of any two of the specified stories are expected here. Comparison of stories and characters is neither asked for nor expected, but if attempted should not be penalised. Alison leaves Millicent for Diana, not accompanying her to Italy, although Millicent's irritating pessimism might be seen as contributing to Alison's decision. Mrs Burton leaves the dog Addy to die alone. Rudi attempts to recreate his mother in Faith and rips off the dress Faith likes so much, forcing him to confront his own resemblance to the Fascist guards responsible for his mother's death in the Holocaust. Basic responses are likely to summarise two stories. Answers that focus on unkindness and how it is shown and are able to use textual detail in support should be well rewarded.

Text:	Susan Hill (ed.) Modern Women's Short Stories
Question 33 (21 marks)	What do you find so moving about the way the writers portray as outsiders any <b>TWO</b> of the following characters?
	Mabel in Savages (O'Brien) Sally in Nothing Missing But the Samovar Lively) The man in The Man Who Kept the Sweet Shop at the Bus Station (Harris)

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

Responses should at best here show reasonably developed understanding of the way any two of the characters seem to be outsiders. Comparison is not required here, but may give structure to answers, but may equally be pursued as an end in itself, in which case candidates will penalise themselves by not focusing on the question. Mabel is a prickly character who has been away and becomes, unfairly in the event, the subject of rumour and innuendo. Sally attracts Dieter's interest and is lovably unaware of the increasing poverty of her family. The man in the Harris is an ordinary chap who is the object of the girls' gossip and, when they return on visits, someone they treat with indifference. Basic answers will comment on two characters. Better responses will explore the outsider aspects of two characters in increasing detail and with more textual reference. Best responses will link the outsider status to some detail of the writing. There should be discussion of some substance on both stories, although the response need not be equally divided between the two.

Text:	PALIN: Pole to Pole
Question 34 (21 marks)	Day 98: 'Each balloon can carry a dozen people' to ' low breakfast-table by a line of spears.'
	What makes this account of a balloon ride over the Masai Mara so entertaining for you?
	Remember to refer closely to the extract.

The balloon ride begins with the attack of the safari ants which Palin describes in his usual light hearted style, playing down the obvious discomfort ('very light electric shocks'). This method of comparing the unfamiliar with the domestic is continued with 'like milk bottles in a crate'; 'cork's distance'. John Coleman's dreadful jokes and puns ('Chicken in a basket') are perhaps more cringe-making than entertaining but the information about the construction of the basket, the facts about the fauna of the region and the slight hint of danger if they stray over the border, all attract the reader. So does the vivid description of the colour of the legs of 'the randy male ostrich' and the sumptuous breakfast (or 'kill') that awaits the balloonists. Most of the features of Palin's style appear in this extract and answers will move up the bands according to the details they give, the comments they make and the personal response.

Text:	PALIN: Pole to Pole
Question 35 (21 marks)	What do you find memorable about the way Palin describes <b>TWO</b> unusual customs he encounters on his journey?
	You might choose customs such as:  the exchange of gifts at Novgorod on Day 32  the Cypriot wedding on Day 49  or any other custom.

# **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

'One of Novgorod's eternal claims to fame is that it is twinned with Watford' and Palin has brought a glass decanter as a gesture of friendship. The ceremony of exchanging gifts is singularly low-key: Novgorod is obviously promiscuous with its favours; the Mayor is a lad lurking with his hands in his pockets who has to rush away to return to 'running his city' and Palin is left with only the folk dancers. Much of what is memorable about this scene is what is hinted at and then left to the reader's imagination – vigorous dancing in a jacket and tie and with loose bowels! The wedding in Cyprus is a much more lavish affair, with over 3000 guests, a public shaving, an extremely long service and a feast that goes on for hours. The detail of the food and the actions, the couple being soaked with champagne and the dance 'which could be called the Lumbago' are all memorable. Paraphrase and narration will only reach the lower bands; to achieve higher there must be carefully selected details and comment on how Palin makes it memorable.

Text:	PALIN: Pole to Pole
Question 36 (21 marks)	What do you find vivid about Palin's discomfort in hotels on Days 77 and 103?
,	Remember to refer closely to details from the text.

Most hotels in which Palin stays have some measure of discomfort but these are extreme cases. At Shedi (Day 77) there is a 'fetid smell' and 'a treasure trove of insects', to say nothing of noises that sound 'like a donkey having a nightmare'. Nigel has fared no better. The Railway Hotel at Kigoma (Day 103) is a little better – 'not the heart of darkness' – and more familiar – 'a cross between a pub in Earl's Court and a minor Hilton' – but the facilities, especially the lavatory, are still primitive and it is noisy. This is a more humorous description as the rugby supporters exhibit (continuing the Conrad metaphor) 'the howling sorrow of savages'. Paraphrase and/or narrative will only reach the lower bands; to achieve higher there must be details from the text and personal response.

Text:	HORNBY: Fever Pitch
Question 37 (21 marks)	FROM NW3 TO N17 Tottenham v Arsenal 4.3.87 'I usually hate' to 'signifies less.'
	What vivid impressions of football fans does this extract convey to you?
	You should consider:
	what fans say and do here
	how cup-ties are different
	the words and phrases Hornby uses.

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

The behaviour of fans at games between Arsenal and Tottenham, the local north London derby, is appalling enough for Hornby not to attend derbies at White Hart Lane any longer. It is the behaviour of the Arsenal fans, of which he is one, that so disgusts Hornby. The wish that Roberts's wife should die of cancer, the demand for the hanging of the Tottenham manager, the blow-up dolls, "amusing breast spectacles", vandalism and mindless anti-Semitism are more than sufficient reasons for Hornby's boycotting away derbies. Cup-ties attract older supporters as well as the younger ones, and those provide some dilution of the general "bile". The language reflects the supporters' aggression; such words as "hostile territory", "shouted" "roaring" "disturbing ugliness" and "bile" contribute to the impression of Arsenal fans at away derbies being thoroughly obnoxious. Basic responses here are likely to limit themselves to paraphrase. They will rise through the bands as they become more detailed, with the best supporting a reasonably sustained understanding with reference to Hornby's language.

Text:	HORNBY: Fever Pitch
Question 38 (21 marks)	What do you think makes the two words <i>Fever Pitch</i> such an appropriate title for Hornby's book?
	Remember to support your ideas with details from the book.

Responses should show some awareness that "fever pitch" is the height of excitement or that "fever" indicates a kind of restless illness of which Hornby himself shows severe symptoms (he is given psychiatric help) and football is played on a pitch (!). Other fans in the book exhibit the same, or similar, or aggravated symptoms of the fever, some much more offensive to others than are Hornby's (see Bananas) and destructive (Heysel). There are many areas of the book for candidates to explore. Basic answers will offer a simple comment whilst better ones will paraphrase, but responses will move through the bands as focus on incidents illustrating fever becomes sharper, with best answers making some comments on the way Hornby's language conveys the feverish nature of being a fan.

Text:	HORNBY: Fever Pitch
Question 39 (21 marks)	What do you find in the section <i>THE GREATEST MOMENT EVER</i> that makes this the greatest moment ever for Hornby?
	Remember to support your ideas with details from the book.

#### **NOTES ON THE TASK:**

The section records Arsenal's winning of the Championship at Anfield in the last match of the season, when the press, and *The Daily Mirror* in particular, had written Arsenal's chances off. Hornby's emotions during the season are turbulent, believing for the early part of the season that Arsenal might win the title for the first time in many seasons and for the latter part that catastrophic failure to win points means that the title is unachievable. His excitement at hearing what happens on the radio impels him to the belief that this is the greatest moment ever (the winning goal coming in the ninety-second minute). He compares this moment to orgasm and childbirth, deciding that these cannot be the greatest moments ever, since both, unlike Arsenal's last-gasp victory are predictable. Basic responses here will make a comment on Arsenal winning the title. They will move through the bands as they comment on Hornby's roller-coaster feelings, the best making some comment on Hornby's language.

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