

General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2007



**ENGLISH (SPECIFICATION B) MATURE
Paper 1
Higher Tier**

3703/1H

H

Tuesday 5 June 2007 9.00 am to 10.40 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book
- Section A of the pre-release booklet which is enclosed.

Time allowed: 1 hour 40 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or 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 3703/1H.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Write your answers in the answer book provided.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must refer to Section A of the pre-release booklet provided.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 54.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your Reading in Section A.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your Writing in Section B.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about one hour on Section A and about 40 minutes on Section B.

SECTION A: READING**MEDIA AND NON-FICTION TEXTS**

Answer **both** questions in this section.

You are advised to spend about one hour on this section.
This includes 10 minutes reminding yourself of the content of the pre-release booklet.

You will be assessed on the quality of your Reading.

1 Media Texts

In your pre-release booklet look again at *Senses Working Overtime* on page 5 and at *Start Art* on page 8.

These texts offer their readers some insight into leisure pursuits.

How does each media text convey its subject matter to the reader?

You should write about the following:

- the content of each text
- the uses of fact and opinion in *Senses Working Overtime*
- presentational devices in each text.

(13 marks)

2 Non-fiction Text

Read the extract on the page opposite, which comes from Margaret Forster's book, *Hidden Lives*. The extract describes how the writer's mother would conduct herself on family outings.

What aspects of her mother's personality does Margaret Forster present to the reader?

Select some examples of language that you have found interesting in the extract, and explain their effect.

(14 marks)

HIDDEN LIVES

There was never a cheap café fit for my mother and of course it had to be cheap or we couldn't patronize it. 'Not *there!*' my mother would cry, horrified, as my father proposed entering some shack. He'd ask why not, we only wanted a pot of tea and some lemonade. What was wrong with it? 'Everything,' my mother would snap. She was always right. I saw, with her, how dirty the tables looked, how sleazy the whole place. So we'd tramp round Keswick or Pooley Bridge, or wherever we'd gone for the day, on the bus, and eventually, tempers becoming frayed, café after café rejected, my mother would agree to go into some place that at least looked clean. Then trouble would start in a different way all over again. Sometimes it would be about where we were to sit. My mother would say she didn't care but then wherever my father plonked us was hopeless – 'Not right by the door, Arthur.' More often it was over what to order. My mother would fancy a scone but they'd have no scones, or else the scone produced would be pronounced not fresh. Her critical nature couldn't let anything go and, while I felt like her, I hated the atmosphere this carping caused. If only she'd been proud of her own trenchant criticisms, if only she'd laughed at how utterly dreadful the scone or anything else was, but no, her disappointment was deep and never, ever, funny.

I knew what kind of café my mother wanted to eat in. She wanted to be in the Ritz or the Savoy in some palm court place, sitting in a chiffon dress with a white straw hat on, being served with delicious thin sandwiches and exquisite pastries on delicate china plates. Like clothes, surroundings mattered, they told you what you had become, and my mother was never going to be reconciled to a red formica table, thick chipped white pot cups, a smell of used fat and no elegance or artistry anywhere. Our outings could never give her the kind of pleasure she craved. Often, she didn't come with us at all. She said she was too tired, and she was, but she wasn't only physically tired, she was tired of disappointment. She enjoyed herself no more left at home, except for listening to *Mrs Dale's Diary*¹ in peace. She loved Mrs Dale's life because it was the life she felt she should have had – the life of a doctor's wife, perfect. In her mind she leapt the class gulf effortlessly; she was Mrs Dale, the middle-class professional man's wife. At least she had some imaginative ability and could enter that wireless world easily.

MARGARET FORSTER

¹Mrs Dale's Diary was a radio soap opera which ran from 1948 to 1969.

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►

SECTION B : WRITING TO ARGUE, PERSUADE, ADVISE

You are advised to spend about 40 minutes on this section.

You will be assessed on the quality of your Writing.

- 3** It is often said that we now have more leisure time in our lives.

Write a letter to persuade a relative or friend to spend his/her leisure time more effectively.

(27 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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Question 2 Source: MARGARET FORSTER, *Hidden Lives*, reproduced by permission of Penguin Books (London) 1995

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