

Literature and performance
Standard level
Paper 2 – poetry

Tuesday 5 May 2015 (afternoon)

1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not turn over this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer one question.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[25 marks]**.

Answer **one** question. Refer closely to the works of **at least two** poets you have studied.

1. Hope and/or pessimism are sometimes reflected in poetry. In the work of **at least two** poets you have studied, examine either or both of these attitudes and the way in which the poets have chosen to convey them.
 2. “The language of a poem is often that of one thing compared to another.” In the work of **at least two** poets you have studied, explore how poets have made their subjects come alive through different means of comparing them.
 3. “Poets often withhold certitude, which can at the same time empower readers to think creatively.” Consider the works of **at least two** poets you have studied in which ambiguity has enabled readers to reach their own conclusions about meaning and implications.
 4. What poets do with historical materials can be delivered with very different intents and effects. Choosing **at least two** poets you have studied, compare **two** approaches found in their work and discuss in what ways these contribute to the overall effect of the poems.
 5. Poets may arrange their material to encourage the reader to move rapidly through the lines or in a way that encourages reflection. In the work of **at least two** poets you have studied, consider how the pace of poems is created and its relation to the way meaning is delivered.
 6. Choose a similar subject that is covered by **at least two** poets you have studied and compare both the content and the style, offering a personal evaluation of their relative success with both aspects.
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