

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2010

IGCSE

IGCSE English Literature (4360) Paper 02

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Introduction

This English Literature examination successfully enables a range of candidates to show their knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the poems in the Poetry Anthology they have studied.

The candidate is expected to make one response, in forty five minutes, on two poems from the Anthology booklet.

Centres are familiar with the expectations from this examination and time management did not prove problematic.

Candidate choices

Candidates chose between two questions.

Many candidates opted for the second question on the paper; this question asked the candidate to choose TWO poems from the anthology.

There was less evidence of 'prepared' responses because the question directed candidates in its theme: more responses demonstrated insight and analysis.

Information for Centres

- Unfortunately, many responses from candidates, even in the higher bands, focused on one poem at a time, rather than choosing to compare two poems alongside one another: conclusions were generally ineffective.
- There was some evidence of paraphrasing quotations and embedding them in some responses. Some candidates confused similes and metaphors and often their analysis of structure and punctuation was inaccurate.
- There was evidence of candidates using terminology inappropriately or unnecessarily, for example, enjambment, caesura and juxtaposition. It would have been effective to concentrate on figurative languages, imagery, description, themes and cultural context.
- There were many essays in the upper band, although few of these were creative, often lacking any personal response or any originality. These often contained much in-depth, sustained analysis, closely focusing on the question, relating it to the writer's craft, therefore, the quantity of points developed warranted the higher band.
- Students of less ability often demonstrated an ability to respond personally to the question asked: they clearly enjoyed writing about poems that they could connect with personally. This behaviour often meant that the quality of essay writing, in the middle band, was good.

IGCSE English Literature: 4360 Grade Boundaries

Option 1 - 01, 02

*	A	B	C	D	E	F
82	73	64	56	46	36	27

Option 2 - 01, 03

*	A	B	C	D	E	F
84	73	62	52	42	33	24

Option 3 - 01, 03T

*	A	B	C	D	E	F
84	73	62	52	42	33	24

Note: Grade boundaries may vary from year to year and from subject to subject, depending on the demands of the question paper.

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