

ENGLISH - HIGHER LEVEL - PAPER II

WEDNESDAY, 7 JUNE - AFTERNOON, 2.00 - 5.00

Total marks: 240

Four questions must be attempted, as follows:-

Candidates must attempt **Question A** in **Section I** (Drama). They must also attempt **one** question from **Section II** (Poetry), and **one** question from **Section III** (Fiction). They may take their fourth question from whichever Section they wish.

Each question on this paper carries 60 marks.

N.B. In the Sections on Drama and Fiction, if a question contains alternatives, candidates **may not attempt both** alternatives in that question.

I. DRAMA

A. MACBETH (*Shakespeare*)

- (i) Discuss the course and nature of the resistance to Macbeth's rule in the play.
Support your answer by relevant quotation from or reference to the play.

OR

- (ii) "Kingship, with all its potential for good or evil, is a major theme in the play, *Macbeth*."
Discuss this view, supporting your answer by quotation from or reference to the play.

B. MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL (*Eliot*)

- (i) "Now is my way clear, now is the meaning plain;
Temptation shall not come in this kind again."

The above words of Thomas come from the closing speech of Part 1 of *Murder in the Cathedral*. Discuss their significance in the overall structure of the play, supporting your answer by reference to or quotation from the play.

OR

- (ii) "The play, *Murder in the Cathedral*, is pervaded by the conviction that without God's grace human existence is sinful and miserable."

Discuss this statement, supporting your answer by reference to or quotation from the play.

OVER →

C. PHILADELPHIA HERE I COME (Friel)

- (i) "By means of richly dramatic techniques, Friel, in *Philadelphia Here I Come*, invites us to laugh at our shortcomings, and to see these shortcomings with all their harmful effects."

Discuss this view, supporting your answer by reference to or quotation from the play.

OR

- (ii) "The world of Friel's *Philadelphia Here I Come* is a world totally dominated by men."

Discuss this view, supporting your answer by reference to or quotation from the play.

D. SAINT JOAN (Shaw)

- (i) "For Shaw, Joan represents the primacy of the individual conscience."

Discuss this view, supporting your answer by reference to or quotation from the play, *Saint Joan*.

OR

- (ii) Discuss the dramatic effectiveness of the epilogue to the play, *Saint Joan*.

Support your answer by reference to or quotation from the play.

II. POETRY

- A.** "The epic, *Paradise Lost*, is written in a sublime style."

Relating the above statement to *Book 1 of Paradise Lost*, discuss what you think are the factors that give Milton's language its sublimity.

- B.** "The opposing feelings of despondency and optimism are powerfully conveyed in the poetry of Shelley."

Discuss this view, supporting your answer by quotation from or reference to the poems by Shelley on your course.

The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock

(Lines 70-98)

Shall I say, I have gone at dusk through narrow streets 70
 And watched the smoke that rises from the pipes
 Of lonely men in shirt-sleeves, leaning out of windows?...

I should have been a pair of ragged claws
 Scuttling across the floors of silent seas.

And the afternoon, the evening, sleeps so peacefully! 75
 Smoothed by long fingers,

Asleep ... tired ... or it malingers,
 Stretched on the floor, here beside you and me.
 Should I, after tea and cakes and ices,

Have the strength to force the moment to its crisis? 80
 But though I have wept and fasted, wept and prayed,
 Though I have seen my head [grown slightly bald]
 brought in upon a platter,

I am no prophet—and here's no great matter;
 I have seen the moment of my greatness flicker,
 And I have seen the eternal Footman hold my coat, and
 snicker, 85

And in short, I was afraid.

And would it have been worth it, after all,
 After the cups, the marmalade, the tea,
 Among the porcelain, among some talk of you and me,
 Would it have been worth while, 90

To have bitten off the matter with a smile,
 To have squeezed the universe into a ball
 To roll it toward some overwhelming question,

To say: "I am Lazarus, come from the dead,
 Come back to tell you all, I shall tell you all" — 95
 If one, settling a pillow by her head,

Should say: "That is not what I meant at all.
 That is not it, at all."

T. S. Eliot.

- (i) What significant features of Prufrock's character are revealed in this passage?
 Support your answer by relevant quotation or reference.
- (ii) Would you agree that this passage has dramatic qualities?
 Give reasons for your answer, supporting them with appropriate quotation or reference.
- (iii) Answer **ONE** of the following: -

(a) How would you describe the tone of the above passage?
 Support your answer by close reference to the text.

(b) "Eliot's imagery is at once precise and richly suggestive."

Discuss this view, supporting your answer by relevant quotation from or reference to the above passage.

(c) "Eliot's *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* represented a new poetic style for English poetry."

Discuss any aspect of that style that you think is significantly present in the above passage.

Accurate quotation or reference is expected.

OVER→

- D. "Bitter disillusionment with the realities he found in Ireland and reluctant acceptance of the limitations he found within himself are the major thrusts of Yeats's poetry."

Discuss this view, supporting your answer by quotation from or reference to the poems by Yeats on your course.

- E. "Poetry is never content to merely mirror the world of the senses; rather it seeks to transform it by the power of the imagination."

Discuss the above statement in its entirety, in relation to any two poets on your course.

(N.B. You may **not** select a poet on whom you have already answered in this Section.)

III. FICTION

A. HARD TIMES (*Dickens*)

- (i) "In *Hard Times* Dickens examines utilitarianism and how it affects the possibility of human happiness."

Discuss this view, supporting the points you make by appropriate reference to the novel.

OR

- (ii) "Many of the characters and events in *Hard Times* are typical of the characters and events in fairy tales."

Discuss this view, supporting the points you make by appropriate reference to the novel.

B. THE MAYOR OF CASTERBRIDGE (*Hardy*)

- (i) "Hardy's analysis of life in *The Mayor of Casterbridge* is well summed up in the view that happiness is but an occasional episode in a general drama of pain."

Discuss this statement, supporting your answer by suitable reference to the novel.

OR

- (ii) "In *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, Lucetta's fate earns our pity more than her failings earn our censure."

Discuss this view, supporting the points you make by appropriate reference to the novel.

C. (N.B. In answering either of the following questions on the modern novel, you may not take either *Hard Times* or *The Mayor of Casterbridge* as a modern novel.)

- (i) "The merit of the modern novel lies in the relevance of its message and the skill with which this message is conveyed."

Discuss this view, supporting your answer by reference to **one or more** of the modern novels on your course.

OR

- (ii) "The modern novel explores the possibility of heroism in a hostile world."

Discuss this view, supporting your answer by reference to **one or more** of the modern novels on your course.