AQA

GCSE
ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paper 2 Modern texts and poetry

Thursday 21 May 2020 Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:
- an AQA 16-page Answer Book.

Instructions
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do **not** use pencil.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 8702/2.
- Answer **one** question from **Section A**, **one** question from **Section B** and **both** questions in **Section C**.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

Information
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 96.
- AO4 will be assessed in **Section A**. There are 4 marks available for AO4 in **Section A** in addition to 30 marks for answering the question. AO4 assesses the following skills: use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.
- There are 30 marks for **Section B** and 32 marks for **Section C**.

There are no questions printed on this page

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Turn over for Section A

Section A: Modern prose or drama

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

JB Priestley: *An Inspector Calls*

Either

0 1 Mr Birling says, '…a man has to mind his own business and look after himself and his own'.

How far does Priestley present Mr Birling as a man who cares only for himself and his family?

Write about:

- what Mr Birling says and does
- how far Priestley presents Mr Birling as a man who cares only for himself and his family.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

0 2 How far does Priestley present male characters as irresponsible in the play?

Write about:

- one or more of the male character(s)
- how far Priestley presents one or more of the male character(s) as irresponsible.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Willy Russell: *Blood Brothers*

or

0 3 How does Russell use the character of Mickey to show the importance of education in *Blood Brothers*?

Write about:

- Mickey's experience of education
- how Russell uses Mickey to show the importance of education.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

0 4 How does Russell present the importance of friendship in *Blood Brothers*?

Write about:

- examples of friendship in the play
- how Russell presents the importance of friendship.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

Alan Bennett: *The History Boys*

or

0 5 How far does Bennett present Hector as a character who is unsatisfied in his job as a teacher?

Write about:

- what Hector says and does in the play
- how far Bennett presents Hector as unsatisfied in his job as a teacher.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

0 6 How does Bennett present attitudes towards the teaching of history in *The History Boys*?

Write about:

- some of the attitudes towards the teaching of history in the play
- how Bennett presents attitudes towards the teaching of history.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Dennis Kelly: *DNA*

or

0 7 How far does Kelly present Phil as a disturbing character in *DNA*?

Write about:

- what Phil says and does
- how far Kelly presents Phil as a disturbing character.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

0 8 How does Kelly present the negative effects of being in a gang?

Write about:

- what one or more of the character(s) say and do
- how Kelly presents the negative effects of being in a gang.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

Simon Stephens: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*

or

0 9 'Ed is trying to be a good father in difficult circumstances.'

How far do you agree with this view of Christopher's father?

Write about:

- what Christopher's father says and does
- how Stephens presents Christopher's father.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

1 0 How does Stephens present Christopher dealing with change?

Write about:

- some of the changes that Christopher faces
- how Stephens presents Christopher dealing with change.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Shelagh Delaney: *A Taste of Honey*

or

1 1 How does Delaney use the character of Geof to explore ideas about friendship?

Write about:

- what Geof says and does in the play
- how Delaney uses Geof to explore ideas about friendship.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

1 2 How does Delaney present the attitudes of female characters towards men in *A Taste of Honey*?

Write about:

- some of the attitudes of female characters towards men in the play
- how Delaney presents the attitudes of female characters towards men.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

William Golding: *Lord of the Flies*

or

1 3 How far does Golding present Jack as a character who changes in *Lord of the Flies*?

Write about:

- what Jack says and does
- how far Golding presents Jack as a character who changes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

1 4 How far does Golding present the island as a dangerous place?

Write about:

- what happens to the boys on the island
- how far Golding presents the island as a dangerous place.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

AQA Anthology: *Telling Tales*

or

1 5 How do writers present misunderstandings between parents and children in 'Korea' and in **one** other story from *Telling Tales*?

Write about:

- misunderstandings between parents and children in the **two** stories
- how the writers present these misunderstandings.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

1 6 How do writers present the difficulties of growing up in 'Chemistry' and in **one** other story from *Telling Tales*?

Write about:

- the difficulties of growing up in the **two** stories
- how the writers present the difficulties of growing up.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

George Orwell: *Animal Farm*

or

1 7 How far does Orwell present Napoleon as a character who is only interested in power?

Write about:

- what Napoleon says and does
- how far Orwell presents Napoleon as only interested in power.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

1 8 How does Orwell present relationships between the humans and the animals in *Animal Farm*?

Write about:

- the relationships between the humans and the animals
- how Orwell presents the relationships between the humans and the animals.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Kazuo Ishiguro: *Never Let Me Go*

or

1 9 How far does Ishiguro present Ruth as an unlikeable character in *Never Let Me Go*?

Write about:

- what Ruth says and does
- how far Ishiguro presents Ruth as unlikeable.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

2 0 How far does Ishiguro present hopes and dreams as important to characters in *Never Let Me Go*?

Write about:

- hopes and dreams that characters have
- how far Ishiguro presents these hopes and dreams as important.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

Meera Syal: *Anita and Me*

or

2 1 How far does Syal present Anita as an unlikeable character in *Anita and Me*?

Write about:

- what Anita says and does
- how far Syal presents Anita as unlikeable.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

2 2 How does Syal present Meena learning from a range of cultures in *Anita and Me*?

Write about:

- the cultures that Meena experiences
- how Syal presents Meena learning.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Stephen Kelman: *Pigeon English*

or

2 3 How does Kelman present Harrison as a character who is innocent about the realities of inner-city life?

Write about:

- what Harrison says and does
- how Kelman presents Harrison as a character who is innocent about the realities of inner-city life.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

2 4 'Despite its ending, *Pigeon English* is a book about hope.'

How far do you agree with this view of the novel?

Write about:

- ideas about hope in the novel
- how far Kelman presents the novel as a book about hope.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B: Poetry

Answer **one** question from this section.

AQA Anthology: *Poems Past and Present*

Either

Love and relationships

The poems you have studied are:

Lord Byron	When We Two Parted
Percy Bysshe Shelley	Love's Philosophy
Robert Browning	Porphyria's Lover
Elizabeth Barrett Browning	Sonnet 29 – 'I think of thee!'
Thomas Hardy	Neutral Tones
Maura Dooley	Letters from Yorkshire
Charlotte Mew	The Farmer's Bride
Cecil Day-Lewis	Walking Away
Charles Causley	Eden Rock
Seamus Heaney	Follower
Simon Armitage	Mother, any distance
Carol Ann Duffy	Before You Were Mine
Owen Sheers	Winter Swans
Daljit Nagra	Singh Song!
Andrew Waterhouse	Climbing My Grandfather

2 5 Compare how poets present family relationships in 'Walking Away' and in **one** other poem from 'Love and relationships'.

[30 marks]

Walking Away

It is eighteen years ago, almost to the day –
A sunny day with leaves just turning,
The touch-lines new-ruled – since I watched you play
Your first game of football, then, like a satellite
Wrenched from its orbit, go drifting away

Behind a scatter of boys. I can see
You walking away from me towards the school
With the pathos of a half-fledged thing set free
Into a wilderness, the gait of one
Who finds no path where the path should be.

That hesitant figure, eddying away
Like a winged seed loosened from its parent stem,
Has something I never quite grasp to convey
About nature's give-and-take – the small, the scorching
Ordeals which fire one's irresolute clay.

I have had worse partings, but none that so
Gnaws at my mind still. Perhaps it is roughly
Saying what God alone could perfectly show –
How selfhood begins with a walking away,
And love is proved in the letting go.

Cecil Day-Lewis

Turn over for the next question

or

Power and conflict

The poems you have studied are:

Percy Bysshe Shelley	Ozymandias
William Blake	London
William Wordsworth	Extract from The Prelude
Robert Browning	My Last Duchess
Alfred Lord Tennyson	The Charge of the Light Brigade
Wilfred Owen	Exposure
Seamus Heaney	Storm on the Island
Ted Hughes	Bayonet Charge
Simon Armitage	Remains
Jane Weir	Poppies
Carol Ann Duffy	War Photographer
Imtiaz Dharker	Tissue
Carol Rumens	The Emigrée
John Agard	Checking Out Me History
Beatrice Garland	Kamikaze

2 6 Compare how poets present the ways people are affected by difficult experiences in 'Remains' and in **one** other poem from 'Power and conflict'.

[30 marks]

Remains

On another occasion, we get sent out
to tackle looters raiding a bank.
And one of them legs it up the road,
probably armed, possibly not.

Well myself and somebody else and somebody else
are all of the same mind,
so all three of us open fire.
Three of a kind all letting fly, and I swear

I see every round as it rips through his life –
I see broad daylight on the other side.
So we've hit this looter a dozen times
and he's there on the ground, sort of inside out,

pain itself, the image of agony.
One of my mates goes by
and tosses his guts back into his body.
Then he's carted off in the back of a lorry.

End of story, except not really.
His blood-shadow stays on the street, and out on patrol
I walk right over it week after week.
Then I'm home on leave. But I blink

and he bursts again through the doors of the bank.
Sleep, and he's probably armed, possibly not.
Dream, and he's torn apart by a dozen rounds.
And the drink and the drugs won't flush him out –

he's here in my head when I close my eyes,
dug in behind enemy lines,
not left for dead in some distant, sun-stunned, sand-smothered land
or six-feet-under in desert sand,

but near to the knuckle, here and now,
his bloody life in my bloody hands.

Simon Armitage

Turn over for Section C

Section C: Unseen poetry

Answer **both** questions in this section.

I Am Offering this Poem

I am offering this poem to you,
since I have nothing else to give.
Keep it like a warm coat
when winter comes to cover you,
or like a pair of thick socks
the cold cannot bite through,

I love you,

I have nothing else to give you,
so it is a pot full of yellow corn
to warm your belly in winter,
it is a scarf for your head, to wear
over your hair, to tie up around your face,

I love you,

Keep it, treasure this as you would
if you were lost, needing direction,
in the wilderness life becomes when mature;
and in the corner of your drawer,
tucked away like a cabin or hogan*
in dense trees, come knocking,
and I will answer, give you directions,
and let you warm yourself by this fire,
rest by this fire, and make you feel safe

I love you,

It's all I have to give,
and all anyone needs to live,
and to go on living inside,
when the world outside
no longer cares if you live or die;
remember,

I love you.

*hogan: wooden hut/shelter

Jimmy Santiago Baca

2 7 . 1 In 'I Am Offering this Poem', how does the poet present the speaker's feelings about love?

[24 marks]

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2 7 . 2 In both 'The sun has burst the sky' and 'I Am Offering this Poem' the speakers describe their feelings about love.

What are the similarities **and/or** differences between the methods the poets use to present these feelings?

[8 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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