Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1)

Time 1 hour 20 minutes

Paper reference **4ET1/01**

English Literature

PAPER 1: Poetry and Modern Prose

Question Booklet
Do not return this Question Booklet with your Answer Booklet.

Total Marks

Turn over ▶

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Answer TWO questions:

Answer the question in Section A and ONE question from Section B.

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Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck	6
The Whale Rider, Witi Ihimaera	7
The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan	7
Things Fall Apart, Chinua Achebe	8

SECTION A: Unseen Poetry

Answer the question in this section.

You should spend 35 minutes on this question.

Read the following poem.

'On Turning Ten'

The whole idea of it makes me feel
like I'm coming down with something,
something worse than any stomach ache
or the headaches I get from reading in bad light –
a kind of measles of the spirit,
a mumps of the psyche*,
a disfiguring chicken pox of the soul.

You tell me it is too early to be looking back,
but that is because you have forgotten
the perfect simplicity of being one
and the beautiful complexity introduced by two.
But I can lie on my bed and remember every digit.
At four I was an Arabian wizard.
I could make myself invisible
by drinking a glass of milk a certain way.
At seven I was a soldier, at nine a prince.

But now I am mostly at the window
watching the late afternoon light.
Back then it never fell so solemnly
against the side of my tree house,
and my bicycle never leaned against the garage
as it does today,
all the dark blue speed drained out of it.

This is the beginning of sadness, I say to myself,
as I walk through the universe in my sneakers*.
It is time to say good-bye to my imaginary friends,
time to turn the first big number.

It seems only yesterday I used to believe
there was nothing under my skin but light.
If you cut me I would shine.
But now if I fall upon the sidewalks of life,
I skin my knees. I bleed.

Billy Collins (1995)

Glossary

**psyche* – the human mind, soul or spirit
**sneakers* – trainers

1 Explore how the writer presents reaching the age of ten in this poem.

In your answer, you should consider the writer's:

- descriptive skills
- choice of language
- use of form and structure.

Support your answer with examples from the poem.

(Total for Question 1 = 20 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS

SECTION B: Modern Prose

Answer ONE question on ONE text from this section.

You should spend 45 minutes on this section.

***To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee**

EITHER

2 Explore the character of Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 2 = 40 marks)

OR

3 Discuss the theme of isolation in the novel.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 3 = 40 marks)

***Of Mice and Men*, John Steinbeck**

EITHER

4 In what ways is anger significant in *Of Mice and Men*?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 4 = 40 marks)

OR

5 Explore **one** character who you consider to be important in the novel.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 5 = 40 marks)

***The Whale Rider*, Witi Ihimaera**

EITHER

6 'Koro Apirana is a successful tribal leader.'

How far do you agree with this statement?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

OR

7 Discuss the importance of family in *The Whale Rider*.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 7 = 40 marks)

***The Joy Luck Club*, Amy Tan**

EITHER

8 In what ways is the theme of misunderstanding significant in the novel?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 8 = 40 marks)

OR

9 Explore the character of Rose Hsu Jordan in *The Joy Luck Club*.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 9 = 40 marks)

***Things Fall Apart*, Chinua Achebe**

EITHER

10 Explore the theme of conflict in *Things Fall Apart*.

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 10 = 40 marks)

OR

11 Which **one** character do you have most sympathy for in the novel?

You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.

(Total for Question 11 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 40 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS

Acknowledgement:

'On Turning Ten' taken from *'The Art of Drowning'* By Billy Collins © University of Pittsburgh Press, 30 June 1995

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname	Other names

Centre Number | Candidate Number

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1)

Time 1 hour 20 minutes

Paper reference **4ET1/01**

English Literature

PAPER 1: Poetry and Modern Prose

You must have:
Question Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer the question from Section A, and **ONE** question from Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
  – *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets –
  use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.
- Copies of the texts studied may **not** be brought into the examination.
- Dictionaries may **not** be used in this examination.

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.
- Good luck with your examination.

Turn over ▶

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SECTION A: Unseen Poetry

Question 1

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(Total for Question 1 = 20 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS

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SECTION B: Modern Prose

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number:

Question 2 ☒	**Question 3** ☒	**Question 4** ☒
Question 5 ☒	**Question 6** ☒	**Question 7** ☒
Question 8 ☒	**Question 9** ☒	**Question 10** ☒
Question 11 ☒		

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 40 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS

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