Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Wednesday 8 June 2022 – Morning

GCSE English Literature

J352/21 Poetry across time

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

9477832342

You must have:
- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

Do not use:
- copies of the texts

INSTRUCTIONS
- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- All the questions have two parts, (a) and (b). Answer **both** parts of the question.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is **40**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets **[ ]**.
- This document has **12** pages.

ADVICE
- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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Poetry across time	Question	Page
Love and Relationships	1	4
Conflict	2	6
Youth and Age	3	8

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Poetry across Time

Answer **both** parts of the question on the poetry cluster you have studied.

1 Love and Relationships

Read the two poems below and then answer **both part a) and part b).**

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on part a) and 30 minutes on part b).

a) Compare how these poems present the loss of a loved one.

You should consider:

- ideas and attitudes in each poem
- tone and atmosphere in each poem
- the effects of the language and structure used.

[20]

AND

b) Explore in detail **one** other poem from your anthology which presents a memorable relationship.

[20]

Long Distance II by Tony Harrison

Though my mother was already two years dead
Dad kept her slippers warming by the gas,
put hot water bottles her side of the bed
and still went to renew her transport pass.

You couldn't just drop in. You had to phone.
He'd put you off for an hour to give him time
to clear away her things and look alone
as though his still raw love were such a crime.

He couldn't risk my blight of disbelief
though sure that very soon he'd hear her key
scrape in the rusted lock and end his grief.
He knew she's just popped out to get the tea.

I believe life ends with death, and that is all.
You haven't both gone shopping; just the same,
in my black leather phone book there's your name
and the disconnected number I still call.

Silence by Anthony Thwaite

This silence, with you away –
These silences, day after day –
Silence itself, pure and cold and grey –

Once I welcomed it, heard
Nothing but peace, even a bird
Disturbing it. Without a word

Silence welcomed me, took
Me in friendliness, shook
Melancholy out, thrust a book

Into my hands, so that I read
Hungrily of what lay ahead,
Not thinking of the dead.

Alone,
Silence lies along the bone,
Grey, cold as a stone.

2 Conflict

Read the two poems below and then answer **both part a) and part b).**

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on part a) and 30 minutes on part b).

a) Compare how these poems present emotions leading to conflict.

You should consider:

- ideas and attitudes in each poem
- tone and atmosphere in each poem
- the effects of the language and structure used.

[20]

AND

b) Explore in detail **one** other poem from your anthology which presents strong feelings about the causes of conflict.

[20]

A Poison Tree by William Blake

I was angry with my friend:
I told my wrath, my wrath did end.
I was angry with my foe:
I told it not, my wrath did grow.

And I watered it in fears,
Night and morning with my tears;
And I sunned it with smiles,
And with soft deceitful wiles.

And it grew both day and night,
Till it bore an apple bright.
And my foe beheld it shine.
And he knew that it was mine,

And into my garden stole
When the night had veiled the pole;
In the morning glad I see
My foe outstretched beneath the tree.

Anger by Charles and Mary Lamb

Anger in its time and place
May assume a kind of grace.
It must have some reason in it,
And not last beyond a minute.
If to further lengths it go,
It does into malice grow.
'Tis the difference that we see
'Twixt the serpent and the bee.
If the latter you provoke
It inflicts a hasty stroke,
Puts you to some little pain,
But it never stings again.
Close in tufted bush or brake
Lurks the poison-swelled snake
Nursing up his cherished wrath;
In the purlieus of[1] his path,
In the cold, or in the warm,
Mean him good, or mean him harm,
Wheresoever fate may bring you,
The vile snake will always sting you.

[1]purlieus of = area near

3 Youth and Age

Read the two poems below and then answer **both part a) and part b).**

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on part a) and 30 minutes on part b).

a) Compare how these poems present an adult's thoughts about a young person.

You should consider:

- ideas and attitudes in each poem
- tone and atmosphere in each poem
- the effects of the language and structure used.

[20]

AND

b) Explore in detail **one** other poem from your anthology which presents concerns about young people.

[20]

Midnight on the Great Western by Thomas Hardy

In the third-class seat sat the journeying boy,
And the roof-lamp's oily flame
Played down on his listless form and face,
Bewrapt past knowing to what he was going,
Or whence he came.

In the band of his hat the journeying boy
Had a ticket stuck; and a string
Around his neck bore the key of his box,
That twinkled gleams of the lamp's sad beams
Like a living thing.

What past can be yours, O journeying boy
Towards a world unknown,
Who calmly, as if incurious quite
On all at stake, can undertake
This plunge alone?

Knows your soul a sphere, O journeying boy,
Our rude realms far above,
Whence with spacious vision you mark and mete
This region of sin that you find you in,
But are not of?

Childhood by Edna Jacques

She does not know that rooms are bleak and bare,
That poverty dwells with us all the while;
It is enough for her that I am there
To praise her little deeds, to sing and smile.

She does not know that heartache hovers near
Above the place where lie her dolls asleep,
That eyes grow wide and dark with naked fear
And life seems such a tired trust to keep.

Sunlight to her is earth's most precious gold,
Daisies and buttercups are jewels rare,
A clump of mignonette[1] is wealth untold,
Her crown a wreath of flowers in her hair.

No banquet hall in all the bounteous land
Has half the glory of a picnic spread
Out on a shining beach, with sun and sand,
Wind in her face, and seagulls overhead.

Oh, may our hearts be glad for common things,
Whitecaps at sea and tattered driftwood piled,
Finding in these the peace that Heaven brings.
Grant us the simple wisdom of a child.

[1]mignonette = a garden herb

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