OXFORD

INTERNATIONAL
AQA EXAMINATIONS

INTERNATIONAL GCSE
ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paper 2A Poetry and Unseen texts

Monday 13 May 2019 07:00 GMT Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an Oxford International AQA Examinations 16-page answer book
- a clean copy of the Oxford International AQA Poetry Anthology *People and Places*.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Do **not** use pencil.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- Answer **one** question from Section A.
- Answer the question in Section B **and** the question in Section C.
- For Section A, you must have a clean copy of the Oxford International AQA Poetry Anthology *People and Places* in the examination room. The text must **not** be annotated and must **not** contain additional notes or materials.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 30 marks available for each section.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.

Section A: Poetry Anthology: People and Places

Answer **one** question from Section A.

Either

0 1 Read the poem below.

Answer the question that follows.

London

I wander through each chartered street,
Near where the chartered Thames does flow,
And mark in every face I meet
Marks of weakness, marks of woe.

In every cry of every man,
In every infant's cry of fear,
In every voice, in every ban,
The mind-forged manacles I hear:

How the chimney-sweeper's cry
Every black'ning church appalls,
And the hapless soldier's sigh
Runs in blood down palace walls.

But most through midnight streets I hear
How the youthful harlot's curse
Blasts the new-born infant's tear,
And blights with plagues the marriage hearse.

William Blake

Write about the ways that poets present places in *London* and **one** other poem from *People and Places*.

[30 marks]

or

0 2 Write about **one or more** poems from *People and Places* in which you admire the ways that language and structure are used. Explain why you admire the writing.

[30 marks]

Section B: Unseen poetry

Answer Question 3.

0 3 Read the poem below.

Answer the question that follows.

Evans

Evans? Yes, many a time
I came down his bare flight
Of stairs into the gaunt kitchen
With its wood fire, where crickets sang
Accompaniment to the black kettle's
Whine, and so into the cold
Dark to smother in the thick tide
Of night that drifted about the walls
Of his stark farm on the hill ridge.

It was not the dark filling my eyes
And mouth appalled me; not even the drip
Of rain like blood from the one tree
Weather-tortured. It was the dark
Silting the veins of that sick man
I left stranded upon the vast
And lonely shore of his bleak bed.

R.S. Thomas

How does the poet present *Evans*?

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section C

Section C: Unseen prose

Answer Question 4.

0 4 In this passage from *The Adventure of the Speckled Band* by Arthur Conan Doyle, Helen Stoner is describing to Sherlock Holmes the night of her sister's death.

Read the passage below and then answer the question that follows.

> The wind was howling outside, and the rain was beating and splashing against the windows. Suddenly, amidst all the hubbub of the gale, there burst forth the wild scream of a terrified woman. I knew that it was my sister's voice. I sprang from my bed, wrapped a shawl round me, and rushed into the corridor. As I opened my door I seemed to hear a low whistle, such as my sister described, and a few moments later a clanging sound, as if a mass of metal had fallen. As I ran down the passage my sister's door was unlocked, and revolved slowly upon its hinges. I stared at it horror-stricken, not knowing what was about to issue from it. By the light of the corridor lamp I saw my sister appear at the opening, her face blanched with terror, her hands groping for help, her whole figure swaying to and fro like that of a drunkard. I ran to her and threw my arms round her, but at that moment her knees seemed to give way and she fell to the ground. She writhed as one who is in terrible pain, and her limbs were dreadfully convulsed. At first I thought that she had not recognized me, but as I bent over her she suddenly shrieked out in a voice which I shall never forget, "Oh, my God! Helen! It was the band! The speckled band!" There was something else which she would fain have said, and she stabbed with her finger into the air in the direction of the Doctor's room, but a fresh convulsion seized her and choked her words.

Describe the atmosphere that Conan Doyle creates in this extract. How does he create this atmosphere by the ways that he writes?

[30 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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