AQA

GCSE
ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paper 2 Modern Texts and Poetry

Friday 26 May 2017 Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes

Materials
For this paper you must have:
- An AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions
- Answer **one** question from **Section A**, **one** question from **Section B** and **both** questions in **Section C.**
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- Use black ink or black ballpoint pen. Do **not** use pencil.
- 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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Section A: Modern prose or drama

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

JB Priestley: *An Inspector Calls*

EITHER

0 1 How far does Priestley present Mrs Birling as an unlikeable character?

Write about:

- what Mrs Birling says and does in the play
- how Priestley presents her by the ways he writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

0 2 How does Priestley use the character of the Inspector to suggest ways that society could be improved?

Write about:

- what society is shown to be like in the play and how it might be improved
- how Priestley presents society through what the Inspector says and does.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Willy Russell: *Blood Brothers*

OR

0 3 How does Russell explore the effects of Mickey's and Edward's different upbringings?

Write about:

- how the boys' upbringings have different effects on their lives
- how Russell presents these effects by the ways he writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

0 4 What kind of mother does Russell show Mrs Johnstone to be in *Blood Brothers*?

Write about:

- what Mrs Johnstone says and does in the play
- how Russell presents Mrs Johnstone by the ways he writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

Alan Bennett: *The History Boys*

OR

0 5 'Dakin is presented as the most confident of the boys in the Oxbridge class.'

How far do you agree with this view of Dakin?

Write about:

- what Dakin says and does and what others say about him in the play
- how Bennett presents Dakin by the ways he writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

0 6 Bennett has said about *The History Boys*, 'It seemed to me to be about two sorts of teaching – or two teachers, anyway'.

How does Bennett present Hector and Irwin as different kinds of teacher?

Write about:

- what Hector and Irwin say and do in their work
- how Bennett presents their differences by the ways he writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Dennis Kelly: *DNA*

OR

0 7 How far does Kelly present Leah as a morally good character in *DNA*?

Write about:

- what Leah says and does in the play
- how Kelly presents Leah throughout the play.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

0 8 What ideas about society is Kelly suggesting by calling the play *DNA*?

Write about:

- some of the different ideas about DNA in the play
- how Kelly presents these ideas by the ways he writes.

[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 How does Stephens present Judy as a mother?

Write about:

- what Judy says and does in the play
- how Stephens presents Judy as a mother by the ways he writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

1 0 How does Stephens present Christopher facing up to new challenges in the play?

Write about:

- what Christopher says and does when he faces a new challenge
- how Stephens presents Christopher in these situations.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Shelagh Delaney: *A Taste of Honey*

OR

1 1 ‘I’m an extraordinary person’ says Jo.

How far does Delaney present Jo as an extraordinary young woman?

Write about:

- what Jo says and does that could be considered extraordinary
- how Delaney presents Jo by the ways she writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

1 2 What ideas about happiness does Delaney explore in the play *A Taste of Honey*?

Write about:

- how Delaney uses different characters and their ideas about happiness
- how Delaney presents these ideas by the ways she writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

William Golding: *Lord of the Flies*

OR

1 3 How does Golding present Ralph as a leader in *Lord of the Flies*?

Write about:

- what Ralph says and does as a leader
- how Golding uses Ralph to explore ideas about leadership.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

1 4 'Ralph wept for the end of innocence, the darkness of man's heart…'.

What does Golding have to say about human nature in *Lord of the Flies*?

Write about:

- how the boys behave on the island
- how Golding uses the boys' behaviour to explore ideas about human nature.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

AQA Anthology: *Telling Tales*

OR

1 5 How do writers present difficult relationships in 'Korea' and in **one** other story from *Telling Tales*?

Write about:

- the difficult relationships in the **two** stories
- how the writers present these relationships by the ways they write.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

1 6 How do writers present unpleasant childhood experiences in 'The Darkness Out There' and in **one** other story from *Telling Tales*?

Write about:

- the details of the unpleasant childhood experiences in the **two** stories
- how the writers present these experiences.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

George Orwell: *Animal Farm*

OR

1 7 ‘Orwell creates a shocking and unexpected ending to *Animal Farm.*’

How far do you agree with this statement?

Write about:

- what happens towards the end of the novel
- how Orwell presents the ending.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

1 8 How does Orwell use the character of Snowball to explore ideas about leadership in *Animal Farm*?

Write about:

- what Snowball says and does and what happens to him
- how Orwell presents Snowball.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Kazuo Ishiguro: *Never Let Me Go*

OR

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

Write about:

- what Ruth says and does that could be seen as selfish
- how Ishiguro presents Ruth by the ways he writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

2 0 How far do you agree that Ishiguro creates 'a nightmarish vision of society' in *Never Let Me Go*?

Write about:

- what kind of society Ishiguro presents in the novel
- how Ishiguro presents this society by the ways he writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

Meera Syal: *Anita and Me*

OR

2 1 How does Syal present Meena's relationship with her mother?

Write about:

- Meena's feelings for her mother and how Meena behaves with her
- how Syal presents this relationship by the ways she writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

2 2 How does Syal show that their Punjabi heritage is important to Meena's family?

Write about:

- Meena's family, their traditions, and their behaviour
- how Syal presents the family's heritage by the ways she writes.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Stephen Kelman: *Pigeon English*

OR

2 3 How does Kelman present London as a violent place for young people in *Pigeon English*?

Write about:

- some of the violence featured in the novel
- how Kelman presents London as a violent place for young people.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

OR

2 4 How does Kelman present Harrison's relationships with other teenagers in *Pigeon English*?

Write about:

- the different relationships Harrison has with other teenagers
- how Kelman presents these relationships by the ways he writes.

[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 growing up in 'Mother, any distance' and in **one** other poem from 'Love and relationships'.

Mother, any distance

Mother, any distance greater than a single span
requires a second pair of hands.
You come to help me measure windows, pelmets, doors,
the acres of the walls, the prairies of the floors.

You at the zero-end, me with the spool of tape, recording
length, reporting metres, centimetres back to base, then leaving
up the stairs, the line still feeding out, unreeling
years between us. Anchor. Kite.

I space-walk through the empty bedrooms, climb
the ladder to the loft, to breaking point, where something
has to give;
two floors below your fingertips still pinch
the last one-hundredth of an inch ... I reach
towards a hatch that opens on an endless sky
to fall or fly.

Simon Armitage

[30 marks]

Turn over for the question on the Power and conflict cluster

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 effects of war in 'Bayonet Charge' and in **one** other poem from 'Power and conflict'.

Bayonet Charge

Suddenly he awoke and was running – raw
In raw-seamed hot khaki, his sweat heavy,
Stumbling across a field of clods towards a green hedge
That dazzled with rifle fire, hearing
Bullets smacking the belly out of the air –
He lugged a rifle numb as a smashed arm;
The patriotic tear that had brimmed in his eye
Sweating like molten iron from the centre of his chest, –

In bewilderment then he almost stopped –
In what cold clockwork of the stars and the nations
Was he the hand pointing that second? He was running
Like a man who has jumped up in the dark and runs
Listening between his footfalls for the reason
Of his still running, and his foot hung like
Statuary in mid-stride. Then the shot-slashed furrows

Threw up a yellow hare that rolled like a flame
And crawled in a threshing circle, its mouth wide
Open silent, its eyes standing out.
He plunged past with his bayonet toward the green hedge,
King, honour, human dignity, etcetera
Dropped like luxuries in a yelling alarm
To get out of that blue crackling air
His terror's touchy dynamite.

Ted Hughes

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section C

Section C: Unseen poetry

Answer **both** questions in this section.

Autumn

Autumn arrives
Like an experienced robber
Grabbing the green stuff
Then cunningly covering his tracks
With a deep multitude
Of colourful distractions.
And the wind,
The wind is his accomplice
Putting an air of chaos
Into the careful diversions
So branches shake
And dead leaves are suddenly blown
In the faces of inquisitive strangers.
The theft chills the world,
Changes the temper of the earth
Till the normally placid sky
Glows red with a quiet rage.

Alan Bold

2 7 . 1 In 'Autumn', how does the poet present the effects of the season of autumn?

[24 marks]

Today

If ever there were a spring day so perfect,
so uplifted by a warm intermittent breeze

that it made you want to throw
open all the windows in the house

and unlatch the door to the canary's cage,
indeed, rip the little door from its jamb*,

a day when the cool brick paths
and the garden bursting with peonies**

seemed so etched in sunlight
that you felt like taking

a hammer to the glass paperweight
on the living room end table,

releasing the inhabitants
from their snow-covered cottage

so they could walk out,
holding hands and squinting

into this larger dome of blue and white,
well, today is just that kind of day.

Billy Collins

* jamb – the sides of a doorway or opening
** peonies – flowers

2 7 . 2 In both 'Today' and 'Autumn' the speakers describe attitudes towards the seasons.

What are the similarities and/or differences between the ways the poets present these attitudes?

[8 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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