



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2009

English Literature (Specification B)

LITB1

Unit 1 Aspects of Narrative

Wednesday 14 January 2009 9.00 am to 11.00 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 2 hours

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is LITB1.
- Answer **two** questions. Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- In your response to this paper you must write about **four** different texts: **two** prose and **two** poetry texts. At least **one** of the prose texts you write about must have been written after 1990.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 84.
- The texts prescribed for this paper **may** be taken into the examination room. Texts taken into the examination must be clean: that is, free from annotation.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend **one** hour on Section A and **one** hour on Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question from this section. You must answer **both** parts of the question.

You are advised to spend **one** hour on this section.

EITHER***Selected Poems – W.H. Auden***

- 1 (a) Look again at the first seven stanzas of ‘Ode’ and write about how Auden opens the poem. (21 marks)
- (b) Is ‘Ode’ simply a poem about politics? (21 marks)

OR***Selected Poems – Robert Browning***

- 2 (a) Write about the ways Browning tells the story in lines 1–39 of ‘Fra Lippo Lippi’. (21 marks)
- (b) “‘Fra Lippo Lippi’ is about the significance of art in a civilised society.”
How do you respond to this view of the poem? (21 marks)

OR***The Rime of the Ancient Mariner – Samuel Taylor Coleridge***

- 3 (a) Write about the ways that Coleridge tells the story in Part III of the poem. (21 marks)
- (b) How do you respond to the idea that the most terrifying aspect of the mariner’s experience is the game of dice played by Death and Life-in-Death? (21 marks)

OR***Selected Poems – Thomas Hardy***

- 4 (a) How does Hardy use voices in ‘The Going’ and ‘The Haunter’? (21 marks)
- (b) “The intensity of emotional experience is what is most striking about Hardy’s poetry.”
What do you think about this view? (21 marks)

OR***Lamia, The Eve of St Agnes, La Belle Dame Sans Merci – John Keats***

- 5 (a) How does Keats tell the story in stanzas 9–16 of ‘The Eve of St Agnes’? (21 marks)
- (b) Some readers view Porphyro as the poem’s hero; some see him as no more than a seducer.
- How do you respond to his character and role in the poem as a whole? (21 marks)

OR***Selected Poems – Christina Rossetti***

- 6 (a) Write about the ways Rossetti tells the story in ‘Maude Clare’. (21 marks)
- (b) “The main interest of ‘Maude Clare’ is the contrast between Maude Clare and Nell.”
- What do you think of this view? (21 marks)

OR***Selected Poems – Alfred Tennyson***

- 7 (a) Look again at ‘Godiva’ and write about Tennyson’s narrative method in this poem. (21 marks)
- (b) “The women in Tennyson’s poems are presented as victims of a male world.”
- How far do you agree? (21 marks)

OR***Birdsong – Sebastian Faulks***

- 8 (a) Write about how Faulks tells the story in the first section of Part 2, beginning with the words “JACK FIREBRACE LAY forty-five feet underground ...” and ending with the words “... a rising melody under the scratch of a thick gramophone needle.” (pages 121–138 Vintage Edition). (21 marks)
- (b) Some readers think that the tunnels in the novel represent the one-way journey from cradle to grave.
- What do you think is significant about Faulks’s use of tunnels in *Birdsong* as a whole? (21 marks)

Turn over ►

OR

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* – Mark Haddon**

- 9 (a) Write about Haddon’s method of telling the story in Chapters 2, 3 and 5. (21 marks)
- (b) *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* won the Guardian Children’s Fiction prize but is it just a children’s story? (21 marks)

OR

***Small Island* – Andrea Levy**

- 10 (a) How does Levy tell the story in Chapter 2? (21 marks)
- (b) To what extent can a reader sympathise with Gilbert in the novel as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

***The Kite Runner* – Khaled Hosseini**

- 11 (a) Write about the ways Hosseini tells the story in Chapter 10. (21 marks)
- (b) What significance do journeys have in *The Kite Runner* as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

***Enduring Love* – Ian McEwan**

- 12 (a) How does McEwan tell the story in Chapter 19? (21 marks)
- (b) How far do you agree with the claim that McEwan is “a master of surprises” in *Enduring Love*? (21 marks)

OR

The God of Small Things – Arundhati Roy

- 13 (a) How does Roy tell the story in Chapter 21? (21 marks)
- (b) “*The God of Small Things* is primarily a story about the desperate desire of human beings to be loved.”
- What do you think of this view? (21 marks)

OR

Digging to America – Anne Tyler

- 14 (a) Write about some of the ways Tyler tells the story in Chapter 2. (21 marks)
- (b) “Maryam’s story is ultimately the most engaging in the whole of *Digging to America*.”
- What do you think of this view? (21 marks)

OR

The Great Gatsby – F Scott Fitzgerald

- 15 (a) Write about some of the ways Fitzgerald tells the story in Chapter 3. (21 marks)
- (b) “Gatsby’s world is corrupt but ultimately glamorous.”
- How do you respond to this view of the novel? (21 marks)

OR

Dubliners – James Joyce

- 16 (a) Write about the ways Joyce tells the story in ‘A Mother’. (21 marks)
- (b) Some readers condemn Mrs Kearney for her greed; some admire her defiance.
- How do you respond to her character and role? (21 marks)

Turn over ►

OR***Pride and Prejudice* – Jane Austen**

17 (a) How does Austen tell the story in Chapter 16? (21 marks)

(b) Some readers see Wickham simply as a villain.

How do you respond to his character and role in *Pride and Prejudice* as a whole?

(21 marks)

OR***Great Expectations* – Charles Dickens**

18 (a) How does Dickens tell the story in Chapter 34? (21 marks)

(b) How far do you think that *Great Expectations* is a condemnation of the privileged classes?

(21 marks)

END OF SECTION A

SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section. You must **not** answer on the text used in **Section A**.

You are advised to spend **one** hour on this section.

- EITHER** **19** Writers often choose their titles carefully to allow for different potential meanings.
- Write about some potential meanings of titles in the **three** texts you have studied.
(42 marks)
- OR** **20** Write about the significance of **one** or **two** key events in each of the **three** texts you have studied.
(42 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page