



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
June 2011

# English Literature (Specification B)

## LITB1

### Unit 1 Aspects of Narrative

Monday 23 May 2011 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.

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**Section A**

Choose **one** text from this section. Answer **both** parts of the question.

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

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

**0 | 1** Write about Auden’s narrative methods in ‘1<sup>st</sup> September 1939’. (21 marks)

**AND**

**0 | 2** “The shadow of death hangs over all of Auden’s poetry.”  
How do you respond to this view? (21 marks)

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

**0 | 3** Write about the ways Browning tells the story in ‘Porphyria’s Lover’. (21 marks)

**AND**

**0 | 4** How far would you agree with the view that in Browning’s poems women are important only because they reveal the characters of men? (21 marks)

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

**0 | 5** Write about the ways Coleridge tells the story in Part 6 of the poem. (21 marks)

**AND**

**0 | 6** How do you respond to the view that ‘The Rime of the Ancient Mariner’ is “so mystifying, it simply befuddles and confuses the reader”? (21 marks)

OR

***Selected Poems – Thomas Hardy***

0	7	Write about the ways Hardy tells the story in 'Your Last Drive'.	(21 marks)
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AND

0	8	What significance do you think places have in Hardy's poetry?	(21 marks)
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OR

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

0	9	How does Keats tell the story in stanzas 1–8 of 'The Eve of St Agnes'?	(21 marks)
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AND

1	0	What do you think is significant about settings in 'The Eve of St Agnes' as a whole?	(21 marks)
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OR

***Selected Poems – Christina Rossetti***

1	1	Write about the ways Rossetti tells the story in lines 1–54 of 'A Royal Princess'.	(21 marks)
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AND

1	2	How far do you agree with the view that an overwhelming sadness hangs over Rossetti's poems?	(21 marks)
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OR

***Selected Poems – Alfred Tennyson***

1	3	How does Tennyson tell the story in lines 99–144 of 'The Lotos-Eaters and Choric Song'?	(21 marks)
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AND

1	4	How far do you agree with the view that 'The Lotos-Eaters and Choric Song' is a condemnation of drug-taking?	(21 marks)
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Turn over ►

OR

***Birdsong* – Sebastian Faulks**

1 | 5

Write about how Faulks tells the story in the section of Part 2 beginning with the words “STEPHEN’S SECTION OF THE LINE HAD BEEN ...” and ending with the words “‘Get this man’s blood off me.’” (pages 145–156 Vintage Edition). (Page numbers may vary in other editions. The relevant section will be found approximately 25–36 pages after the beginning of Part Two of the novel.) (21 marks)

AND

1 | 6

To what extent do you agree with the view that, despite the horror and misery that Stephen suffers, it is difficult for readers to sympathise with him in *Birdsong* as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

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

1 | 7

Write about Haddon’s method of telling the story in Chapters 73 and 79. (21 marks)

AND

1 | 8

To what extent is it possible to sympathise with Christopher’s parents in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

***Small Island* – Andrea Levy**

1 | 9

How does Levy tell the story in the Chapter 3? (21 marks)

AND

2 | 0

To what extent can *Small Island* be labelled a love story? (21 marks)

OR

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

2 | 1

Write about the ways Hosseini tells the story in Chapter 2. (21 marks)

AND

2 | 2

How far do you agree that the most moving moments in *The Kite Runner* are those that Amir and Hassan spend together as children? (21 marks)

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OR

***Enduring Love – Ian McEwan***

2	3
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 How does McEwan tell the story in Chapter 22? (21 marks)

AND

2	4
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 “It is ridiculous to argue that McEwan makes Jed Parry anything other than terrifying.”  
What do you think of this view? (21 marks)

OR

***The God of Small Things – Arundhati Roy***

2	5
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 How does Roy tell the story in Chapter 12? (21 marks)

AND

2	6
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 Some readers think that, like kathakali, in *The God of Small Things* Roy gives her readers the sense of entering a story already known.  
What significance do you think kathakali has in the novel? (21 marks)

OR

***Digging to America – Anne Tyler***

2	7
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 Write about some of the ways Tyler tells the story in Chapter 10. (21 marks)

AND

2	8
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 Some readers think that the ending of the novel “catches you by the throat, ambushes your emotions”.  
What do you think about this view? (21 marks)

Turn over ►

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OR

***The Great Gatsby* – F. Scott Fitzgerald**

2	9
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 Write about some of the ways Fitzgerald tells the story in Chapter 1. (21 marks)

AND

3	0
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 Some readers are irritated by Nick Carraway as a narrator.  
What is your view of Fitzgerald's use of Nick Carraway as a narrator? (21 marks)

OR

***Dubliners* – James Joyce**

3	1
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 Write about the ways Joyce tells the story in 'The Dead'. (21 marks)

AND

3	2
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 To what extent do you agree with the view that 'The Dead' is primarily about Irish hospitality? (21 marks)

OR

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

3	3
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 How does Austen tell the story in Chapter 13? (21 marks)

AND

3	4
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 Like Mr Bennet, some readers delight in Mr Collins's stupidity.  
How do you respond to the character and role of Mr Collins in *Pride and Prejudice* as a whole? (21 marks)

OR

***Great Expectations* – Charles Dickens**

**3 | 5**

How does Dickens tell the story in Chapter 58?

(21 marks)

AND

**3 | 6**

Some readers think the marriages that take place in the novel merely highlight Pip's isolation.

What significance do you think these marriages have in *Great Expectations* as a whole?  
(21 marks)

**END OF SECTION A**

**Turn over ►**

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**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.

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**EITHER**

3	7
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“In narratives, what we are not told is just as important as what we are told.”

Write about the significance of the gaps or of the untold stories in the narratives of the **three** writers you have studied. *(42 marks)*

**OR**

3	8
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Write about the significance of descriptive language as it is used by each of the **three** writers you have studied. *(42 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**