

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
General Certificate of Education Examination

SUMMER 1972

ORDINARY LEVEL

English Literature

Syllabus B

Two and a half hours

Answer FIVE questions, choosing at least one but not more than two from each of the Sections A, B, and C. If two questions are attempted in Section B, one of these must be Question 19, the Unseen Poem. Not more than ONE question may be answered on any one set book. All questions carry equal marks.

Candidates are reminded of the necessity for good English and orderly presentation in their answers.

Section A

Not more than TWO questions may be answered from this section.
Not more than ONE question may be answered on any one set book.

KING JOHN

1. 'Naught shall make us rue
If England to itself do rest but true.'
Explain how the Bastard's final words have been borne out by the events in the play.
2. Give an account of the part played by Cardinal Pandulph, showing how he influences what happens in the play.

ROMEO AND JULIET

3. How far would you agree that both Romeo and Juliet, by their youth and inexperience, help to bring about their own tragic end?
4. Explain the importance of the parts played by any two of the following characters. Show in what ways they heighten the tragedy for you.
 - (a) Friar Lawrence
 - (b) Tybalt
 - (c) Mercutio
 - (d) Paris.

SEAN O'CASEY: JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK

5. The eight residents of the tenement house provide a wide range of human types. Choose three very different characters (at least one of whom should not be a member of the Boyle family), and show briefly how they reveal themselves in what they say and do.
6. 'Blessed Virgin, where were you when me darlin' son was riddled with bullets? Sacred Heart of Jesus, take away our hearts of stone, and give us hearts of flesh! Take away this murderin' hate, an' give us Thine own eternal love!' These last words of Juno are an almost exact repetition of Mrs Tancred's speech earlier. Why did O'Casey make Juno repeat these earlier lines? Explain what has happened in the meantime to bring her to a deeper understanding of human suffering.

J. B. PRIESTLEY: *TIME AND THE CONWAYS*
AND OTHER PLAYS

- Q 7. By reference to the play you have studied, show how the tensions and conflicts of families affect the lives of any *two* of the characters. *Shida & Eric.*
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8. By reference to the play you have studied, show how the *setting* of the action in place and time is important.
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Section B

Not more than TWO questions may be answered from this section. If two are attempted, one of the questions chosen must be Question 19, the Unseen Poem.

EDWARD THOMAS: *SELECTED POEMS*

9. 'His poems reveal both acute awareness of the sights and sounds of Nature and profound insight into his own moods.' Give an account of *two* poems, each of which shows *both* qualities.
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10. What do you find interesting and typical of Edward Thomas in the following poem? Make comparisons with other prescribed poems in your answer.

THE LANE

Some day, I think, there will be people enough
In Froxfield to pick all the blackberries
Out of the hedges of Green Lane, the straight
Broad lane where now September hides herself
In bracken and blackberry, harebell and dwarf gorse.
To-day, where yesterday a hundred sheep
Were nibbling, halcyon bells shake to the sway
Of waters that no vessel ever sailed . . .

It is a kind of spring: the chaffinch tries
His song. For heat it is like summer too.
This might be winter's quiet. While the glint
Of hollies dark in the swollen hedges lasts –
One mile – and those bells ring, little I know
Or heed if time be still the same, until
The lane ends and once more all is the same.

D. H. LAWRENCE: *SELECTED POEMS*

11. By reference to *two* of the poems, show that when Lawrence writes of an animal or bird, he is interested in human reactions to the creature as well as in the animal or bird itself.
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12. 'But if I eat an apple, I like to eat it with all my senses awake.' Using material from *not more than three* of the poems, show how all Lawrence's senses are awake.
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STEPHEN SPENDER: *SELECTED POEMS*

13. From the poems prescribed, illustrate (a) Spender's sympathy with human suffering, and (b) his awareness of the fleeting nature of happiness and of life.
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14. What do you find interesting and typical of Stephen Spender in the following lines from *Ultima Ratio Regum*?

O too lightly he threw down his cap
 One day when the breeze threw petals from the trees.
 The unflowering wall sprouted with guns,
 Machine-gun anger quickly scythed the grasses;
 Flags and leaves fell from hands and branches;
 The tweed cap rotted in the nettles.

Consider his life which was valueless
 In terms of employment, hotel ledgers, news files.
 Consider. One bullet in ten thousand kills a man.
 Ask. Was so much expenditure justified
 On the death of one so young, and so silly
 Lying under the olive trees, O world, O death?

POETS OF OUR TIME

15. By close consideration of at least one poem by each poet, compare the vision of the countryside presented by R. S. Thomas and Laurie Lee.
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16. Which of the four prescribed poets have you most enjoyed reading? Mention the qualities that attract you and give examples from at least *three* poems by the poet you choose.
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THE SHELDON BOOK OF VERSE, BOOK III

17. Choose *two* poems by different poets dealing with *one* of the following topics:
- (a) ships
 - (b) animals
 - (c) country scenes
 - (d) town scenes.

Show the different approach of each poet to his subject.

18. Give an account of a poem which attracted you by the unexpected treatment of its subject. Make clear what you found attractive.

UNSEEN POEM

- ✓ 19. Read the following poem by Leonard Clark and answer the questions below it:

CHARLES

He was born blind with the snow on a winter's day;
 The moon blank as marble stared at him from the full,
 But his mother wept to see the vacant rolling of his eyes;
 His father dared not look and despairingly turned away;
 When hands like feelers fumbled in space to pull 5
 Fingers and lips to upturned face to recognise.
 Growing older he sat in the dark learning voices by heart,
 Carried on conversations with birds singing in summer
 trees,
 Heard brooks changing their sound at floodtime, the
 angled dart
 Of dazzled bats diving through twilight air. 10
 But music played by wandering band or organ at the fair
 Moved him to tears and fingers to invisible keys,
 So that at twenty-five he began to drown the village
 church
 With ceaseless tides of Handel, Bach and Mendelssohn,
 And magnified the Lord for seven-and-thirty years. 15
 With egg-shaped head he sat upright upon his perch,
 Praying on flute we might depart in peace,
 Triumphant came from Egypt on the bombardon,
 Made thunderstorms at will, stars race like charioteers,
 Captivity to turn, the harvest to increase; 20
 He brought sweet healing to the troubled mind,
 Fearlessly opened the eyes of the blind.

(Note: flute and bombardon are stops on a church organ).

- (a) By what words or phrases does the poet convey the parents' realisation of their child's blindness? Why do these phrases have such impact?
- (b) As a boy what did Charles gain and lose through his blindness?
- (c) Comment on the effectiveness of each of the following:
- dazzled bats (line 10);
 - invisible keys (line 12);
 - drown the village church (line 13);
 - magnified the Lord (line 15).
- (d) What is the mood of lines 18-20? How does the sound of the words help to express that mood?
- (e) Bring out the full significance of the final line.

Section C

Not more than TWO questions may be answered from this section.
Not more than ONE question may be answered on any one set book.

JANE AUSTEN: *EMMA*

20. Jane Austen uses apparently trivial incidents to reveal character. By a brief account of *three* such incidents, show how she does this.

21. 'Mr Woodhouse has habits of gentle selfishness and is never able to suppose that other people can feel differently from himself.' Give an account of an episode involving Emma which brings out these aspects of his character, and show what it reveals of Emma's character.

CHARLES DICKENS: *GREAT EXPECTATIONS*

22. Give an account of Pip's relationship with Estella. How did their positions change during the course of the novel?

23. Describe the part played by *two* of the following, making clear what each contributes to the interest of the story:

- (a) Compeyson
 - (b) Mrs Joe Gargery
 - (c) Uncle Pumblechook
 - (d) Herbert Pocket
 - (e) Biddy
 - (f) Mr Jaggers.
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CONRAD: *YOUTH and*
HEMINGWAY: *THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA*

24. Both Santiago and Captain Beard had given their lives to the sea. Explain what the sea meant to each of them, showing clearly the differences in their attitudes as well as the feelings they had in common.

25. Describe the relationship between Santiago and Manolin. What did each need from the other?

Turn over

D. H. LAWRENCE: *SONS AND LOVERS*

26. Do you find Paul a likeable character or not? Refer to what he says and does in support of your opinion.
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27. Describe the attitude of Mrs Morel (a) to Miriam, and (b) to Clara.
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J. B. PRIESTLEY: *THE GOOD COMPANIONS*

28. At several points in the novel unexpected meetings play a decisive part in the development of the plot. Choose *two* examples, give brief accounts of each, and show the importance of each in the story.
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29. Write a brief factual account of the troubles of 'The Black Week'. From their experiences and behaviour during the black week, what do we learn of the character of any *two* of the following:
- (a) Morton Mitcham
 - (b) Jimmy Nunn
 - (c) Jerry Jerningham
 - (d) Elsie Longstaff
 - (e) Mrs Joe Brundit?
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WILLIAM GOLDING: *LORD OF THE FLIES*

- X 30. By what means did Jack gain control of the 'tribe'? Trace the stages of his progress to absolute power.
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31. Write a character sketch of Piggy, showing clearly why the other boys disliked him.
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RICHARD CHURCH: *OVER THE BRIDGE*

32. Give an account of any one day of special interest in *Over the Bridge*.
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33. Write your impressions of the character and interests of the author's brother Jack, and of his influence on Richard Church.
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SHORT STORIES OF OUR TIME

34. 'I know just how she felt.' Choose a female character in one of the stories of whom you could say 'I know just how she felt', at some stage. Explain the circumstances and the feelings of the character with whom you are able to sympathise.
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- X 35. Each of the stories has its own special atmosphere e.g. of mystery, fear, excitement, pathos, suspense etc. Choose two stories and show how, in each, the author creates a particular atmosphere. *L.N.O.W.S.* } *L.O.M.P.*
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