



GCE A LEVEL

1720U40-1

FRIDAY, 14 JUNE 2024 – AFTERNOON

ENGLISH LITERATURE – A2 unit 4

Shakespeare

2 hours plus your additional time allowance

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink, black ball-point pen or your usual method.

Answer ONE question in Section A and ONE question in Section B.

The same Shakespeare play must be chosen for both Section A and Section B. Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Section A carries 45 marks and Section B carries 75 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You are advised to spend approximately 45 minutes on Section A and one hour 15 minutes on Section B.

You are reminded that assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

(Turn over)

KENT I had rather break mine own. Good my lord,
enter.

LEAR Thou think'st 'tis much that this
contentious storm
Invades us to the skin; so 'tis to thee,
But where the greater malady is fix'd,
The lesser is scarce felt. Thou'dst shun a
bear;
But if thy flight lay toward the roaring sea,
Thou'dst meet the bear i' th' mouth. When
the mind's free
The body's delicate; this tempest in my
mind
Doth from my senses take all feeling else,
Save what beats there. Filial ingratitude!
Is it not as this mouth should tear this hand
For lifting food to't? But I will punish home.
No, I will weep no more. In such a night,
To shut me out! Pour on; I will endure.
In such a night as this! O Regan, Goneril!
Your old kind father, whose frank heart
gave all!
O, that way madness lies; let me shun that;
No more of that.

KENT Good my lord, enter here.

The way which promises assurance; and
 Give up yourself merely to chance and
hazard

From firm security.

ANTHONY I'll fight at sea.

CLEOPATRA I have sixty sails, Caesar none better.

ANTHONY Our overplus of shipping will we burn,
 And, with the rest full-mann'd, from th'
head of Actium

Beat th' approaching Caesar. But if we fail,
 We then can do't at land.

Enter a Messenger.

Thy business?

MESSENGER The news is true, my lord: he is descried;
 Caesar has taken Toryne.

ANTHONY Can he be there in person? 'Tis
impossible –
 Strange that his power should be.

Canidius,
 Our nineteenth legions thou shalt hold by
land,
 And our twelve thousand horse. We'll to
our ship.

Away, my Thetis!

(Act 3, Scene vii)

(Turn over)

OR,

Hamlet

3. With close reference to the language and imagery in this extract, analyse how Shakespeare presents Hamlet and the Ghost at this point in the play.

[45 marks]

GHOST ...O, horrible! O, horrible! most horrible!
 If thou hast nature in thee, bear it not;
 Let not the royal bed of Denmark be
 A couch for luxury and damned incest.
 But, howsomever thou pursuest this act,
 Taint not thy mind, nor let thy soul contrive
 Against thy mother aught; leave her to
heaven,
 And to those thorns that in her bosom lodge
 To prick and sting her. Fare thee well at
once.
 The glowworm shows the matin to be near,
 And gins to pale his uneffectual fire.
 Adieu, adieu, adieu! Remember me. [EXIT.

HAMLET O all you host of heaven! O earth! What
else?
 And shall I couple hell? O, fie! Hold, hold, my
heart;
 And you, my sinews, grow not instant old,

(Turn over)

OR,

King Henry IV Part 1

4. With close reference to the language and imagery in this extract, analyse Shakespeare's presentation of Worcester's thoughts and feelings about the King at this point in the play. [45 marks]

WORCESTER It pleas'd your Majesty to turn your looks
 Of favour from myself and all our house;
 And yet I must remember you, my lord,
 We were the first and dearest of your
friends.
 For you my staff of office did I break
 In Richard's time, and posted day and
night
 To meet you on the way and kiss your hand,
 When yet you were in place and in account
 Nothing so strong and fortunate as I.
 It was myself, my brother, and his son,
 That brought you home, and boldly did
outdare
 The dangers of the time. You swore to us –
 And you did swear that oath at Doncaster
–
 That you did nothing purpose 'gainst the
state,
 Nor claim no further than your new-fall'n
right,

(Turn over)

OR,

The Tempest

5. With close reference to the language and imagery in this extract, examine Shakespeare's presentation of Caliban at this point in the play.

[45 marks]

PROSPERO Thou poisonous slave, got by the devil
himself
Upon thy wicked dam, come forth!

Enter CALIBAN.

CALIBAN As wicked dew as e'er my mother brush'd
With raven's feather from unwholesome
fen
Drop on you both! A south-west blow on ye
And blister you all o'er!

PROSPERO For this, be sure, to-night thou shalt have
cramps,
Side-stitches that shall pen thy breath up;
urchins
Shall, for that vast of night that they may
work,
All exercise on thee; thou shalt be pinch'd

(Turn over)

As thick as honeycomb, each pinch more
stinging

Than bees that made 'em.

CALIBAN

I must eat my dinner.

This island's mine, by Sycorax my mother,
Which thou tak'st from me. When thou
cam'st first,

Thou strok'st me and made much of me,
wouldst give me

Water with berries in't, and teach me how
To name the bigger light, and how the less,
That burn by day and night; and then I lov'd
thee,

And show'd thee all the qualities o' th' isle,
The fresh springs, brine-pits, barren place
and fertile.

Curs'd be I that did so! All the charms
Of Sycorax, toads, beetles, bats, light on you!
For I am all the subjects that you have,
Which first was mine own king; and here you
sty me

In this hard rock, whiles you do keep from me
The rest o' th' island.

PROSPERO

Thou most lying slave,
Whom stripes may move, not kindness! I
have us'd thee,
Filth as thou art, with human care, and
lodg'd thee

(Turn over)

14

**In mine own cell, till thou didst seek to
violate
The honour of my child.**

(Act 1, Scene ii)

(Turn over)

SECTION B: SHAKESPEARE ESSAY

Answer ONE question in this section.

In your response you are required to:

- **analyse how meanings are shaped**
- **demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received**
- **show how different interpretations have informed your reading.**

King Lear

EITHER,

- 6. How far would you agree that “the chief focus of the play **King Lear** is to show us how errors of judgement have fatal consequences”? Your response must include close reference to relevant contexts. [75 marks]**

OR,

- 7. “We find it difficult to like or admire the younger characters in this play, and Shakespeare is unfairly critical of the old.” Discuss this view of the play **King Lear**. Your response must include close reference to relevant contexts. [75 marks]**

(Turn over)

Antony and Cleopatra

EITHER,

8. “Throughout the play, Shakespeare presents Antony and Cleopatra as equals, but we are left in no doubt at the end of the final act that Cleopatra is superior to Antony in every respect.” Discuss this view of the play **Antony and Cleopatra**, making close reference to relevant contexts.

[75 marks]

OR,

9. How far would you agree that “the central conflict in the play **Antony and Cleopatra** is not between Rome and Egypt but between duty and desire”? Your response must include close reference to relevant contexts. **[75 marks]**

(Turn over)

Hamlet

EITHER,

10. “In this powerful play, Shakespeare fails to draw a clear line between good and evil.” How far would you agree with this view of the play **Hamlet**? Your response must include close reference to relevant contexts. [75 marks]

OR,

11. “Shakespeare’s play **Hamlet** leaves us in no doubt that the individual is less important than the state.” Discuss this view of the play, making close reference to relevant contexts. [75 marks]

King Henry IV Part 1

EITHER,

- 12. How far would you agree that “Shakespeare’s chief focus in the play **King Henry IV Part 1** is to show the development of a future king”? Your response must include close reference to relevant contexts. [75 marks]**

OR,

- 13. “The tavern scenes in **King Henry IV Part 1** serve no function in the play other than to provide cheap entertainment for the audience.” Discuss this view of the play, making close reference to relevant contexts. [75 marks]**

The Tempest

EITHER,

- 14. How far would you agree that “the chief focus of *The Tempest* is the journey towards redemption and forgiveness”? Your response must include close reference to relevant contexts. [75 marks]**

OR,

- 15. “This play is quite simply a joyful celebration of the power of the natural world.” Examine this view of *The Tempest*, making close reference to relevant contexts. [75 marks]**

END OF PAPER