



**Surname** \_\_\_\_\_

**Forename(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Centre Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Candidate Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Candidate Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**I declare this is my own work.**

**GCSE**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing**

**8700/1**

**Tuesday 7 November 2023**

**Morning**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes**

**At the top of the page, write your surname and forename(s), your centre number, your candidate number and add your signature.**

**[Turn over]**



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**MATERIALS**

For this paper you must have:

- **SOURCE A** – provided as a separate insert.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Answer **ALL** questions.
- Use **black ink** or **black ball-point pen**.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.
- Do not write on blank pages.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must refer to the insert booklet provided.
- You must **NOT** use a dictionary.



**INFORMATION**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- There are 40 marks for SECTION A and 40 marks for SECTION B.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your READING in SECTION A.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your WRITING in SECTION B.

**ADVICE**

- You are advised to spend about 15 minutes reading through the source and all five questions you have to answer.
- You are advised to plan your answer to QUESTION 5 before you start to write.
- You should make sure you leave sufficient time to check your answers.

**DO NOT TURN OVER UNTIL TOLD TO DO SO**



**SECTION A: READING**

**Answer ALL questions in this section.**

**You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.**

**0 1**

**Read again the first part of the source, from LINES 1 TO 8.**

**List FOUR things about Roland from this part of the source. [4 marks]**

**1** \_\_\_\_\_

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**3** \_\_\_\_\_

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[Turn over]

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4



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Look in detail at this extract, from **LINES 9 TO 24** of the source:

**Extract from Possession by A.S. Byatt is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions.**

**The passage consists of wording taken from pages 1 and 2 of the novel.**

**How does the writer use language here to describe the book?**

**You could include the writer's choice of:**

- **words and phrases**
- **language features and techniques**
- **sentence forms.**

**[8 marks]**





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03

You now need to think about the **WHOLE** of the source.

This text is from the beginning of a novel.

How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader?

You could write about:

- what the writer focuses your attention on at the beginning of the source
- how and why the writer changes this focus as the source develops
- any other structural features that interest you.

[8 marks]

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**[Turn over]**



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**Focus this part of your answer on the second part of the source, from LINE 30 TO THE END.**

**A student said, “It is clear that the letters Roland finds within the book must be something special. The writer shows us that it is not surprising that Roland steals them.”**

**To what extent do you agree?**

**In your response, you could:**

- **consider your own impressions of the letters**
- **evaluate how the writer describes Roland’s reactions to finding the letters**
- **support your response with references to the text.**

**[20 marks]**

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**SECTION B: WRITING**

**You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.**

**Write in full sentences.**

**You are reminded of the need to plan your answer.**

**You should leave enough time to check your work at the end.**

**[Turn over]**



05

A magazine has asked for contributions for their creative writing section.

**EITHER**

Write a description of a library as suggested by this picture:



The picture shows a large, long room with a high ceiling. Along the two sides of the room there are several tall windows. Below the windows there are many shelves filled with books. On the floor either side of the room, there are many long desks where many



people can sit and work. There is an open space up the middle of the room so that people can walk from one end of the room to the other and access the desks and books. The ceiling is richly decorated with wood and plaster carvings. There is a painting of the sky and clouds in the middle of the ceiling. There are several glass chandeliers (lights) hanging from the ceiling and there are table lamps on the desks.

**OR**

**Write a story about discovering a hidden object.**

**(24 marks for content and organisation**

**16 marks for technical accuracy)**

**[40 marks]**

**[Turn over]**



**You are advised to plan your answer to QUESTION 5 before you start to write.**

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**END OF QUESTIONS**

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**BLANK PAGE**

For Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
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<b>TOTAL</b>	

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