



GCE AS/A LEVEL

2720U20-1



FRIDAY, 24 MAY 2024 – MORNING

ENGLISH LITERATURE – AS unit 2
Poetry Post-1900

2 hours

2720U201
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ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet and clean copies (no annotation) of the poetry texts you have studied for this unit.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer,

for example

0	1
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Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Section A carries 40 marks and Section B 80 marks.

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

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

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

Section A: Critical Analysis (open book)

Answer **one** question in this section.

You must have a clean copy (no annotation) of the poetry texts which you have studied. Only the prescribed editions must be used.

In your response, you are required to analyse how meanings are shaped.

Either,

Edward Thomas: *Selected Poems* (Faber)

0	1
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Re-read 'The Owl' on page 73. Explore the ways in which Thomas makes use of the owl in this poem. [40]

Or,

Alun Lewis: *Collected Poems* (Seren)

0	2
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Re-read 'The Rhondda' on page 89. Examine the ways in which Lewis depicts the effects of industrialisation in this poem. [40]

Or,

W.B. Yeats: *Poems selected by Seamus Heaney* (Faber)

0	3
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Re-read 'An Irish Airman Foresees his Death' on page 48. Discuss the ways in which Yeats portrays the airman's thoughts and feelings in this poem. [40]

Or,

Dannie Abse: *Welsh Retrospective* (Seren)

0	4
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Re-read 'Cricket Ball' on page 23. Explore the ways in which Abse presents memories in this poem. [40]

Or,

Ted Hughes: *Poems selected by Simon Armitage* (Faber)

0	5
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Re-read 'The Bull Moses' on pages 18–19. Examine the ways in which Hughes depicts power in this poem. [40]

Or,

Sylvia Plath: *Poems selected by Ted Hughes* (Faber)

0	6
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Re-read 'The Burnt-Out Spa' on pages 16–17. Explore the ways in which Plath creates mood and atmosphere in this poem. [40]

Or,

Philip Larkin: *The Whitsun Weddings* (Faber)

0	7
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Re-read the first two stanzas of 'The Whitsun Weddings' on page 18, from "That Whitsun..." to "...dismantled cars." Explore the ways in which Larkin portrays the journey in these lines. [40]

Or,

Carol Ann Duffy: *Mean Time* (Picador)

0	8
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Re-read 'The Good Teachers' on page 12. Examine the ways in which Duffy portrays the teachers in this poem. [40]

Or,

Seamus Heaney: *Field Work* (Faber)

0	9
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Re-read 'High Summer' on pages 41–42. Explore the ways in which Heaney creates mood and atmosphere in this poem. [40]

Or,

Owen Sheers: *Skirrid Hill* (Seren)

1	0
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Re-read 'The Farrier' on page 2. Explore the ways in which Sheers depicts work in this poem. [40]

Section B: Poetry Comparison (open book)

Answer **one** question in this section.

You must have a clean copy (no annotation) of the poetry texts which you have studied. Only the prescribed editions must be used.

Where prescribed sections of texts are indicated in brackets, **only poems from these sections** can be included in your response.

You must not choose or refer to any poems named in Section A in your response to Section B.

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
- explore connections across the set texts
- show how different interpretations have informed your reading.

Edward Thomas: *Selected Poems (Faber)*
(poems as listed in the specification)

Alun Lewis: *Collected Poems (Seren)*
(poems as listed in the specification)

Either,

1	1
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How far do you agree that Thomas and Lewis are alike in the ways in which they make use of the natural world? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

Or,

1	2
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“Their works primarily deal with the pain of separation.” In the light of this view, explore connections between the ways in which Thomas and Lewis depict separations. You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

W.B. Yeats: *Poems Selected by Seamus Heaney (Faber)*

(In the Seven Woods, The Green Helmet and Other Poems, Responsibilities, The Wild Swans at Coole, Michael Robartes and the Dancer, The Tower)

Dannie Abse: *Welsh Retrospective (Seren)*

Or,

1	3
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“Memorable individuals dominate their poetry.” In response to this view, explore connections between the ways in which Yeats and Abse write about the influence of individuals. You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

Or,

1	4
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How far do you agree that Yeats and Abse are alike in depicting conflict? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

Ted Hughes: *Poems selected by Simon Armitage (Faber)*

(all poems up to and including ‘Rain’ on pages 68–69)

Sylvia Plath: *Poems selected by Ted Hughes (Faber)*

Or,

1	5
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How far do you agree that Hughes and Plath are alike in the ways in which they depict the influence of surroundings? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

Or,

1	6
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“Much of their poetry deals with disturbing situations.” In response to this view, explore connections between the ways in which disturbing situations are depicted in the poetry of Hughes and Plath. You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

Philip Larkin: *The Whitsun Weddings* (Faber)**Carol Ann Duffy: *Mean Time* (Picador)****Or,**

1	7
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How far do you agree that Larkin and Duffy are alike in the ways in which they write about love? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

Or,

1	8
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“Both poets convey a sense of loneliness in their works.” In response to this view, explore connections between the ways in which loneliness is portrayed in the poetry of Larkin and Duffy. You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

Seamus Heaney: *Field Work* (Faber)**Owen Sheers: *Skirrid Hill* (Seren)****Or,**

1	9
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“Their response to nature is at the heart of their poetry.” In the light of this view, explore connections between the ways in which nature is depicted in the poetry of Heaney and Sheers. You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

Or,

2	0
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How far do you agree that Heaney and Sheers are alike in portraying sorrow? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts and give careful consideration to relevant contexts. [80]

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