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# GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

## Paper 2 Modern Texts and Poetry

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Date

Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes

### Materials

For this paper you must have:

- An AQA 16-page answer book.

### Instructions

- Answer **one** question from **Section A**, **one** question from **Section B** and **both** questions in **Section C**.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- Use black ink or black ballpoint pen. Do **not** use pencil.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 96.
- AO4 will be assessed in **Section A**. There are 4 marks available for AO4 in Section A in addition to 30 marks for answering the question. AO4 assesses the following skills: Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.
- There are 30 marks for **Section B** and 32 marks for **Section C**.

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**Section A: Modern prose or drama**

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

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**JB Priestley: *An Inspector Calls*****Either**

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How does Priestley present Gerald's relationships with women in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- the way Gerald treats women in the play
- how Priestley presents Gerald's relationships with women.

**[30 marks]**  
**AO4 [4 marks]**

**Or**

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How does Priestley use Eva Smith to represent poverty in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- what Eva's life is like in the play
- how Priestley uses Eva to represent the lives of poor people.

**[30 marks]**  
**AO4 [4 marks]**

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Or

**Power and conflict**

The poems you have studied are:

Percy Bysshe Shelley  
William Blake  
William Wordsworth  
Robert Browning  
Alfred Lord Tennyson  
Wilfred Owen  
Seamus Heaney  
Ted Hughes  
Simon Armitage  
Jane Weir  
Carol Ann Duffy  
Imtiaz Dharker  
Carol Rumens  
John Agard  
Beatrice Garland

Ozymandias  
London  
Extract from, The Prelude  
My Last Duchess  
The Charge of the Light Brigade  
Exposure  
Storm on the Island  
Bayonet Charge  
Remains  
Poppies  
War Photographer  
Tissue  
The Emigrée  
Checking Out Me History  
Kamikaze

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Compare how poets present the effects of conflict on people in 'Poppies' and in **one** other poem from 'Power and conflict'.

### Poppies

Three days before Armistice Sunday  
and poppies had already been placed  
on individual war graves. Before you left,  
I pinned one onto your lapel, crimped petals,  
5 spasms of paper red, disrupting a blockade  
of yellow bias binding around your blazer.

Sellotape bandaged around my hand,  
I rounded up as many white cat hairs  
as I could, smoothed down your shirt's  
10 upturned collar, steeled the softening  
of my face. I wanted to graze my nose  
across the tip of your nose, play at  
being Eskimos like we did when  
you were little. I resisted the impulse  
15 to run my fingers through the gelled  
blackthorns of your hair. All my words  
flattened, rolled, turned into felt,

slowly melting. I was brave, as I walked  
with you, to the front door, threw  
20 it open, the world overflowing  
like a treasure chest. A split second  
and you were away, intoxicated.  
After you'd gone I went into your bedroom,  
released a song bird from its cage.  
25 Later a single dove flew from the pear tree,  
and this is where it has led me,  
skirting the church yard walls, my stomach busy  
making tucks, darts, pleats, hat-less, without  
a winter coat or reinforcements of scarf, gloves.

30 On reaching the top of the hill I traced  
the inscriptions on the war memorial,  
leaned against it like a wishbone.  
The dove pulled freely against the sky,  
An ornamental stitch. I listened, hoping to hear  
35 your playground voice catching the wind.

Jane Weir

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section C

Turn over ►

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**Section C: Unseen poetry**Answer **both** questions in this section.

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**Children's Song**

We live in our own world,  
A world that is too small  
For you to stoop and enter  
Even on hands and knees,  
5 The adult subterfuge\*.  
And though you probe and pry  
With analytic eye,  
And eavesdrop all our talk  
With an amused look,  
10 You cannot find the centre  
Where we dance, where we play,  
Where life is still asleep  
Under the closed flower,  
Under the smooth shell  
15 Of eggs in the cupped nest  
That mock the faded blue  
Of your remoter heaven.

RS Thomas

\*subterfuge – deception

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In 'Children's Song' how does the poet present the ways children see their own secret world?

**[24 marks]**

**Lullaby**

Sleep little baby, clean as a nut,  
Your fingers uncurl and your eyes are shut.  
Your life was ours, which is with you.  
Go on your journey. We go too.

5 The bat is flying round the house  
Like an umbrella turned into a mouse.  
The moon is astonished and so are the sheep.  
Their bells have come to send you to sleep.

10 Oh be our rest, our hopeful start.  
Turn your head to my beating heart.  
Sleep little baby, clean as a nut,  
Your fingers uncurl and your eyes are shut.

John Fuller

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In both 'Lullaby' and 'Children's Song' the speakers describe attitudes towards childhood.

What are the similarities and/or differences between the ways the poets present these attitudes?

**[8 marks]****END OF QUESTIONS**