

A-level

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Paper 2 Exploring Conflict

Wednesday 5 June 2024

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book
- a copy of the set texts you have studied for Section A and Section B. These texts must **not** be annotated and must **not** contain additional notes or materials.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is **7707/2**.
- There are **two** sections:
Section A: Writing about Society
Section B: Dramatic Encounters
- Answer **three** questions in total: **two** questions from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 100.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets. There are 55 marks in total for the questions in Section A and 45 marks for the question in Section B.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

It is recommended that you spend 80 minutes on Section A and 70 minutes on Section B.

Section A**Writing about Society**

Answer on **one** text in this section.

Answer **both** questions on your chosen set text.

Either***Into the Wild* – Jon Krakauer**

0	1
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Read the section of Chapter 2,

from

‘Ken Thompson, the owner of an Anchorage auto-body shop, Gordon Samel, his employee, and their friend Ferdie Swanson, a construction worker, set out for the bus on September 6, 1992, stalking moose.’

to

‘You better call the troopers. There’s a man back in the bus by the Sushana. Looks like he’s been dead for a while.’

This describes the finding of Chris’s body by a group of local Alaskans and their notification of it to the State Troopers.

Recast the base text into an account that Ferdie Swanson gives to an Alaska State Trooper about the discovery of Chris’s body.

In your transformation you should consider:

- Swanson and his friends’ reactions to the discovery of Chris’s body during their intended hunting trip
- his interactions with the state trooper and his impressions of Chris’s final days in the bus.

You should write about 300 words.

[25 marks]

and

0	2
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Write a commentary explaining the decisions you have made in transforming the base text for this new account and the effects of reshaping Krakauer’s original description.

In your commentary you should:

- consider how you have used language to shape your intended meaning
- demonstrate the connections between the base text and your transformed text
- structure your commentary clearly to express your ideas.

You should write about 400 words.

[30 marks]

or

The Suspicions of Mr Whicher: or the Murder at Road Hill House – Kate Summerscale

0 3

Read the section of Chapter 18,

from

'In the summer of 1881 Whicher fell ill with gastritis and a stomach ulcer, and on 29 June, after his stomach wall was perforated, he died, aged sixty-six.'

to

'This love of flowers had originated with Jack Whicher's father, the Camberwell gardener, and seemed now to have been passed on through the first sixty years of the detective force, from man to man.'

This describes the lives and careers of the detectives Jack Whicher and Dolly Williamson after the Road Hill House murder case had concluded.

Recast the base text into an account that a detective inspector, who worked alongside Whicher and Williamson at Scotland Yard, gives to a new police officer.

In your transformation you should consider:

- the detective inspector's observations about the impact of the murder case on Whicher and Williamson
- the detective inspector's own experiences of policing and views about the detective force of the time.

You should write about 300 words.

[25 marks]

and

0 4

Write a commentary explaining the decisions you have made in transforming the base text for this new account and the effects of reshaping Summerscale's original description.

In your commentary you should:

- consider how you have used language to shape your intended meaning
- demonstrate the connections between the base text and your transformed text
- structure your commentary clearly to express your ideas.

You should write about 400 words.

[30 marks]

Turn over ►

or

***The Great Gatsby* – F. Scott Fitzgerald**

0 5

Read the section of Chapter 6,

from

‘It was a halt, too, in my association with his affairs.’

to

‘Tom and I shook hands, the rest of us exchanged a cool nod, and they trotted quickly down the drive, disappearing under the August foliage just as Gatsby, with hat and light overcoat in hand, came out the front door.’

This describes an unexpected visit by Tom Buchanan, Mr Sloane and an unnamed lady to Gatsby’s house.

Recast the base text into an account that Mr Sloane gives to another West Egg resident about this meeting with Gatsby.

In your transformation you should consider:

- Mr Sloane’s feelings about meeting Gatsby and his views of Gatsby’s character
- Mr Sloane’s own status within the wider social world of West Egg.

You should write about 300 words.

[25 marks]

and

0 6

Write a commentary explaining the decisions you have made in transforming the base text for this new account and the effects of reshaping Fitzgerald’s original description.

In your commentary you should:

- consider how you have used language to shape your intended meaning
- demonstrate the connections between the base text and your transformed text
- structure your commentary clearly to express your ideas.

You should write about 400 words.

[30 marks]

or

The Kite Runner – Khaled Hosseini

0 7

Read the section of Chapter 5,

from

‘Baba never missed Hassan’s birthday.’

to

‘Because that was the winter that Hassan stopped smiling.’

This describes Hassan’s birthday and Baba’s surprise gift of an operation to remove Hassan’s facial disfigurement.

Recast the base text into an account that Dr Kumar gives to a family member about his visit to Afghanistan.

In your transformation you should consider:

- Dr Kumar’s impressions of the relationships he observes at Baba’s house and family reactions to Hassan’s gift
- Dr Kumar’s experiences of visiting Afghanistan and his feelings about carrying out Hassan’s surgery.

You should write about 300 words.

[25 marks]

and

0 8

Write a commentary explaining the decisions you have made in transforming the base text for this new account and the effects of reshaping Hosseini’s original description.

In your commentary you should:

- consider how you have used language to shape your intended meaning
- demonstrate the connections between the base text and your transformed text
- structure your commentary clearly to express your ideas.

You should write about 400 words.

[30 marks]

Turn over ►

Section B**Dramatic Encounters**

Answer **one** question in this section.

Either***Othello* – William Shakespeare**

0	9
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Refer to Act 1 Sc 2,

beginning

‘Though in the trade of war I have slain men.’ and

ending

‘If he do resist, subdue him, at his peril.’

This interaction occurs at the beginning of the scene. Iago is informing Othello about Brabantio’s response to the news that his daughter Desdemona has married Othello without his knowledge.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Shakespeare presents characters’ conflicting sense of duty at different points in the play.

[45 marks]**or**

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Refer to Act 4 Sc 2,

beginning

‘What is the matter, lady?’ and

ending

‘If not, assure yourself I will seek satisfaction of you.’

This interaction occurs towards the end of the scene. Desdemona is speaking to Emilia and Iago about Othello’s recent treatment of her. After Desdemona and Emilia leave, Iago is joined by Roderigo, who suspects that Iago has been misleading him.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Shakespeare presents characters’ suspicions about others at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

All My Sons – Arthur Miller

1 1

Refer to Act 1,

beginning

‘Listen, you do like I did and you’ll be all right.’ and

ending

‘You understand me? It ain’t right.’

This interaction occurs near the end of Act 1. Keller tells Ann about his arrival back from prison and how he regained his reputation within the local community after his acquittal.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Miller presents characters’ concerns about reputation at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

1 2

Refer to Act 3,

beginning

‘Oh, no, he’ll come back.’ and

ending

‘Joe, Joe...It don’t excuse it that you did it for the family.’

This interaction occurs near the beginning of Act 3. Kate and Keller, along with their neighbour Jim, are waiting to see if Chris will return to the house after discovering his father’s guilt and his mother’s cover-up.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Miller presents tensions between male and female characters at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

Turn over ►

or

A Streetcar Named Desire – Tennessee Williams

1	3
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Refer to Scene 5,

beginning

‘Stella! What have you heard about me?’ and

ending

‘I can leave here and not be anyone’s problem...’

This interaction occurs in the middle of the scene. Stanley has upset Blanche by asking about an acquaintance of his, Shaw, who claims to know her from Laurel. Stanley goes out and leaves Blanche and Stella alone together in the apartment.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Williams presents characters’ concerns about reputation at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

1	4
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Refer to Scene 9,

beginning

‘Mitch! – Y’know, I really shouldn’t let you in after the treatment I have received from you this evening!’ and

ending

‘What it means is I’ve never had a real good look at you, Blanche.’

This interaction occurs at the beginning of the scene. Blanche has been left alone in the apartment while Stella and Stanley have gone to the hospital. Mitch turns up unannounced after deliberately missing Blanche’s birthday party earlier.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Williams presents characters’ disappointments in others at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

The Herd – Rory Kinnear

1 5

Refer to the section,

beginning (page 6)

‘How can I not obsess?’ and

ending (page 9)

‘So no one else is actually coming?’

This interaction occurs near the beginning of the play. Carol and Claire are getting ready for the arrival of family for Andy’s birthday party later that day. Carol is complaining about some of the medical professionals who are treating Andy.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Kinnear presents characters’ resentment of others at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

1 6

Refer to the section,

beginning (page 23)

‘*The doorbell rings.*’ and

ending (page 26)

‘It’s not about the present, Patricia.’

This interaction occurs near the beginning of the play. Andy’s family are awaiting the arrival of Claire’s new boyfriend Mark but are surprised by the arrival of Ian, Andy’s father and Carol’s ex-husband.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Kinnear presents characters’ reactions to the arrival of others at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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