

INTERNATIONAL GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paper 2A Poetry and unseen texts

Tuesday 31 October 2023 07:00 GMT Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an OxfordAQA 16-page Answer Book
- a clean copy of the OxfordAQA International Poetry Anthology *People and Places*.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Do **not** use pencil.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- Answer **one** question from **Section A**.
- Answer the question in **Section B** and the question in **Section C**.
- For **Section A**, you must have a clean copy of the OxfordAQA International Poetry Anthology *People and Places* in the examination room.
- The text must **not** be annotated and must **not** contain additional notes or materials.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 30 marks available for each section.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.

Section A: Poetry Anthology: People and Places

Answer **one** question from **Section A**.

Either

0	1
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Read the poem below and answer the question that follows.

Below the Green Corrie

The mountains gathered round me
like bandits. Their leader
swaggered up close in the dark light,
full of threats, full of thunders.

But it was they who stood and delivered.
They gave me their money and their lives.
They filled me with mountains and thunders.

My life was enriched
with an infusion of theirs.
I clambered downhill through the ugly weather.
And when I turned to look goodbye
to those marvellous prowlers
a sunshaft had pierced the clouds
and their leader,
that swashbuckling mountain,
was wearing
a bandolier of light.

Norman MacCaig

Write about the ways that poets present people being affected by nature in *Below the Green Corrie* and **one** other poem from *People and Places*.

[30 marks]

or

0	2
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Write about **one or more** poems from *People and Places* in which dangerous places are presented. Explain how the danger is presented.

[30 marks]

Section B: Unseen poetry**Answer Question 3.**

0	3
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Read the poem below and answer the question that follows.

The poem *Cynddylan on a Tractor* by RS Thomas not reproduced here due to third party copyright restrictions.

How does RS Thomas present the effects of the new tractor on Cynddylan and his environment?

[30 marks]**Turn over ►**

Section C: Unseen prose

Answer Question 4.

0

4

Read the passage below and then answer the question that follows.

In this passage from *The Last Voice You Hear* by Mick Herron, Zoë Boehm, who fears she may be ill, suddenly feels she is being followed.

It was nothing solid. It wasn't as if she'd looked back to see the same stranger twice. It was just a pricking between her shoulder blades, like this morning back home – but how likely was it she'd been followed from Oxford without noticing? And you couldn't second guess a journey that hadn't been planned.

When she turned the crowd was the usual fluid monster, weaving in and out of itself like a box of snakes; never quite knotting, never quite still. There should have been a snarl-up; the follower should have tried to fall back, or veer aside, but whatever happened happened so smoothly, it might not have happened at all. People wove on, breaking round her, reforming; the obstacle she presented no more than half a moment's interruption, and less thought.

Either he was very good, or he wasn't there.

She stood a little longer, oblivious to the picture she presented. There were instincts she trusted, and the sense of being watched ranked high among them, but what if that too was falling apart? – after all, she had trusted her body; relied on it to carry her through life, and here it was: attacking her from the inside, eating itself, until what was left would mulch* at the touch like forgotten fruit. Stop it, Zoë. She was bumped, quite fiercely, probably deliberately, from behind, and for a moment lost her sense of direction; she moved, stopped, corrected herself; made sure she was heading for the station...

From the corner of her eye, she caught a hesitation in the crowd.

* 'mulch' here means collapse

How does Mick Herron present Zoë's fears?

[30 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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