

AS ENGLISH LITERATURE B

Paper 2B Literary genres: Prose and Poetry: Aspects of comedy

Wednesday 24 May 2017

Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book
- a copy of the set text(s) you have studied. 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 7716/2B.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- In your response you need to:
 - analyse carefully the writers' methods
 - explore the contexts of the texts you are writing about
 - explore the connections across the texts you have studied
 - explore different interpretations of your texts.

Section A: Poetry

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0	1
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***The Nun's Priest's Tale* – Geoffrey Chaucer**

Explore the view that 'in *The Nun's Priest's Tale* Chaucer shows married life to be ridiculous'.

In your answer you need to analyse closely Chaucer's authorial methods and include comments on the extract below.

[25 marks]

From *The Nun's Priest's Tale*

And in oure yerd tho herbes shal I finde,
The whiche han of hire propretee by kinde
To purge yow binethe and eek above.
Foryet nat this, for Goddes owene love!
Ye ben ful colerik of complexioun;
Ware the sonne in his ascensioun
Ne finde yow nat replet of humours hote!
And if it do, I dar wel leye a grote
That ye shul have a fevere terciane,
Or an agu that may be youre bane.
A day or two ye shul have digestives
Of wormes, er ye take youre laxatives,
Of lauriol, centaure, and fumetere,
Or elles of ellebor that groweth there,
Of katapuce, or of gaitris beryis,
Of herbe yve growing in oure yerd, ther merye is.
Pekke hem up right as they growe and ete hem in!
By miyre, housbonde, for youre fader kin!
Dredeth no dreem – I kan sey yow namoore.'
'Madame,' quod he, '*graunt merci* of youre
loore!'

or

0	2
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Poetry Anthology: Comedy

Explore the view that in *Poetry Anthology: Comedy* 'serious aspects overshadow humorous aspects'.

You must refer to *Sunny Prestatyn* and **at least one** other poem.

In your answer you need to analyse closely the poets' authorial methods and include comments on the poem below.

[25 marks]

Sunny Prestatyn

Come to Sunny Prestatyn
Laughed the girl on the poster,
Kneeling up on the sand
In tautened white satin.
Behind her, a hunk of coast, a
Hotel with palms
Seemed to expand from her thighs and
Spread breast-lifting arms.

She was slapped up one day in March.
A couple of weeks, and her face
Was snaggle-toothed and boss-eyed;
Huge tits and a fissured crotch
Were scored well in, and the space
Between her legs held scrawls
That set her fairly astride
A tuberous cock and balls

Autographed *Titch Thomas*, while
Someone had used a knife
Or something to stab right through
The moustached lips of her smile.
She was too good for this life.
Very soon, a great transverse tear
Left only a hand and some blue.
Now *Fight Cancer* is there.

Section A continues on the next page

or

0	3
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Betjeman selection – John Betjeman

Explore the view that in Betjeman's poems female characters are always shown to be silly and frivolous.

You must refer to *Hunter Trials* and **at least one** other poem.

In your answer you need to analyse closely Betjeman's authorial methods and include comments on the extract below.

[25 marks]

From *Hunter Trials*

It's awf'ly bad luck on Diana,
Her ponies have swallowed their bits;
She fished down their throats with a spanner
And frightened them all into fits.

So now she's attempting to borrow.
Do lend her some bits, Mummy, *do*;
I'll lend her my own for to-morrow,
But to-day I'll be wanting them too.

Just look at Prunella on Guzzle,
The wizardest pony on earth;
Why doesn't she slacken his muzzle
And tighten the breech in his girth?

I say, Mummy, there's Mrs. Geyser
And doesn't she look pretty sick?
I bet it's because Mona Lisa
Was hit on the hock with a brick.

Miss Blewitt says Monica threw it,
But Monica says it was Joan,
And Joan's very thick with Miss Blewitt,
So Monica's sulking alone.

Section B: Prose

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0 4

***Emma* – Jane Austen**

Explore the view that ‘Mr Woodhouse is nothing more than an inoffensive and kind old man who amuses the reader’.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Austen’s authorial methods.

[25 marks]

or

0 5

***Small Island* – Andrea Levy**

Explore the view that, ‘in *Small Island*, despite the distressing events, there is an over-riding optimism’.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Levy’s authorial methods.

[25 marks]

or

0 6

***Wise Children* – Angela Carter**

Explore the view that, ‘in *Wise Children*, sex is always presented as comically absurd’.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Carter’s authorial methods.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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