
LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

8695/91

Paper 9 Poetry, Prose and Drama

October/November 2014

2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **two** questions, each from a different section.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.



This document consists of **17** printed pages and **3** blank pages.

Section A: Poetry

SEAMUS HEANEY: *District and Circle*

- 1 **Either** (a) Referring to **two** poems in detail, discuss ways in which Heaney's poetry makes reference to his rural Irish origins.
- Or** (b) Comment closely on the following poem, considering Heaney's poetic treatment of unexpected events.

*Anything Can Happen*after Horace, *Odes*, I, 34

Anything can happen. You know how Jupiter

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Telluric ash and fire-spores boil away.

WILFRED OWEN: *Selected Poems*

- 2 **Either** (a) Owen once wrote, 'All a poet can do today is warn.'
Discuss ways in which you think **two** poems act as warnings.
- Or** (b) Comment closely on ways in which the language and imagery create the mood of the following poem.

The Last Laugh

'O Jesus Christ! I'm hit,' he said; and died.
Whether he vainly cursed, or prayed indeed,
The Bullets chirped – In vain! vain! vain!
Machine-guns chuckled – Tut-tut! Tut-tut!
And the Big Gun guffawed. 5

Another sighed – 'O Mother, mother! Dad!
Then smiled, at nothing, childlike, being dead.
And the lofty Shrapnel-cloud
Leisurely gestures – Fool!
And the falling splinters tittered. 10

'My Love!' one moaned. Love-languid seemed his mood,
Till, slowly lowered, his whole face kissed the mud.
And the Bayonets' long teeth grinned;
Rabbles of Shells hooted and groaned;
And the Gas hissed. 15

Songs of Ourselves

3 **Either** (a) 'My verse your virtues rare shall eternise' ('Sonnet 75')

Compare ways in which **two** poems present the loved one.

Or (b) Comment closely on ways in which the imagery and tone of the following poem develop a particular view of human life.

What is Our Life?

What is our life? A play of passion;
Our mirth the music of division;
Our mothers' wombs the tiring-houses be,
Where we are dressed for this short comedy.
Heaven the judicious sharp spectator is,
That sits and marks still who doth act amiss;
Our graves that hide us from the searching sun
Are like drawn curtains when the play is done.
Thus march we, playing, to our latest rest,
Only we die in earnest – that's no jest.

5

10

Sir Walter Raleigh

Turn to page 6 for Question 4

Section B: Prose

CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE: *Half of a Yellow Sun*

- 4 **Either** (a) “The story isn’t my story to tell, really.”
Ugwu nodded. He had never thought that it was.’
- In what ways does Adichie’s novel explore the idea of whose story it is?
- Or** (b) Comment closely on the following passage, paying particular attention to ways in which it presents the American journalists.

Richard disliked him. He disliked his washed-out green eyes and his red-freckled face.

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'Yes.' Richard paused.

Chapter 30

- 5 **Either** (a) 'It was in hard, prosaic tones that she said, "I withdraw everything."'

Discuss the significance to the novel of Adela's withdrawal of her charge against Aziz.

- Or** (b) Comment closely on ways in which the following passage presents the differing views of Indians held by the English characters.

'Adela, have a drink; mother, a drink.'

They refused – they were weary of drinks – and Miss Quested, who always said exactly what was in her mind, announced anew that she was desirous of seeing the real India.

Ronny was in high spirits. The request struck him as comic, and he called out to another passer-by: 'Fielding! How's one to see the real India?' 5

'Try seeing Indians,' the man answered, and vanished.

'Who was that?'

'Our schoolmaster – Government College.'

'As if one could avoid seeing them,' sighed Mrs Lesley. 10

'I've avoided,' said Miss Quested. 'Excepting my own servant, I've scarcely spoken to an Indian since landing.'

'Oh, lucky you.'

'But I want to see them.'

She became the centre of an amused group of ladies. One said: 'Wanting to see Indians! How new that sounds!' Another: 'Natives! Why, fancy!' A third, more serious, said: 'Let me explain. Natives don't respect one any the more after meeting one, you see.' 15

'That occurs after so many meetings.'

But the lady, entirely stupid and friendly, continued: 'What I mean is, I was a nurse before my marriage, and came across them a great deal, so I know. I really do know the truth about Indians. A most unsuitable position for any Englishwoman – I was a nurse in a Native State. One's only hope was to hold sternly aloof.' 20

'Even from one's patients?'

'Why, the kindest thing one can do to a native is to let him die,' said Mrs Callendar. 25

'How if he went to heaven?' asked Mrs Moore, with a gentle but crooked smile.

'He can go where he likes as long as he doesn't come near me. They give me the creeps.'

'As a matter of fact I have thought about what you were saying about heaven, and that is why I am against missionaries,' said the lady who had been a nurse. 'I am all for chaplains, but all against missionaries. Let me explain.' 30

But before she could do so the Collector intervened.

'Do you really want to meet the Aryan Brother, Miss Quested? That can be easily fixed up. I didn't realize he'd amuse you.' He thought a moment. 'You can practically see any type you like. Take your choice. I know the Government people and the landowners, Heaslop here can get hold of the barrister crew, while if you want to specialize on education we can come down on Fielding.' 35

'I'm tired of seeing picturesque figures pass before me as a frieze,' the girl explained. 'It was wonderful when we landed, but that superficial glamour soon goes.' 40

Her impressions were of no interest to the Collector; he was only concerned to give her a good time. Would she like a Bridge Party? He explained to her what that was – not the game, but a party to bridge the gulf between East and West; the expression was his own invention, and amused all who heard it. 45

'I only want to meet those Indians whom you come across socially – as your friends.'

'Well, we don't come across them socially,' he said, laughing. 'They're full of all the virtues, but we don't, and it's now eleven-thirty, and too late to go into the reasons.'

Stories of Ourselves

- 6 **Either** (a) Compare ways in which **two** stories portray a particular character's state of mind.
- Or** (b) Comment closely on the following passage, considering ways in which it presents Mr Mitra's responses to the shraddh ceremony.

A narrow, tiled, clean corridor, going past forty-six and forty-seven, led to the main door to forty-nine, which was open.

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known more about her academic record, one or two charming anecdotes to do with her success at school, her decent first-class degree, and about her husband, Gautam Poddar, diversifying into new areas of business, than about her.

Real Time

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Section C: Drama

EDWARD ALBEE: *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*

- 7 **Either** (a) What are the dramatic effects of George and Martha choosing to dissect their relationship in front of Nick and Honey?
- Or** (b) With close reference to detail, discuss the dramatic significance of this moment, the first time that Nick and George are alone together.

George: It's just a private joke between li'l ol' Martha and me. [*They sit.*] So? [*Pause*] So ... you're in the Math Department, eh?

Nick: No ... uh, no.

George: Martha said you were. I think that's what she said. [*Not too friendly*] What made you decide to be a teacher? 5

Nick: Oh ... well, the same things that ... uh ... motivated you, I imagine.

George: What were they?

Nick [*formal*]: Pardon?

George: I said, what were they? What were the things that motivated me? 10

Nick [*laughing uneasily*]: Well ... I'm sure I don't know.

George: You just finished saying that the things that motivated you were the same things that motivated me.

Nick [*with a little pique*]: I said I *imagined* they were. 15

George [*offhand*]: Did you? [*Pause*] Well.... [*Pause*] You like it here?

Nick [*looking about the room*]: Yes ... it's ... it's fine.

George: I mean the University.

Nick: Oh.... I thought you meant ...

George: Yes ... I can see you did. [*Pause*] I meant the University. 20

Nick: Well, I ... I like it ... fine. [*As GEORGE just stares at him*] Just fine. [*Same*] You ... you've been here quite a long time, haven't you?

George [*absently, as if he had not heard*]: What? Oh ... yes. Ever since I married ... uh, What's-her-name ... uh, Martha. Even before that. [*Pause*] For ever. [*To himself*] Dashed hopes, and good intentions. Good, better, best, bested. [*Back to NICK*] How do you like that for a declension, young man? Eh? 25

Nick: Sir, I'm sorry if we ...

George [*with an edge in his voice*]: You didn't answer my question. 30

Nick: Sir?

George: Don't you condescend to me! [*Toying with him*] I asked you how you liked that for a declension: Good; better; best; bested. Hm? Well?

Nick [*with some distaste*]: I really don't know what to say. 35

George [*feigned incredulousness*]: You really don't know what to say?

Nick [*snapping it out*]: All right ... what do you want me to say? Do

you want me to say it's funny, so you can contradict me and say it's sad? Or do you want me to say it's sad so you can turn around and say no, it's funny. You can play that damn little game any way you want to, you know!

- George* [*feigned awe*]: Very good! Very good!
- Nick* [*even angrier than before*]: And when my wife comes back, I think we'll just ...
- George* [*sincere*]: Now, now ... calm down, my boy. Just ... calm ... down. [*Pause*] All right? [*Pause*] You want another drink? Here, give me your glass. 45
- Nick*: I still have one. I *do* think that when my wife comes downstairs ...
- George*: Here ... I'll freshen it. Give me your glass. [*Takes it.*]
- Nick*: What I mean is ... you two ... you and your wife ... seem to be having *some* sort of a ... 50
- George*: Martha and I are having ... nothing. Martha and I are merely ... exercising ... that's all ... we're merely walking what's left of our wits. Don't pay any attention to it.
- Nick* [*undecided*]: Still ... 55
- George* [*an abrupt change of pace*]: Well, now ... let's sit down and talk, hunh?
- Nick* [*cool again*]: It's just that I don't like to ... become involved ... [*An afterthought.*] uh ... in other people's affairs.
- George* [*comforting a child*]: Well, you'll get over that ... small college and all. Musical beds is the faculty sport around here. 60
- Nick*: Sir?
- George*: I said, musical beds is the faculty ... Never mind. I wish you wouldn't go 'Sir' like that ... not with the question-mark at the end of it. You know? Sir? I know it's meant to be a sign of respect for your [*Winces*] elders ... but ... uh ... the way you do it... Uh ... Sir? ... Madam? 65
- Nick* [*with a small, noncommittal smile*]: No disrespect intended.

Act 1

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: *Richard III*

- 8 **Either** (a) In what ways, and with what effects, does Richard change during the play?
- Or** (b) With close reference to detail, discuss Shakespeare's presentation of the relationship between Richard and Buckingham at this point in the play.

[Enter GLOUCESTER and BUCKINGHAM, at several doors.]

- Gloucester:* How now, how now! What say the citizens? 5
- Buckingham:* Now, by the holy Mother of our Lord,
The citizens are mum, say not a word. 5
- Gloucester:* Touch'd you the bastardy of Edward's children?
- Buckingham:* I did; with his contract with Lady Lucy,
And his contract by deputy in France;
Th' insatiate greediness of his desire,
And his enforcement of the city wives; 10
His tyranny for trifles; his own bastardy,
As being got, your father then in France,
And his resemblance, being not like the Duke.
Withal I did infer your lineaments,
Being the right idea of your father, 15
Both in your form and nobleness of mind;
Laid open all your victories in Scotland,
Your discipline in war, wisdom in peace,
Your bounty, virtue, fair humility;
Indeed, left nothing fitter for your purpose 20
Untouch'd or slightly handled in discourse.
And when mine oratory drew toward end
I bid them that did love their country's good
Cry 'God save Richard, England's royal King!'
- Gloucester:* And did they so? 25
- Buckingham:* No, so God help me, they spake not a word;
But, like dumb statues or breathing stones,
Star'd each on other, and look'd deadly pale.
Which when I saw, I reprehended them,
And ask'd the Mayor what meant this wilful silence. 30
His answer was, the people were not used
To be spoke to but by the Recorder.
Then he was urg'd to tell my tale again.
'Thus saith the Duke, thus hath the Duke inferr'd' –
But nothing spoke in warrant from himself. 35
When he had done, some followers of mine own
At lower end of the hall hurl'd up their caps,
And some ten voices cried 'God save King Richard!'
And thus I took the vantage of those few –
'Thanks, gentle citizens and friends,' quoth I 40
'This general applause and cheerful shout
Argues your wisdoms and your love to Richard'.
And even here brake off and came away.
- Gloucester:* What, tongueless blocks were they? Would they not speak?
Will not the Mayor then and his brethren come? 45
- Buckingham:* The Mavor is here at hand. Intend some fear:

Be not you spoke with but by mighty suit;
And look you get a prayer-book in your hand,
And stand between two churchmen, good my lord;
For on that ground I'll make a holy descant;
And be not easily won to our requests.
Play the maid's part: still answer nay, and take it.

Gloucester: I go; and if you plead as well for them
As I can say nay to thee for myself,
No doubt we bring it to a happy issue.

Buckingham: Go, go, up to the leads; the Lord Mayor knocks.

[Exit GLOUCESTER.]

Act 3, Scene 7

50

55

ROBERT BOLT: *A Man for All Seasons*

- 9 **Either** (a) What, in your view, is the significance of the Duke of Norfolk to the play's action and concerns?
- Or** (b) With close reference to detail in the following passage, discuss Bolt's presentation of More at this point in the play.

Cromwell: Then you know that the fares are fixed — [*Turns to MORE. Exaggerated pleasure.*] Why, it's Sir Thomas!

More: Good morning, Master Cromwell. You work very late.

Cromwell: I'm on my way to the Cardinal. [*He expects an answer.*]

More: Ah. 5

Cromwell: You have just left him I think.

More: Yes, I have.

Cromwell: You left him ... in his laughing mood, I hope?

More: On the whole I would say, not. No, not laughing.

Cromwell: Oh, I'm sorry. [*Backing to exit.*] I am one of your *multitudinous* admirers, Sir Thomas. A penny ha'penny to Chelsea, Boatman. 10
[*Exit CROMWELL.*]

Boatman: The coming man they say, sir.

More: Do they? Well, where's your boat?

Boatman: Just along the wharf, sir. 15
[*They are going, when enter CHAPUYS and ATTENDANT from archway, Right.*]

Chapuys: Sir Thomas More!

More: Signor Chapuys? You're up very late, Your Excellency.

Chapuys: [*significantly*] So is the Cardinal, Sir Thomas. 20

More: [*closing up*] He sleeps very little.

Chapuys: You have just left him, I think.

More: You are correctly informed. As always.

Chapuys: I will not ask you the subject of your conversation.... [*He waits.*] 25

More: No, of course not.

Chapuys: Sir Thomas, I will be plain with you ... plain, that is, so far as the diplomatic decencies permit. [*Loudly.*] My master Charles, the King of Spain! [*Pulls MORE aside, discreet.*] My master Charles, the King of Spain, feels himself concerned in anything concerning his blood relation! He would feel himself insulted by any insult offered to his father's sister! I refer of course to Queen Catherine. [*Regards MORE, keenly.*] The King of Spain would feel himself insulted by any insult offered to Queen Catherine. 30
35

More: His feeling would be natural.

Chapuys: [*consciously sly*] Sir Thomas, may I ask if you and the Cardinal parted, how shall I say, amicably?

More: Amicably... Yes.

- Chapuys:* [*a shade indignant*] In agreement?
- More:* Amicably.
- Chapuys:* [*warmly*] Say no more, Sir Thomas; I understand.
- More:* [*a shade worried*] I hope you do, Your Excellency.
- Chapuys:* You are a good man.
- More:* I don't see how you deduce that from what I've told you. 45
- Chapuys:* [*holds up hand*] A nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse. I understand. You are a good man. [*Turns to exit.*] Dominus vobiscum.
- [*Exit CHAPUYS. MORE looks after him. Then:*]
- More:* [*abstracted*] ... spiritu tuo ... 50
- Boatman:* [*mournful; he is squatting on the ground*] People seem to think boats stay afloat on their own, sir, but they don't; they cost money. [*MORE is abstractedly gazing over the audience.*] Take anchor rope, sir, you may not believe me for a little skiff like mine, but it's a penny a fathom. [*MORE is still abstracted.*] 55
And with a young wife, sir, as you know....
- More:* [*abstracted*] I'll pay what I always pay you.... The river looks very black tonight. They say it's silting up, is that so?
- Boatman:* [*joining him*] Not in the middle, sir. There's a channel there getting deeper all the time. 60
- More:* How is your wife?
- Boatman:* She's losing her shape, sir, losing it fast.
- More:* Well, so are we all.
- Boatman:* Oh yes, sir; it's common.
- More:* [*going*] Well, take me home. 65
[*Exit MORE.*]

Act 1

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