
OXFORD AQA INTERNATIONAL A-LEVEL

ENGLISH LITERATURE

UNIT 2: PLACE IN LITERARY TEXTS

Specimen

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an Oxford AQA Exams 12-page answer booklet
- a copy of each of the set texts 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 **Examining Body** for this paper is Oxford AQA Exams.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that 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
 - analyse carefully the writers' methods
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Section A: Prose

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0 1

Joseph Conrad: *Heart of Darkness*

Discuss the significance of darkness in the novel.

[25 marks]

or

0 2

F. Scott Fitzgerald: *The Great Gatsby*

'Conflict in *The Great Gatsby* emerges more from a clash of cultures than a clash of individuals'.

How far do you agree with this view of the novel?

[25 marks]

or

0 3

Kazuo Ishiguro: *The Remains of the Day*

Consider the significance of Darlington Hall as a location in the novel.

[25 marks]

or

0 4

Aravind Adiga: *Last Man in Tower*

"You and I were trapped," Mr Ajwani tells Mrs Rego, "but we *wanted* to be trapped".

Explore the significance of being 'trapped' in the novel as a whole.

[25 marks]

or

0	5
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Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: *Americanah*

'The hair braiding episode at the start of the novel, followed by the many other references to hair, are a metaphor for Ifemulu's struggles in the US as an African immigrant.'

Explore the significance of hair and hairdressing in the novel in the light of this comment.

[25 marks]

or

0	6
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Andrea Levy: *Small Island*

'The title of the novel is deceptively simple, as it refers to far more than just one place'.

Consider the significance of the title of the novel in the light of this comment.

[25 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B: Poetry

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0 7

Thomas Hardy poetry selection

‘Hardy’s depiction of place always leads to a feeling of despair’.

Discuss this view, considering ‘The Darkling Thrush’, and at least two other poems.

[25 marks]

or

0 8

William Wordsworth poetry selection

‘Wordsworth’s poetry is always more about people than places.’

Discuss this view of your selection, making detailed reference to at least two poems.

[25 marks]

or

0 9

Robert Frost poetry selection

Discuss the significance of home in Frost’s poetry. In your answer refer to ‘Mending Wall’ and at least one other poem.

[25 marks]

or

1 0

Seamus Heaney poetry selection

‘Heaney always connects place with human suffering.’ How far do you agree with this view? Make detailed reference to at least two poems.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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