

A-level ENGLISH LITERATURE B

Paper 1B Literary genres: Aspects of comedy

Thursday 7 June 2018 Afternoon Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7717/1B.
- Answer **one** question from Section A, **one** question from Section B and **one** question from Section C.
- You may answer on the same Shakespeare play in Sections A and B.
- For Section C, you must write about **two** texts, at least **one** of which **must** be a pre-1900 drama text.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 75.
- 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 connections across the texts you have studied
 - explore different interpretations of your texts.

Section A

Answer **one** question in this section.

Either

0	1
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***The Taming of the Shrew* – William Shakespeare**

Read the extract below and then answer the question.

Explore the significance of this extract in relation to the comedy of the play as a whole.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Shakespeare's dramatic methods.

[25 marks]

Enter Petruchio, Katherina, Hortensio and Servants

PETRUCHIO

Come on, a God's name, once more toward our father's.
Good Lord, how bright and goodly shines the moon!

KATHERINA

The moon? The sun! It is not moonlight now.

PETRUCHIO

I say it is the moon that shines so bright.

KATHERINA

I know it is the sun that shines so bright.

PETRUCHIO

Now by my mother's son, and that's myself,
It shall be moon, or star, or what I list,
Or e'er I journey to your father's house.
(*To the Servants*) Go on and fetch our horses back again.
Evermore crossed and crossed, nothing but crossed!

HORTENSIO

Say as he says, or we shall never go.

KATHERINA

Forward, I pray, since we have come so far,
And be it moon, or sun, or what you please.
And if you please to call it a rush-candle,
Henceforth I vow it shall be so for me.

PETRUCHIO

I say it is the moon.

KATHERINA

I know it is the moon.

PETRUCHIO

Nay, then you lie. It is the blessed sun.

KATHERINA

Then, God be blessed, it is the blessed sun.
But sun it is not, when you say it is not,
And the moon changes even as your mind.

What you will have it named, even that it is,
And so it shall be so for Katherine.

HORTENSIO (*aside*)

Petruchio, go thy ways, the field is won.

PETRUCHIO

Well, forward, forward! Thus the bowl should run,
And not unluckily against the bias.
But soft, company is coming here.

Enter Vincentio

(*To Vincentio*) Good morrow, gentle mistress, where
away?

Tell me, sweet Kate, and tell me truly too,
Hast thou beheld a fresher gentlewoman?
Such war of white and red within her cheeks!
What stars do spangle heaven with such beauty
As those two eyes become that heavenly face?
Fair lovely maid, once more good day to thee.
Sweet Kate, embrace her for her beauty's sake.

HORTENSIO (*aside*) 'A will make the man mad, to make the
woman of him.

KATHERINA

Young budding virgin, fair and fresh and sweet,
Whither away, or where is thy abode?
Happy the parents of so fair a child,
Happier the man, whom favourable stars
Allots thee for his lovely bedfellow.

PETRUCHIO

Why, how now, Kate, I hope thou art not mad!
This is a man, old, wrinkled, faded, withered,
And not a maiden, as thou say'st he is.

KATHERINA

Pardon, old father, my mistaking eyes,
That have been so bedazzled with the sun
That everything I look on seemeth green.
Now I perceive thou art a reverend father.
Pardon, I pray thee, for my mad mistaking.

PETRUCHIO

Do, good old grandsire, and withal make known
Which way thou travellest – if along with us,
We shall be joyful of thy company.

VINCENTIO

Fair sir, and you my merry mistress,
That with your strange encounter much amazed me,
My name is called Vincentio, my dwelling Pisa,
And bound I am to Padua, there to visit
A son of mine, which long I have not seen.

PETRUCHIO

What is his name?

VINCENTIO

Lucentio, gentle sir.

(Act 4, Scene 5)

Turn over ►

or

0 2

***Twelfth Night* – William Shakespeare**

Read the extract below and then answer the question.

Explore the significance of this extract in relation to the comedy of the play as a whole.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Shakespeare's dramatic methods.

[25 marks]

Enter Malvolio and Fabian

ORSINO

Is this the madman?

OLIVIA Ay, my lord, this same.

How now, Malvolio?

MALVOLIO

Madam, you have done me wrong;

Notorious wrong.

OLIVIA Have I, Malvolio? No!

MALVOLIO

Lady, you have; pray you, peruse that letter.

You must not now deny it is your hand.

Write from it, if you can, in hand or phrase,

Or say 'tis not your seal, nor your invention;

You can say none of this. Well, grant it then,

And tell me, in the modesty of honour,

Why you have given me such clear lights of favour?

Bade me come smiling and cross-gartered to you,

To put on yellow stockings, and to frown

Upon Sir Toby and the lighter people?

And, acting this in an obedient hope,

Why have you suffered me to be imprisoned,

Kept in a dark house, visited by the priest,

And made the most notorious geck and gull

That e'er invention played on? Tell me why?

OLIVIA

Alas, Malvolio, this is not my writing,

Though, I confess, much like the character.

But out of question 'tis Maria's hand.

And now I do bethink me, it was she

First told me thou wast mad; then, camest in smiling,

And in such forms which here were presupposed

Upon thee in the letter. Prithee, be content.

This practice hath most shrewdly passed upon thee;

But when we know the grounds and authors of it,

Thou shalt be both the plaintiff and the judge

Of thine own cause.

FABIAN

Good madam, hear me speak;

And let no quarrel, nor no brawl to come,

Taint the condition of this present hour,
Which I have wondered at. In hope it shall not,
Most freely I confess, myself and Toby
Set this device against Malvolio here,
Upon some stubborn and uncourteous parts
We had conceived against him. Maria writ
The letter at Sir Toby's great importance,
In recompense whereof, he hath married her.
How with a sportful malice it was followed
May rather pluck on laughter than revenge,
If that the injuries be justly weighed
That have on both sides passed.

OLIVIA

Alas, poor fool! How have they baffled thee!

FESTE Why, 'Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrown upon them.' I was one, sir, in this interlude, one Sir Topas, sir – but that's all one. 'By the Lord, fool, I am not mad!' But do you remember: 'Madam, why laugh you at such a barren rascal, an you smile not, he's gagged'? And thus the whirligig of time brings in his revenges.

MALVOLIO

I'll be revenged on the whole pack of you! *Exit*

OLIVIA

He hath been most notoriously abused.

(Act 5, Scene 1)

Turn over for Section B

Turn over ►

Section B

Answer **one** question in this section.

Either

0 3

***The Taming of the Shrew* – William Shakespeare**

‘Shakespeare characterises Lucentio as a romantic, engaging and triumphant lover.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

Remember to include in your answer relevant comment on Shakespeare’s dramatic methods.

[25 marks]

or

0 4

***The Taming of the Shrew* – William Shakespeare**

‘Old men in the play, such as Gremio and Baptista, are there to be laughed at: that is their only comedic function.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

Remember to include in your answer relevant comment on Shakespeare’s dramatic methods.

[25 marks]

or

0 5

***Twelfth Night* – William Shakespeare**

‘Sir Toby Belch is a riotous festive figure who delights audiences.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

Remember to include in your answer relevant comment on Shakespeare’s dramatic methods.

[25 marks]

or

0 6

***Twelfth Night* – William Shakespeare**

‘In *Twelfth Night*, the adopting of disguise results in painful rather than positive outcomes.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

Remember to include in your answer relevant comment on Shakespeare’s dramatic methods.

[25 marks]

Section C

Answer **one** question in this section.

In this section you must write about **two** texts, at least **one** of which must be a pre-1900 drama text.

You can write about the following texts:

She Stoops to Conquer (pre-1900 drama)
The Importance of Being Earnest (pre-1900 drama)
Emma
Small Island
The Nun's Priest's Tale
Poetry Anthology: Comedy

Either

0	7
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'Comedic literature celebrates the resourcefulness and power of female characters.'

To what extent do you agree with this view in relation to **two** texts you have studied?

Remember to include in your answer relevant comment on the ways writers have shaped meanings.

[25 marks]

or

0	8
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'Deception is a central aspect of comedic literature.'

Explore the significance of deception to the comedy of **two texts** you have studied.

Remember to include in your answer relevant comment on the ways writers have shaped meanings.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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