



Cambridge International AS & A Level

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

9695/12

Paper 1 Drama and Poetry

May/June 2024

2 hours



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer **one** question.
 - Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- All questions are worth equal marks.

This document has **16** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A: Drama

Answer **one** question from this section.

ERROL JOHN: *Moon on a Rainbow Shawl*

- 1 **Either** **(a)** Discuss some of the ways John shapes an audience's response to Epf in *Moon on a Rainbow Shawl*.
- Or** **(b)** Paying close attention to dramatic methods, discuss John's presentation of the relationship between Mavis and Prince in the following extract from the play.

[PRINCE comes quietly in from the street, ducks under the clothes line and calls softly: 'Mavis.']

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[*The SOLDIER goes out.*]

(*from Act 2, Scene 2*)

5

	But, like a thrifty goddess, she determines Herself the glory of a creditor, Both thanks and use. But I do bend my speech To one that can my part in him advertise. Hold, therefore, Angelo – In our remove be thou at full ourself; Mortality and mercy in Vienna Live in thy tongue and heart. Old Escalus, Though first in question, is thy secondary. Take thy commission.	45
<i>Angelo:</i>	Now, good my lord, Let there be some more test made of my metal, Before so noble and so great a figure Be stamp'd upon it.	55
<i>Duke:</i>	No more evasion! We have with a leaven'd and prepared choice Proceeded to you; therefore take your honours. Our haste from hence is of so quick condition That it prefers itself, and leaves unquestion'd Matters of needful value. We shall write to you, As time and our concernings shall importune, How it goes with us, and do look to know What doth befall you here. So, fare you well. To th' hopeful execution do I leave you Of your commissions.	60 65
<i>Angelo:</i>	Yet give leave, my lord, That we may bring you something on the way.	70
<i>Duke:</i>	My haste may not admit it; Nor need you, on mine honour, have to do With any scruple: your scope is as mine own, So to enforce or qualify the laws As to your soul seems good. Give me your hand; I'll privily away I love the people, But do not like to stage me to their eyes; Though it do well, I do not relish well Their loud applause and Aves vehement; Nor do I think he man of safe discretion That does affect it. Once more, fare you well.	75 80
<i>Angelo:</i>	The heavens give safety to your purposes!	
<i>Escalus:</i>	Lead forth and bring you back in happiness!	
<i>Duke:</i>	I thank you. Fare you well.	
	[Exit.]	85

(from Act 1, Scene 1)

JOHN WEBSTER: *The Duchess of Malfi*

- 3** **Either** **(a)** Discuss some of the dramatic effects created by Webster's presentation of family relationships in *The Duchess of Malfi*.
- Or** **(b)** Comment closely on Webster's presentation of Antonio and Bosola in the following scene from the play. In your answer you should pay close attention to dramatic methods and their effects.

Bosola: Methinks 'tis very cold, and yet you sweat.
You look wildly.

Antonio: I have been setting a figure
For the Duchess' jewels.

Bosola: Ah, and how falls your question? 5
Do you find it radical?

Antonio: What's that to you?
'Tis rather to be questioned what design,
When all men were commanded to their lodgings,
Makes you a night-walker. 10

Bosola: In sooth I'll tell you:
Now all the court's asleep, I thought the devil
Had least to do here; I came to say my prayers.
And if it do offend you I do so,
You are a fine courtier.

Antonio [aside]: This fellow will undo me.
[To him] You gave the Duchess apricots today;
Pray heaven they were not poisoned!

Bosola: Poisoned! A Spanish fig
For the imputation. 20

Antonio: Traitors are ever confident,
Till they are discovered. There were jewels stol'n too;
In my conceit, none are to be suspected
More than yourself.

Bosola: You are a false steward. 25

Antonio: Saucy slave! I'll pull thee up by the roots.

Bosola: Maybe the ruin will crush you to pieces.

Antonio: You are an impudent snake indeed, sir;
Are you scarce warm, and do you show your sting?

[Bosola]: ... 30

Antonio: You libel well, sir.

Bosola: No, sir, copy it out,
And I will set my hand to't.

Antonio [aside]: My nose bleeds.
[He draws an initialled handkerchief]

One that were superstitious would count
This ominous, when it merely comes by chance:
Two letters, that are wrought here for my name,
Are drowned in blood!
Mere accident. [*To him*] For you, sir, I'll take order:
I'll th'morn you shall be safe. [*Aside*] 'Tis that must colour

Her lying-in. [*To him*] Sir, this door you pass not:
 I do not hold it fit that you come near
 The Duchess' lodgings, till you have quit yourself.
 [*Aside*] The great are like the base, nay, they are the same, 45
 When they seek shameful ways to avoid shame.

[*Exit* ANTONIO]

Bosola: Antonio hereabout did drop a paper;
 Some of your help, false friend. O, here it is:
 What's here? A child's nativity calculated! 50
 [*Reads*] 'The Duchess was delivered of a son, 'tween the
 hours twelve and one, in the night: Anno Dom. 1504' – that's
 this year – 'decimo nono Decembris' – that's this night – 'taken
 according to the meridian of Malfi' – that's our Duchess: happy
 discovery! – 'The lord of the first house, being combust in the 55
 ascendant, signifies short life; and Mars being in a human
 sign, joined to the tail of the Dragon, in the eighth house, doth
 threaten a violent death; caetera non scrutantur.'
 Why now 'tis most apparent. This precise fellow
 Is the Duchess' bawd. I have it to my wish. 60
 This is a parcel of intelligency
 Our courtiers were cased up for! It needs must follow
 That I must be committed on pretence
 Of poisoning her; which I'll endure, and laugh at.
 If one could find the father now; but that 65
 Time will discover. Old Castruccio
 I'll th' morning posts to Rome; by him I'll send
 A letter, that shall make her brothers' galls
 O'erflow their livers. This was a thrifty way.
 Though lust do mask in ne'er so strange disguise, 70
 She's oft found witty, but is never wise.

[*Exit*]

(from Act 2, Scene 3)

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS: *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

- 4 Either** (a) 'Marriage in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* is presented as a relationship between two people who don't understand each other.'

With this comment in mind, discuss Williams's presentation of marriage in the play.

- Or** (b) Paying close attention to dramatic methods, analyse the following extract from *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, showing its significance to the play.

Big Daddy: Brick, you know, I swear to God, I don't know the way it happens.

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Brick: Yes, sir, yes, I know.

(from Act 2)

Section B: Poetry

Answer **one** question from this section.

MAYA ANGELOU: *And Still I Rise*

- 5** **Either** **(a)** Discuss some of the ways in which Angelou explores racial tensions. In your answer you should refer to **two** poems from the selection.
- Or** **(b)** Discuss Angelou's presentation of the speaker in the following poem.

Where We Belong, A Duet

In every town and village,

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Now I'm where I belong.

TURN OVER FOR QUESTION 6.

SIMON ARMITAGE: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

- 6** **Either** **(a)** Discuss some of the effects created by Armitage's presentation of violence in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.
- Or** **(b)** Analyse ways in which Armitage develops a reader's response to the relationship between Sir Gawain and the Green Knight in the following extract from the poem.

The green lord laughed, and leniently replied:

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'Here in my homelands they call me Bertilak de Hautdesert.

WILLIAM BLAKE: Selected Poems from *Songs of Innocence and of Experience*

- 7 **Either** (a) In what ways, and with what effects, does Blake present the natural world? In your answer you should refer to **two** poems from the selection.
- Or** (b) Discuss ways in which Blake shapes a reader's response to the nurse in the following poem.

Nurse's Song

When the voices of children, are heard on the green
And whisperings are in the dale:
The days of my youth rise fresh in my mind,
My face turns green and pale.

Then come home my children, the sun is gone down
And the dews of night arise
Your spring & your day, are wasted in play
And your winter and night in disguise.

5

Songs of Ourselves, Volume 2

- 8 **Either** (a) Discuss ways in which **two** poems explore relationships between men and women.
- Or** (b) Comment closely on the following poem, analysing ways in which Edna St Vincent Millay presents the speaker's view of the buck.

The Buck in the Snow

White sky, over the hemlocks bowed with snow,
 Saw you not at the beginning of evening the antlered buck and his doe
 Standing in the apple-orchard? I saw them. I saw them suddenly go,
 Tails up, with long leaps lovely and slow,
 Over the stone-wall into the wood of hemlocks bowed with snow.

5

Now he lies here, his wild blood scalding the snow.

How strange a thing is death, bringing to his knees, bringing to his antlers
 The buck in the snow.
 How strange a thing, – a mile away by now, it may be,
 Under the heavy hemlocks that as the moments pass
 Shift their loads a little, letting fall a feather of snow –
 Life, looking out attentive from the eyes of the doe.

10

(Edna St Vincent Millay)

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