



Cambridge International AS & A Level

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

9695/22

Paper 2 Prose and Unseen

February/March 2025

2 hours



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
 Question A: answer **one** question.
 Question 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 **12** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A: Prose

Answer **one** question from this section.

KIRAN DESAI: *The Inheritance of Loss*

- 1 **Either** (a) Discuss the presentation and significance of independence in the novel.
- Or** (b) Comment briefly on ways in which Desai presents Sai and Gyan in the following passage.

Gyan and Sai.

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'Toes '

(from Chapter 20)

Stories of Ourselves, Volume 1

- 2** **Either** (a) Discuss ways in which the writers of **two** stories make **memory** very important.
- Or** (b) Comment **briefly** on the following passage from Bernard Malamud's *The Prisoner*, considering its effectiveness as the ending of the story.

At the same time he figured he would have to do something serious, or it would get harder for the girl to stop her weeping.

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The girl, like a grotesque dancer, half ran, half fell forward, but at the door she managed to turn her white face and thrust out at him her red tongue.

(from The Prisoner)

EVELYN WAUGH: *A Handful of Dust*

- 3 Either (a)** Discuss ways in which Waugh presents greed in the novel.
- Or (b)** Comment briefly on the following passage, considering ways in which Waugh presents the work on the estates

They cut four trees and worked on them where they lay, bearing the bulk for a few feet round them.

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The estates would not hold all the stores and an 'emergency dump' was made a little way up the bank

(from In Search of a City, Part 3)

COLSON WHITEHEAD: *The Underground Railroad*

- 4 **Either** (a) Discuss some of the ways in which Whitehead makes the idea of a journey important in the novel.
- Or** (b) Comment briefly on the following passage, considering ways in which Whitehead presents Cora's refuge in Martin's attic

The heat was impossible most days

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nothing for him to do.

By his lights there was

(from North Carolina)

Section B: Unseen

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

5 Discuss ways in which the writer presents work on the docks in the following passage.

In your answer, consider the writer's choice of language, structure and narrative methods

Grappo started them unloading bananas great green baws of fruit as heavy as stone, of brutal weight even for the accordion maker's muscular and broad shoulders

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The seamen seized the bales, slung them high and tight, forced them into impossibly cramped spaces, odd corners through the use of boards and their expanding jackscrews until the ship nearly split; yet the cargo was perfectly balanced, the ship unshakable.

Or

6 Discuss the presentation of the weather in the following extract from a longer poem.

In your answer, consider the writer's choice of language, structure and poetic methods

from *That Summer*

That summer it was dangerous to put wet laundry in the dryer
because of flash floods that would erupt along the venting hose
and oceans on short circuits

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late at night from the sky on the other side of the world.

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