



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Friday 24 May 2024 – Morning

A Level English Literature

H472/01 Drama and poetry pre-1900

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **one** question in Section 1 and **one** in Section 2.
- All questions in Section 1 have two parts, (a) and (b). Answer **both** parts of the question on the text you have studied.
- Answer **one** question on the texts you have studied in Section 2.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **60**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- This document has **20** pages.

ADVICE

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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Section 1 – Shakespeare

Coriolanus
Hamlet
Measure for Measure
Richard III
The Tempest
Twelfth Night

Answer **one** question from this section. You must answer **both** parts (a) **and** (b).

You should spend about 1 hour and 15 minutes on this section.

1 *Coriolanus*

Answer **both** parts (a) and (b).

- (a) Discuss the following passage from Act 1 Scene 6, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and dramatic effects. **[15]**

MARCIUS	Come I too late?	
COMINIUS	Ay, if you come not in the blood of others, But mantled in your own.	
MARCIUS	O! let me clip ye In arms as sound as when I woo'd, in heart As merry as when our nuptial day was done, And tapers burn'd to bedward.	5
COMINIUS	Flower of warriors, How is't with Titus Lartius?	
MARCIUS	As with a man busied about decrees: Condemning some to death, and some to exile; Ransoming him or pitying, threat'ning th'other; Holding Corioli in the name of Rome Even like a fawning greyhound in the leash, To let him slip at will.	10 15
COMINIUS	Where is that slave Which told me they had beat you to your trenches? Where is he? Call him hither.	
MARCIUS	Let him alone; He did inform the truth. But for our gentlemen, The common file—a plague! tribunes for them! The mouse ne'er shunn'd the cat as they did budge From rascals worse than they.	20
COMINIUS	But how prevail'd you?	
MARCIUS	Will the time serve to tell? I do not think. Where is the enemy? Are you lords o' th' field? If not, why cease you till you are so?	25
COMINIUS	Marcus, We have at disadvantage fought and did Retire to win our purpose.	30
MARCIUS	How lies their battle? Know you on which side They have plac'd their men of trust?	
COMINIUS	As I guess, Marcus, Their bands i' th' vaward are the Antiates, Of their best trust; o'er them Aufidius, Their very heart of hope.	35

5

MARCIUS	I do beseech you, By all the battles wherein we have fought, By th' blood we have shed together, by th' vows We have made to endure friends, that you directly Set me against Aufidius and his Antiates; And that you not delay the present, but, Filling the air with swords advanc'd and darts, We prove this very hour.	40
COMINIUS	Though I could wish You were conducted to a gentle bath And balms applied to you, yet dare I never Deny your asking: take your choice of those That best can aid your action.	45
MARCIUS	Those are they That most are willing. If any such be here— As it were sin to doubt—that love this painting Wherein you see me smear'd; if any fear Lesser his person than an ill report; If any think brave death outweighs bad life And that his country's dearer than himself; Let him alone, or so many so minded, Wave thus to express his disposition, And follow Marcius.	50 55
	<i>[They all shout and wave their swords, take him up in their arms and cast up their caps.]</i>	60
	O, me alone! Make you a sword of me? If these shows be not outward, which of you But is four Volscres? None of you but is Able to bear against the great Aufidius A shield as hard as his. A certain number, Though thanks to all, must I select from all; the rest Shall bear the business in some other fight, As cause will be obey'd. Please you to march; And four shall quickly draw out my command, Which men are best inclin'd.	65 70
COMINIUS	March on, my fellows; Make good this ostentation, and you shall Divide in all with us.	

[Exeunt.]

And

(b) 'A play about military values.'

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of the play *Coriolanus*.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations.

[15]

2 Hamlet

Answer **both** parts (a) and (b).

- (a)** Discuss the following passage from Act 3 Scene 3, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and dramatic effects. [15]

KING

O, my offence is rank, it smells to heaven;
It hath the primal eldest curse upon't—
A brother's murder! Pray can I not,
Though inclination be as sharp as will. 5
My stronger guilt defeats my strong intent,
And, like a man to double business bound,
I stand in pause where I shall first begin,
And both neglect. What if this cursed hand
Were thicker than itself with brother's blood,
Is there not rain enough in the sweet heavens 10
To wash it white as snow? Whereto serves mercy
But to confront the visage of offence?
And what's in prayer but this twofold force,
To be forestalled ere we come to fall,
Or pardon'd being down? Then I'll look up; 15
My fault is past. But, O, what form of prayer
Can serve my turn? 'Forgive me my foul murder'!
That cannot be; since I am still possess'd
Of those effects for which I did the murder—
My crown, mine own ambition and my queen. 20
May one be pardon'd and retain th' offence?
In the corrupted currents of this world
Offence's gilded hand may shove by justice;
And oft 'tis seen the wicked prize itself
Buys out the law. But 'tis not so above: 25
There is no shuffling; there the action lies
In his true nature; and we ourselves compell'd,
Even to the teeth and forehead of our faults,
To give in evidence. What then? What rests?
Try what repentance can. What can it not? 30
Yet what can it when one can not repent?
O wretched state! O bosom black as death!
O limed soul, that, struggling to be free,
Art more engag'd! Help, angels. Make assay:
Bow, stubborn knees; and, heart, with strings of steel, 35
Be soft as sinews of the new-born babe.
All may be well.

[Retires and kneels.

Enter HAMLET

HAMLET

Now might I do it pat, now 'a is a-praying; 40
And now I'll do't - and so 'a goes to heaven;
And so am I reveng'd. That would be scann'd:
A villain kills my father; and for that,
I, his sole son, do this same villain send
To heaven. 45
Why, this is hire and salary, not revenge.

'A took my father grossly, full of bread,
 With all his crimes broad blown, as flush as May;
 And how his audit stands who knows save heaven?
 But in our circumstance and course of thought 50
 'Tis heavy with him; and am I then reveng'd
 To take him in the purging of his soul,
 When he is fit and season'd for his passage?
 No.
 Up, sword, and know thou a more horrid hent. 55
 When he is drunk asleep, or in his rage;
 Or in th' incestuous pleasure of his bed;
 At game, a-swearing, or about some act
 That has no relish of salvation in't—
 Then trip him, that his heels may kick at heaven, 60
 And that his soul may be as damn'd and black
 As hell, whereto it goes. My mother stays.
 This physic but prolongs thy sickly days.

[Exit.

KING [Rising] My words fly up, my thoughts remain below. 65
 Words without thoughts never to heaven go.

[Exit.

And

(b) 'A play in which characters are preoccupied with justice and morality.'

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of the play
Hamlet.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations.

[15]

3 Measure for Measure

Answer **both** parts (a) and (b).

- (a) Discuss the following passage from Act 1 Scene 4, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and dramatic effects. [15]

A nunnery.

Enter ISABELLA and FRANCISCA.

ISABELLA	And have you nuns no farther privileges?	
FRANCISCA	Are not these large enough?	
ISABELLA	Yes, truly I speak not as desiring more, But rather wishing a more strict restraint Upon the sisterhood, the votarists of Saint Clare.	5
LUCIO	[Within] Ho! Peace be in this place!	
ISABELLA	Who's that which calls?	
FRANCISCA	It is a man's voice. Gentle Isabella, Turn you the key, and know his business of him; You may, I may not; you are yet unsworn; When you have vow'd, you must not speak with men But in the presence of the prioress; Then, if you speak, you must not show your face, Or, if you show your face, you must not speak. He calls again; I pray you, answer him.	10
	[Exit Francisca]	
ISABELLA	Peace and prosperity! Who is't that calls?	
	<i>Enter LUCIO.</i>	20
LUCIO	Hail, virgin, if you be, as those cheek-roses Proclaim you are no less. Can you so stead me As bring me to the sight of Isabella, A novice of this place, and the fair sister To her unhappy brother Claudio?	25
ISABELLA	Why her 'unhappy brother'? Let me ask The rather, for I now must make you know I am that Isabella, and his sister.	
LUCIO	Gentle and fair, your brother kindly greets you. Not to be weary with you, he's in prison.	30
ISABELLA	Woe me! For what?	
LUCIO	For that which, if myself might be his judge, He should receive his punishment in thanks: He hath got his friend with child.	
ISABELLA	Sir, make me not your story.	35
LUCIO	It is true. I would not—though 'tis my familiar sin With maids to seem the lapwing, and to jest, Tongue far from heart—play with all virgins so: I hold you as a thing enskied and sainted, By your renouncement an immortal spirit, And to be talk'd with in sincerity, As with a saint.	40
ISABELLA	You do blaspheme the good in mocking me.	

4 *Richard III*

Answer **both** parts **(a)** and **(b)**.

- (a)** Discuss the following passage from Act 1 Scene 2, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and dramatic effects. **[15]**

GLOUCESTER	I never sued to friend nor enemy; My tongue could never learn sweet smoothing word; But now thy beauty is propos'd my fee, My proud heart sues, and prompts my tongue to speak.	
	<i>[She looks scornfully at him.]</i>	5
	Teach not thy lip such scorn; for it was made For kissing, lady, not for such contempt. If thy revengeful heart cannot forgive, Lo here I lend thee this sharp-pointed sword; Which if thou please to hide in this true breast And let the soul forth that adoreth thee, I lay it naked to the deadly stroke, And humbly beg the death upon my knee.	10
	<i>[He lays his breast open; she offers at it with his sword.]</i>	
	Nay, do not pause; for I did kill King Henry— But 'twas thy beauty that provoked me. Nay, now dispatch: 'twas I that stabb'd young Edward— But 'twas thy heavenly face that set me on.	15
	<i>[She falls the sword.]</i>	
LADY ANNE	Take up the sword again, or take up me. Arise, dissembler; though I wish thy death, I will not be thy executioner.	20
GLOUCESTER	Then bid me kill myself, and I will do it.	
LADY ANNE	I have already.	
GLOUCESTER	That was in thy rage. Speak it again, and even with the word This hand, which for thy love did kill thy love, Shall for thy love kill a far truer love; To both their deaths thou shalt be accessary. I would I knew thy heart.	25
LADY ANNE	'Tis figured in my tongue.	30
GLOUCESTER	I fear me both are false.	
LADY ANNE	Then never was man true.	
GLOUCESTER	Well, well, put up your sword. Say, then, my peace is made. That shalt thou know hereafter. But shall I live in hope?	35
LADY ANNE	All men, I hope, live so.	
GLOUCESTER	Vouchsafes to wear this ring.	
LADY ANNE	To take is not to give. <i>[Puts on the ring.]</i>	40
GLOUCESTER	Look how my ring encompasseth thy finger, Even so thy breast encloseth my poor heart; Wear both of them, for both of them are thine.	

11

	And if thy poor devoted servant may But beg one favour at thy gracious hand, Thou dost confirm his happiness for ever.	45
LADY ANNE	What is it?	
GLOUCESTER	That it may please you leave these sad designs To him that hath more cause to be a mourner, And presently repair to Crosby House; Where—after I have solemnly interr'd At Chertsey monast'ry this noble king, And wet his grave with my repentant tears— I will with all expedient duty see you. For divers unknown reasons, I beseech you, Grant me this boon.	50
LADY ANNE	With all my heart; and much it joys me too To see you are become so penitent. Tressel and Berkeley, go along with me.	
GLOUCESTER	Bid me farewell.	55
LADY ANNE	'Tis more than you deserve; But since you teach me how to flatter you, Imagine I have said farewell already.	60

[Exeunt two gentlemen with Lady Anne.]

GLOUCESTER	Sirs, take up the corse.	65
GENTLEMEN	Towards Chertsey, noble lord?	
GLOUCESTER	No, to White Friars; there attend my coming.	

[Exeunt all but GLOUCESTER]

	Was ever woman in this humour woo'd? Was ever woman in this humour won? I'll have her; but I will not keep her long.	70
--	--	----

And

(b) 'The power of Richard's personality dominates the events of the play.'

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of the play *Richard III*.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations.

[15]

13

In what thou hadst to say; so, with good life
 And observation strange, my meaner ministers 45
 Their several kinds have done. My high charms work,
 And these mine enemies are all knit up
 In their distractions. They now are in my pow'r;
 And in these fits I leave them, while I visit
 Young Ferdinand, whom they suppose is drown'd, 50
 And his and mine lov'd darling.

[Exit above.]

GONZALO I' th' name of something holy, sir, why stand you
 In this strange stare?

ALONSO O, it is monstrous, monstrous! 55
 Methought the billows spoke, and told me of it;
 The winds did sing it to me; and the thunder,
 That deep and dreadful organ-pipe, pronounc'd
 The name of Prosper; it did bass my trespass.
 Therefore my son i' th' ooze is bedded; and 60
 I'll seek him deeper than e'er plummet sounded,
 And with him there lie mudded.

[Exit.]

SEBASTIAN But one fiend at a time,
 I'll fight their legions o'er. 65
ANTONIO I'll be thy second.

[Exeunt SEBASTIAN, and ANTONIO.]

And

(b) 'Punishment is a key element in the play.'

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of *The Tempest*.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations.

[15]

6 *Twelfth Night*

Answer **both** parts **(a)** and **(b)**.

(a) Discuss the following passage from Act 1 Scene 5, exploring Shakespeare's use of language and dramatic effects. **[15]**

OLIVIA	...we will draw the curtain and show you the picture. [<i>Unveiling</i>] Look you, sir, such a one I was this present. Is't not well done?	
VIOLA	Excellently done, if God did all.	
OLIVIA	'Tis in grain, sir; 'twill endure wind and weather.	
VIOLA	'Tis beauty truly blent, whose red and white Nature's own sweet and cunning hand laid on. Lady, you are the cruell'st she alive, If you will lead these graces to the grave, And leave the world no copy.	5
OLIVIA	O, sir, I will not be so hard-hearted; I will give out divers schedules of my beauty. It shall be inventoried, and every particle and utensil labell'd to my will: as—item, two lips indifferent red; item, two grey eyes with lids to them; item, one neck, one chin, and so forth. Were you sent hither to praise me?	10
VIOLA	I see you what you are: you are too proud; But, if you were the devil, you are fair. My lord and master loves you—O, such love Could be but recompens'd, though you were crown'd The nonpareil of beauty!	15
OLIVIA	How does he love me?	
VIOLA	With adorations, fertile tears, With groans that thunder love, with sighs of fire.	20
OLIVIA	Your lord does know my mind; I cannot love him. Yet I suppose him virtuous, know him noble, Of great estate, of fresh and stainless youth; In voices well divulg'd, free, learn'd and valiant, And in dimension and the shape of nature A gracious person; but yet I cannot love him. He might have took his answer long ago.	25
VIOLA	If I did love you in my master's flame, With such a suff'ring, such a deadly life, In your denial I would find no sense; I would not understand it.	30
OLIVIA	Why, what would you?	
VIOLA	Make me a willow cabin at your gate, And call upon my soul within the house; Write loyal cantons of contemned love And sing them loud even in the dead of night; Halloo your name to the reverberate hills, And make the babbling gossip of the air Cry out 'Olivia!' O, you should not rest Between the elements of air and earth But you should pity me!	35
OLIVIA	You might do much.	
VIOLA	What is your parentage? Above my fortunes, yet my state is well: I am a gentleman.	40
OLIVIA	Get you to your lord; I cannot love him; let him send no more— Unless perchance you come to me again	45

15

VIOLA	To tell me how he takes it. Fare you well.	50
	I thank you for your pains; spend this for me.	
	I am no fee'd post, lady; keep your purse; My master, not myself, lacks recompense.	55
	Love make his heart of flint that you shall love; And let your fervour, like my master's, be	
	Plac'd in contempt! Farewell, fair cruelty.	

And

(b) 'A play which shows that love demands we risk everything.'

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of *Twelfth Night*.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations.

[15]

Section 2 – Drama and Poetry pre-1900

Answer **one** question from this section.

You should spend about **1 hour and 15 minutes** on this section.

You should use **one drama text** from the list and **one poetry text** from the list in your answer:

Drama	Poetry
Christopher Marlowe: <i>Edward II</i> John Webster: <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i> Oliver Goldsmith: <i>She Stoops to Conquer</i> Henrik Ibsen: <i>A Doll's House</i> Oscar Wilde: <i>An Ideal Husband</i>	Geoffrey Chaucer: <i>The Merchant's Prologue and Tale</i> John Milton: <i>Paradise Lost Books 9 & 10</i> Samuel Taylor Coleridge: <i>Selected Poems</i> Alfred, Lord Tennyson: <i>Maud</i> Christina Rossetti: <i>Selected Poems</i>

7 'Isolation is not a natural state for people.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers explore the effects of solitude and seclusion on human beings. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists.

[30]

Or

8 'Literature thrives on presenting creative thinking and actions.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers explore creativity and the imagination. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists.

[30]

Or

9 'Love has the strength to triumph over every challenge.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers present the power and effects of love. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists.

[30]

Or

10 'Self-belief is presented as a dangerous quality in literary texts.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers present characters who believe strongly in themselves. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists.

[30]

Or

11 'Literature shows that people are capable of significant change.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers present and encourage development and change. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists.

[30]

Or

- 12** 'Literature suggests that human beings are essentially pessimistic.'

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers explore the existence and effects of negative thoughts and actions. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists.

[30]

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