GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing

Tuesday 6 June 2017 Morning Time allowed: 1 hour and 45 minutes

Materials
For this paper you must have:
• Source A – provided as a separate insert.

Instructions
• Answer all questions.
• Use black ink or black ball point pen.
• Fill in the boxes on this page.
• You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.
• Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
• Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
• You must refer to the insert booklet provided.
• You must not use a dictionary.

Information
• The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
• The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
• There are 40 marks for Section A and 40 marks for Section B.
• You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.
• You will be assessed on the quality of your reading in Section A.
• You will be assessed on the quality of your writing in Section B.

Advice
• You are advised to spend about 15 minutes reading through the source and all five questions you have to answer.
• You should make sure you leave sufficient time to check your answers.
Section A: Reading

Answer all questions in this section.
You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

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Read again the first part of the source, from lines 1 to 5.

List four things about Rosabel from this part of the source.

[4 marks]

1

2

3

4
Rosabel looked out of the windows; the street was blurred and misty, but light striking on the panes turned their dullness to opal and silver, and the jewellers' shops seen through this were fairy palaces. Her feet were horribly wet, and she knew the bottom of her skirt and petticoat would be coated with black, greasy mud. There was a sickening smell of warm humanity – it seemed to be oozing out of everybody in the bus – and everybody had the same expression, sitting so still, staring in front of them. Rosabel stirred suddenly and unfastened the two top buttons of her coat... she felt almost stifled. Through her half-closed eyes, the whole row of people on the opposite seat seemed to resolve into one meaningless, staring face.

How does the writer use language here to describe Rosabel's bus journey home?

You could include the writer's choice of:

- words and phrases
- language features and techniques
- sentence forms.

[8 marks]
You now need to think about the **whole** of the source.

This text is from the beginning of a short story.

How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader?

You could write about:

- what the writer focuses your attention on at the beginning of the source
- how and why the writer changes this focus as the source develops
- any other structural features that interest you.

[8 marks]
Focus this part of your answer on the second part of the source, from line 19 to the end.

A student said, ‘This part of the story, set in the hat shop, shows that the red-haired girl has many advantages in life, and I think Rosabel is right to be angry.’

To what extent do you agree?

In your response, you could:

• consider your own impressions of the red-haired girl
• evaluate how the writer conveys Rosabel’s reactions to the red-haired girl
• support your response with references to the text.

[20 marks]
Section B: Writing

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section. Write in full sentences.
You are reminded of the need to plan your answer.
You should leave enough time to check your work at the end.

Your local newspaper is running a creative writing competition and they intend to publish the winning entries.

Either

Describe a journey by bus as suggested by this picture:

or

Write a story about two people from very different backgrounds.
(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)

[40 marks]