A-level
ENGLISH LITERATURE A
Paper 2A  Texts in shared contexts: WW1 and its aftermath

Tuesday 12 June 2018  Afternoon  Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials
For this paper you must have:
• an AQA 12-page answer book
• a copy of the Insert for use with Section B (enclosed)
• a copy of each of the set texts you have studied for this paper. These texts must not be annotated and must not contain additional notes or materials.

Instructions
• Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
• Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The Paper Reference is 7712/2A.
• Read all of the questions. Then choose either Option 1 or Option 2 or Option 3. Answer one question from Section A and both questions from Section B from your chosen option. You must answer questions from only one option.
• 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.
Option 1
Section A: Poetry Set Text

Answer one question in this section.

_Up the Line to Death_ – ed. Brian Gardner

Either

0 1

Brian Gardner notes that the poets of 1914–18 found the nobility of man in the war, even if they did not find much nobility in the war itself.

Examine the significance of nobility in this anthology.

You must write about at least two poems in your answer.

[25 marks]

or

0 2

Look again at the section called ‘Tipperary Days’. Examine the view that the poems within this section celebrate the excitement of going to war.

You must write about at least two poems from this section.

[25 marks]

_Scars Upon My Heart_ – ed. Catherine Reilly

or

0 3

‘These are poems of despair and endurance rather than anger.’

Examine this view of the anthology.

You must write about at least two poems in your answer.

[25 marks]

or

0 4

‘Your battle wounds are scars upon my heart.’

Examine the significance of suffering in at least two poems in this anthology.

[25 marks]
Read the Insert carefully. The extract is taken from *Fear*, a semi-autobiographical novel by Gabriel Chevallier published in 1930. In this scene a French soldier, Jean Dartemont, has been moved with his unit to the front line near Arras, where he sees his friend Bertrand.

Answer both questions.

**0 5** Explore the significance of the setting in this extract.

Remember to include in your answer relevant detailed analysis of the ways that Chevallier shapes meanings.

[25 marks]

and

**0 6** Compare the significance of settings in two other texts you have studied.

Remember to include in your answer reference to how meanings are shaped in the texts you are comparing.

You must use one drama text and one prose text in your response, at least one of which must be a text written post-2000.

[25 marks]
Option 2

Section A: Drama Set Text

Answer one question in this section.

Oh! What a Lovely War – Joan Littlewood

Either

0 7

‘While there is much that is amusing, the overall purpose of the play is to disturb and educate.’

Examine this view. [25 marks]

or

0 8

Examine the significance of the pierrots in the play. [25 marks]

Journey’s End – R. C. Sherriff

or

0 9

A review of a production of the play has suggested that ‘the dugout resembled a public school dormitory’.

Examine the significance of social class in Journey’s End. [25 marks]

or

1 0

‘We are, generally, just waiting for something.’

Examine the significance of waiting in the play. [25 marks]
Option 2

Section B: Prose and Poetry Contextual Linking

Read the Insert. Answer both questions in this section.

Read the Insert carefully. The extract is taken from Fear, a semi-autobiographical novel by Gabriel Chevallier published in 1930. In this scene a French soldier, Jean Dartemont, has been moved with his unit to the front line near Arras, where he sees his friend Bertrand.

Answer both questions.

1 1 Explore the significance of the setting in this extract.

Remember to include in your answer relevant detailed analysis of the ways that Chevallier shapes meanings.

[25 marks]

and

1 2 Compare the significance of the settings in two other texts you have studied.

Remember to include in your answer reference to how meanings are shaped in the texts you are comparing.

You must use one prose text written post-2000 and one poetry text in your response.

You must write about at least two poems.

[25 marks]
Option 3

Section A: Prose Set Text

Answer one question in this section.

Regeneration – Pat Barker

Either

1 3  
Examine the significance of Rivers in Regeneration. [25 marks]

or

1 4  
‘Recovery and regeneration are key ideas in the novel.’
Examine the significance of the title in the light of this comment. [25 marks]

Birdsong – Sebastian Faulks

or

1 5  
‘No child or future generation will ever know what this was like.’
Examine the significance of re-discovering and remembering the past within the novel. [25 marks]

or

1 6  
Examine the significance of Jack Firebrace in Birdsong. [25 marks]
Read the Insert carefully. The extract is taken from *Fear*, a semi-autobiographical novel by Gabriel Chevallier published in 1930. In this scene a French soldier, Jean Dartemont, has been moved with his unit to the front line near Arras, where he sees his friend Bertrand.

Answer both questions.

1.7 Explore the significance of the setting in this extract.

   Remember to include in your answer relevant detailed analysis of the ways that Chevallier shapes meanings.

   [25 marks]

and

1.8 Compare the significance of the settings in two other texts you have studied.

   Remember to include in your answer reference to how meanings are shaped in the texts you are comparing.

   You must use the drama text written post-2000 (*My Boy Jack*) and one poetry text in your response.

   You must write about at least two poems.

   [25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS
There are no questions printed on this page