



A-level

ENGLISH LITERATURE A

**Paper 2A Texts in shared contexts: WW1 and its
aftermath**

7712/2A

Monday 1 June 2020

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

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.**

[Turn over]

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.**

DO NOT TURN OVER UNTIL TOLD TO DO SO

OPTION 1

SECTION A: Poetry Set Text

Answer ONE question in this section.

‘Up the Line to Death’ – ed. Brian Gardner

EITHER

0 1 Examine the significance of the natural world in ‘Up the Line to Death’.

You must write about AT LEAST TWO poems in your answer. [25 marks]

OR

0 2 “Have you forgotten yet?” (‘Aftermath’ – Siegfried Sassoon)

Examine the representations of remembrance in ‘Up the Line to Death’ in the light of this quotation.

You must write about AT LEAST TWO poems in your answer. [25 marks]

‘Scars Upon My Heart’ – ed. Catherine Reilly

OR

0 3 “These poets show no understanding of the harsh realities of war.”

Examine this view.

You must write about AT LEAST TWO poems in your answer. [25 marks]

OR

0 4 **Examine the significance of representations of female duty in this anthology.**

You must write about AT LEAST TWO poems in your answer. [25 marks]

[Turn over]

OPTION 1**SECTION B: Drama and Prose Contextual Linking**

Read the Insert. Answer BOTH questions in this section.

Read the Insert carefully. The extract is taken from ‘Mr Britling Sees it Through’, a novel by H.G. Wells (1866–1946) published in 1916. The extract begins with Mr Britling receiving a telegram telling him that his son Hugh has been killed in action.

Answer BOTH questions.

0 5 Explore the significance of personal loss in this extract.

Remember to include in your answer relevant detailed analysis of the ways that Wells shapes meanings. [25 marks]

AND

0 6 Compare the significance of personal loss 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]

[Turn over]

OPTION 2

SECTION A: Drama Set Text

Answer ONE question in this section.

‘Oh! What a Lovely War’ – Joan Littlewood

Either

0 7 “We follow you – like lambs to the slaughter.”
French soldier: Act 2

**Examine the presentation of the common soldier
in the light of this quotation from the play.
[25 marks]**

OR

0 8 “Women in this play actively encourage the
slaughter of men.”

**Examine the presentation of women in the light
of this view. [25 marks]**

'Journey's End' – R C Sherriff

OR

0 9 **'The ongoing tensions between Stanhope and Raleigh are never resolved.'**

Examine this view. [25 marks]

OR

1 0 **Examine the significance of the role of Trotter in 'Journey's End'. [25 marks]**

[Turn over]

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 ‘Mr Britling Sees it Through’, a novel by H.G. Wells (1866–1946) published in 1916. The extract begins with Mr Britling receiving a telegram telling him that his son Hugh has been killed in action.

Answer BOTH questions.

1 1 Explore the significance of personal loss in this extract.

Remember to include in your answer relevant detailed analysis of the ways that Wells shapes meanings. [25 marks]

AND

1 2 Compare the significance of personal loss 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]**

[Turn over]

OPTION 3

SECTION A: Prose Set Text

Answer ONE question in this section.

‘Regeneration’ – Pat Barker

EITHER

1 3 “The character of Sassoon is used as a catalyst for change.”

Examine Barker’s presentation of Sassoon in the light of this view. [25 marks]

OR

1 4 Examine the significance of father figures in ‘Regeneration’. [25 marks]

‘Birdsong’ – Sebastian Faulks

OR

1 5 Examine the significance of the role of Elizabeth in ‘Birdsong’. [25 marks]

OR

1 6 “In ‘Birdsong’ men are destroyed by crisis.”

Examine this view. [25 marks]

[Turn over]

OPTION 3**SECTION B: Drama and Poetry Contextual Linking**

Read the Insert. Answer BOTH questions in this section.

Read the Insert carefully. The extract is taken from ‘Mr Britling Sees it Through’, a novel by H.G. Wells (1866–1946) published in 1916. The extract begins with Mr Britling receiving a telegram telling him that his son Hugh has been killed in action.

Answer BOTH questions.

1 7 Explore the significance of personal loss in this extract.

Remember to include in your answer relevant detailed analysis of the ways that Wells shapes meanings. [25 marks]

AND

1 8 Compare the significance of personal loss 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

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