



A-level

ENGLISH LITERATURE A

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

7712/2A

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

Look again at the section called ‘Tipperary Days’. Examine the view that the poems within this section are more concerned with the anticipation of combat than its reality.

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

OR

0 2

“This anthology is, above all, a lament for the loss of youth.”

Examine this view.

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

[Turn over]

**‘Scars Upon My Heart’ –
ed. Catherine Reilly**

OR

0 3

**“The poems in this anthology always
accept rather than condemn the
suffering caused by war.”**

Examine this view.

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

OR

0	4
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Examine the significance of the anthology's title.

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 ‘Wake’, a novel by Anna Hope, published in 2014. In this extract Ada is remembering the last time she was with her son before he left for France.

Answer BOTH questions.

0	5
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Explore the significance of sacrifice in this extract.

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

AND

0	6
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Compare the significance of sacrifice 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

07

**Examine the significance of the MC in
‘Oh! What a Lovely War’. [25 marks]**

OR

08

**Examine the view that while the satire in
the play mocks those in power, it fails to
expose the full tragedy of the war.
[25 marks]**

‘Journey’s End’ – R C Sherriff

OR

0 9

“In ‘Journey’s End’, Sherriff suggests that, despite the loyalty shown to Stanhope, he is far from an ideal leader of men.”

Examine this view of Stanhope.

[25 marks]

OR

1 0

“Even on the front-line, their pre-war roles and relationships still govern the lives of the men.”

Examine this view of the play.

[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 'Wake', a novel by Anna Hope, published in 2014. In this extract Ada is remembering the last time she was with her son before he left for France.

Answer BOTH questions.

1 1

Explore the significance of sacrifice in this extract.

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

[25 marks]

[Turn over]

AND

1 2

Compare the significance of sacrifice 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]

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[Turn over]

OPTION 3

SECTION A: Prose Set Text

Answer ONE question in this section.

‘Regeneration’ – Pat Barker

EITHER

1 3

“Nothing justifies this. Nothing nothing nothing,” says Rivers about Burns.

Examine the significance of the relationship between Burns and Rivers in ‘Regeneration’ in the light of this comment. [25 marks]

OR

1 4

“In ‘Regeneration’, all men are at war with themselves.”

Examine this view. [25 marks]

[Turn over]

‘Birdsong’ – Sebastian Faulks

OR

1 5

Examine the view that, in ‘Birdsong’, soldiers are always degraded by their experience of war. [25 marks]

OR

1 6

Examine the significance of the relationship between Jack Firebrace and Stephen Wraysford in ‘Birdsong’. [25 marks]

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[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 'Wake', a novel by Anna Hope, published in 2014. In this extract Ada is remembering the last time she was with her son before he left for France.

Answer BOTH questions.

17

Explore the significance of sacrifice in this extract.

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

[25 marks]

[Turn over]

AND

1 8

Compare the significance of sacrifice 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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