



National  
Qualifications  
2017

X724/77/11

English  
Literary Study

THURSDAY, 11 MAY

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

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**Total marks — 20**

Attempt **ONLY** Part A OR Part B OR Part C OR Part D

**PART A — POETRY — 20 marks**

Attempt **one** question.

**PART B — PROSE FICTION — 20 marks**

Attempt **one** question.

**PART C — PROSE NON-FICTION — 20 marks**

Attempt **one** question.

**PART D — DRAMA — 20 marks**

Attempt **one** question.

You may not use the text(s) from your Dissertation for this paper.

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet, you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue or black ink**.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



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## LITERARY STUDY — 20 marks

Attempt ONLY Part A OR Part B OR Part C OR Part D.

### PART A — POETRY

Your answer should take the form of a CRITICAL ESSAY appropriately structured to meet the demands of your selected question.

Attempt ONE question

1. Discuss the presentation of rural life in **three** poems.
2. Discuss the use of irony in **three** poems.
3. *“Poetry deepens our understanding of human situations and actions—emotional, intellectual, moral . . .”*  
Discuss with reference to **three** poems.

4. Analyse the poetic treatment of time and change in **three** poems.
5. Discuss the poetic impact of the use of Scots in **three** poems.
6. *“The poet too often presents us with a view of the world which is bleak and lacking in any sort of consolation.”*  
To what extent do you agree? You should refer to **three** poems.
7. Analyse how the use of a persona contributes to the presentation of the central concerns of **three** poems.

OR

## PART B — PROSE FICTION

Your answer should take the form of a CRITICAL ESSAY appropriately structured to meet the demands of your selected question.

Attempt ONE question

8. Discuss the extent to which the principal characters in **two** novels are limited by the external constraints placed upon them.
9. Compare and contrast the use of setting and its thematic significance in **two** novels.
10. With reference to **two** novels, discuss some of the principal means by which the writer portrays the protagonists' struggles to overcome their own weaknesses.
11. Discuss the ways in which themes of isolation and/or estrangement are explored in **two** novels or **three** short stories.
12. "*The good ended happily, and the bad unhappily. That is what Fiction means.*"  
Discuss the extent to which **two** novels or **three** short stories conform to or challenge this assertion.
13. Compare and contrast the role and function of the principal female characters in **two** novels.
14. Analyse the use of symbols to give significance to what appears to be merely ordinary and/or incidental in **three** short stories.

[Turn over

OR

## PART C — PROSE NON-FICTION

Your answer should take the form of a CRITICAL ESSAY appropriately structured to meet the demands of your selected question.

Attempt ONE question

15. *“Although the setting is unique in terms of time and/or place—there are universal elements which a world audience could connect with.”*

Discuss with reference to at least **two** non-fiction texts.

16. *“Personal relationships are often significant in works of non-fiction.”*

Discuss in what ways this significance is explored in at least **two** non-fiction texts.

17. *“Reminiscences, even experiences, do not always amount to an autobiography. For autobiography has to do with time, with sequence and what makes up the continuous flow of life.”*

Discuss the extent to which autobiographical writing is more than simply “reminiscences” and “experiences” with reference to at least **two** non-fiction texts.

18. Compare the exploration of contemporary issues in at least **two** non-fiction texts.

19. *“The most interesting writing involves tragedy, shock or scandal.”*

Discuss with reference to at least **two** non-fiction texts.

20. *“Writers speak powerfully of what a human being has the potential to become.”*

Discuss with reference to at least **two** non-fiction texts.

21. *“Writers of non-fiction often express strongly held political or ethical views.”*

Discuss some of the principal means by which such “strongly held views” are presented in at least **two** non-fiction texts.

OR

## PART D — DRAMA

Your answer should take the form of a CRITICAL ESSAY appropriately structured to meet the demands of your selected question.

Attempt ONE question

22. Compare and contrast the use of dramatic irony in two plays.

23. *"The best drama, no matter where or when it is set, offers universal insights into the human condition."*

Discuss with reference to two plays.

24. *"There have to be moments when you glimpse something decent, something life-affirming even in the most unappealing character."*

Discuss with reference to two plays.

25. Discuss the dramatic presentation of women's experiences in particular societies in two plays.

26. *"Theatre is a heightened version of real life, an essence of human behaviour that is stranger and more perfect than everything that is ordinary."*

Discuss this view of theatre with reference to two plays.

27. *"It is in the clever manipulation of language that the true power of the play emerges."*

Discuss with reference to two plays.

28. Discuss how the theme of identity is explored in two plays.

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