

AS

ENGLISH LITERATURE B

Paper 2B Literary genres: Prose and Poetry: Aspects of comedy

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book
- a copy of the set text(s) you have studied. 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 7716/2B.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- 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 the connections across the texts you have studied
 - explore different interpretations of your texts.

Section A

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0	1
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The Nun's Priest's Tale – Geoffrey Chaucer

Explore the view that Chauntecleer is presented as foolish and not at all admirable.

In your answer you need to analyse closely Chaucer's authorial methods and include comments on the extract below.

[25 marks]

From *The Nun's Priest's Tale*

This Chauntecleer stood hye upon his toos,
Strecching his nekke, and heeld hise eyen cloos,
And gan to crowe loude for the nones.
And daun Russell the fox stirte up atones,
And by the gargat hente Chauntecleer,
And on his bak toward the wode him beer,
For yet ne was ther no man that him sewed.

O destinee, that mayst nat been eschewed!
Allas, that Chauntecler fleigh fro the bemes!
Allas, his wif ne roghte nat of dremes!
– And on a Friday fil al this meschaunce.

O Venus, that art goddesse of plesaunce,
Sin that thy servant was this Chauntecleer,
And in thy service dide al his power,
Moore for delit than world to multiplie,
Why woldestow suffre him on thy day to die?

or

0	2
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Poetry Anthology: Comedy

Explore the view that the poems in *Poetry Anthology: Comedy* are more disturbing than amusing.

You must refer to *A Satirical Elegy. On the Death of a Late Famous General* and **at least one** other poem.

In your answer you need to analyse closely the poets' authorial methods and include comments on the extract below.

[25 marks]

From *A Satirical Elegy. On the Death of a Late Famous General*

Behold his funeral appears,
Nor widow's sighs, nor orphan's tears,
Wont at such times each heart to pierce,
Attend the progress of his herse.
But what of that, his friends may say,
He had those honours in his day.
True to his profit and his pride,
He made them weep before he dy'd.
Come hither, all ye empty things,
Ye bubbles rais'd by breath of Kings;
Who float upon the tide of state,
Come hither, and behold your fate.
Let pride be taught by this rebuke,
How very mean a thing's a Duke;
From all his ill-got honours flung,
Turn'd to that dirt from whence he sprung.

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►

or

0	3
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Betjeman selection – John Betjeman

Explore the view that in Betjeman's poems, the speakers are made weak by their desires.

You must refer to *The Licorice Fields at Pontefract* and **at least one** other poem.

In your answer you need to analyse closely Betjeman's authorial methods and include comments on the extract below.

[25 marks]

From *The Licorice Fields at Pontefract*

The light and dangling licorice flowers
Gave off the sweetest smells;
From various black Victorian towers
The Sunday evening bells
Came pealing over dales and hills
And tanneries and silent mills
And lowly streets where country stops
And little shuttered corner shops.

She cast her blazing eyes on me
And plucked a licorice leaf;
I was her captive slave and she
My red-haired robber chief.
Oh love! for love I could not speak,
It left me winded, wilting, weak
And held in brown arms strong and bare
And wound with flaming ropes of hair.

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0	4
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***Emma* – Jane Austen**

Explore the significance of misunderstandings to the comedy of the novel.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Austen’s authorial methods.

[25 marks]

or

0	5
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***Small Island* – Andrea Levy**

Explore the view that *Small Island* ends optimistically.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Levy’s authorial methods.

[25 marks]

or

0	6
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***Wise Children* – Angela Carter**

Explore the view that ‘in *Wise Children*, men are presented as being ridiculous and silly’.

Remember to include in your answer relevant analysis of Carter’s authorial methods.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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