
AS

ENGLISH LITERATURE B

7716/2B

Paper 2B: Literary Genres: Aspects of Comedy

2015

Morning

1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer booklet
- 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 **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is 7716/2B.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that 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 connections across the texts you have studied
 - explore different interpretations of your texts.

Section A: Poetry

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 the comedy in *The Nun's Priest's Tale* arises largely from having animals and birds behave like human beings.

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

[25 marks]

From The Nun's Priest's Tale

Lo Catoun, which that was so wys a man,
Seyde he nat thus, "Ne do no fors of dremes"?
"Now, sire," quod she, "whan we flee fro the bemes,
For Goddes love, as taak som laxatyf!
Up peril of my sould and of my lyf,
I conseilte yow the beste – I wol nat lye -
That bothe of colore and of malencolye
Ye purge yow; and for ye shal nat tarie,
Though in this toun is noon apothecarie,
I shal myself to herbes techen yow
That shul been for youre hele and for youre prow;
And in oure yeerd tho herbes shal I fynde
The whiche han of hire propretee by kynde
To purge you, bynethe and eek above..."

or

0	2
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Poetry Anthology: Comedy

Explore the view that competition and rivalry created between characters in comedic poetry is always light hearted.

You must refer to the poem 'Not my Best Side' and **at least one** other poem.

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

[25 marks]

From 'Not my Best Side'

Why, I said to myself, should my conqueror
Be so ostentatiously beardless, and ride
A horse with a deformed neck and square hoofs?
Why should my victim be so
Unattractive as to be inedible,
And why should she have me literally
On a string? I don't mind dying
Ritually, since I always rise again,
But I should have liked a little more blood
To show they were taking me seriously.

or

0	3
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Selected Poems – John Betjeman

Explore the view that Betjeman writes comic verse and not serious verse.

You must refer to 'In Westminster Abbey' and **at least two** other poems.

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

[25 marks]

From 'In Westminster Abbey'

I will labour for Thy Kingdom,
Help our lads to win the war,
Send white feathers to the cowards
Join the Women's Army Corps,
Then wash the steps around Thy Throne
In the Eternal Safety Zone.

Now I feel a little better,
What a treat to hear Thy Word,
Where the bones of leading statesmen
Have so often been interr'd.
And now, dear Lord, I cannot wait
Because I have a luncheon date.

Section B: Prose

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0	4
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***Emma* – Jane Austen**

Explore the view that, in *Emma*, the comedy is most apparent in those moments of self-discovery experienced by Emma Woodhouse herself.

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 Queenie's narrative voice always amuses the reader.

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, far from being figures of ridicule, old people are celebrated in *Wise Children*.

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

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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Question 1: from *The Nun's Priest's Tale* by Geoffrey Chaucer, Penguin, 1951

Question 2: © From 'Not my best side', in U.A Fanthorpe, *New and Collected Poems*, Enitharmon Press, 2010.

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