

General Certificate of Education
January 2008
Advanced Level Examination



ENGLISH LITERATURE (SPECIFICATION B)
Unit 6 Exploring Texts

LTB6

Wednesday 30 January 2008 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book
- your copy of the Pre-Release Material.

Time allowed: 3 hours (including 30 minutes' reading time)

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or 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 LTB6.
- Answer **both** questions.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- There are 40 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You should divide your time equally between both questions.

There are no questions printed on this page

Exile and Alienation

Answer **both** questions.

30 minutes are allocated in the examination to the reading and consideration of the material for this paper.

You may make notes during this time if you wish.

In Question 1, you will be tested on your ability to:

- respond with knowledge and understanding to literary texts of different types and periods, exploring and commenting on relationships and comparisons between literary texts
- show detailed understanding of the ways in which writers' choices of form, structure and language shape meanings.

- 1 Compare and contrast the ways in which Jhumpa Lahiri, in 'A Real Durwan', and Imtiaz Dharker, in "They'll say, 'She must be from another country'", explore issues of exile and alienation in their work.

(40 marks)

In Question 2, you will be tested on your ability to:

- communicate clearly the knowledge, understanding and insight appropriate to literary study, using appropriate terminology and accurate and coherent written expression
- articulate independent opinions and judgements, informed by different interpretations of literary texts by other readers
- evaluate the significance of cultural, historical and other contextual influences upon literary texts and study.

- 2 On the basis of your reading of Items Two, Three and Four, write about:

- some of the views on Lahiri's writing given in Item Two which seem to you applicable to the short story 'A Real Durwan' given in Item One
- how far Items Three and Four help you in your reading of 'A Real Durwan'.

(40 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

The following poem was written by Imtiaz Dharker in 2003. Imtiaz Dharker was born in Lahore, Pakistan, in 1954.

They'll say, 'She must be from another country'

When I can't comprehend
why they're burning books
or slashing paintings,
when they can't bear to look
at god's own nakedness,
when they ban the film
and gut the seats to stop the play
and I ask why
they just smile and say,
'She must be
from another country.'

When I speak on the phone
and the vowel sounds are off
when the consonants are hard
and they should be soft,
they'll catch on at once
they'll pin it down
they'll explain it right away
to their own satisfaction,
they'll cluck their tongues
and say,
'She must be
from another country.'

When my mouth goes up
instead of down,
when I wear a tablecloth
to go to town,
when they suspect I'm black
or hear I'm gay
they won't be surprised,
they'll purse their lips
and say,
'She must be
from another country.'

When I eat up the olives
and spit out the pits
when I yawn at the opera
in the tragic bits
when I pee in the vineyard
as if it were Bombay,
flaunting my bare ass
covering my face
laughing through my hands
they'll turn away,
shake their heads quite sadly,
'She doesn't know any better,'
they'll say,
'She must be
from another country.'

Maybe there is a country
where all of us live,
all of us freaks
who aren't able to give
our loyalty to fat old fools,
the crooks and thugs
who wear the uniform
that gives them the right
to wave a flag,
puff out their chests,
put their feet on our necks
and break their own rules.

But from where we are
it doesn't look like a country,
it's more like the cracks
that grow between borders
behind their backs.
That's where I live.
And I'll be happy to say,
'I never learned your customs.
I don't remember your language
or know your ways.
I must be
from another country.'

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Source: *They'll say*, 'She must be from another country' by Imtiaz Dharker, 2003.