

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination



ENGLISH LITERATURE (SPECIFICATION B)
Unit 6 Exploring Texts

LTB6

Wednesday 11 June 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 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 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

The Dramatic Monologue

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 Alan Bennett, in *Bed Among the Lentils*, and John Betjeman, in 'In Westminster Abbey', use the dramatic monologue form to present their material.

(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 • Which ideas in Item Two (A and B) have you found most helpful in your reading of *Bed Among the Lentils*?

and

- How far has Item Three helped you in your study of *Bed Among the Lentils* **and** 'In Westminster Abbey'?

(40 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

This poem by John Betjeman (1906 – 84) is from a collection of poems published in 1940 during the Second World War.

In Westminster Abbey

Let me take this other glove off
 As the *vox humana*¹ swells,
 And the beauteous fields of Eden
 Bask beneath the Abbey bells.
 Here, where England's statesmen lie, 5
 Listen to a lady's cry.

Gracious Lord, oh bomb the Germans.
 Spare their women for Thy Sake,
 And if that is not too easy
 We will pardon Thy Mistake. 10
 But, gracious Lord, whate'er shall be,
 Don't let anyone bomb me.

Keep our Empire undismembered
 Guide our Forces by Thy Hand,
 Gallant blacks from far Jamaica, 15
 Honduras and Togoland;
 Protect them Lord in all their fights,
 And, even more, protect the whites.

Think of what our Nation stands for,
 Books from Boots'² and country lanes, 20
 Free speech, free passes, class distinction,
 Democracy and proper drains.
 Lord, put beneath Thy special care
 One-eighty-nine Cadogan Square.

Although dear Lord I am a sinner, 25
 I have done no major crime;
 Now I'll come to Evening Service
 Whensoever I have the time.
 So, Lord, reserve for me a crown,
 And do not let my shares go down. 30

¹ *vox humana*: the sound of the organ

² Books from Boots': Boots The Chemist at one time had a lending library

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 35
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. 40
And now, dear Lord, I cannot wait
Because I have a luncheon date.

END OF QUESTIONS

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