

Cambridge International AS & A Level

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

9695/31

Paper 3 Shakespeare and Drama

May/June 2023

2 hours

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer two questions in total:

Section A: answer **one** question.

Section B: answer one question.

- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- Dictionaries are not allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- All questions are worth equal marks.



Section A: Shakespeare

Answer one question from this section.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: The Merchant of Venice

1	Either	(a)	What, for you, is the significance of Shylock's relationship with his daughter, Jessica,
			for the play as a whole?

Or	(b)	Analyse the following extract, considering it in relation to Shakespeare's dramatic
		methods and concerns, here and elsewhere in the play. You should pay close
		attention to language, tone and action in your answer.

attentio	n to language, tone and action in your answer.	
	[BASSANIO opens the letter.]	
Gratiano:	Nerissa, cheer yond stranger; bid her welcome. Your hand, Salerio. What's the news from Venice? How doth that royal merchant, good Antonio? I know he will be glad of our success: We are the Jasons, we have won the fleece.	
Salerio:	I would you had won the fleece that he hath lost.	
Portia:	There are some shrewd contents in yond same paper That steals the colour from Bassanio's cheek: Some dear friend dead, else nothing in the world Could turn so much the constitution Of any constant man. What, worse and worse! With leave, Bassanio: I am half yourself,	
	And I must freely have the half of anything	
	That this same paper brings you.	
Bassanio:	O sweet Portia, Here are a few of the unpleasant'st words That ever blotted paper! Gentle lady, When I did first impart my love to you, I freely told you all the wealth I had Ran in my veins – I was a gentleman; And then I told you true. And yet, dear lady,	
	Rating myself at nothing, you shall see How much I was a braggart. When I told you My state was nothing, I should then have told you That I was worse than nothing; for indeed I have engag'd myself to a dear friend, Engag'd my friend to his mere enemy,	
	To feed my means. Here is a letter, lady, The paper as the body of my friend, And every word in it a gaping wound Issuing life-blood. But it is true, Salerio? Hath all his ventures fail'd? What, not one hit?	
	From Tripolis, from Mexico, and England, From Lisbon, Barbary, and India, And not one vessel scape the dreadful touch	

Of merchant-marring rocks?

Besides, it should appear that, if he had The present money to discharge the Jew,

Not, one, my lord.

40

© UCLES 2023 9695/31/M/J/23

Salerio:

	He would not take it. Never did I know A creature that did bear the shape of man So keen and greedy to confound a man. He plies the Duke at morning and at night, And doth impeach the freedom of the state, If they deny him justice. Twenty merchants, The Duke himself, and the magnificoes Of greatest port, have all persuaded with him; But none can drive him from the envious plea Of forfeiture, of justice, and his bond.	4 5
Jessica:	When I was with him, I have heard him swear To Tubal and to Chus, his countrymen, That he would rather have Antonio's flesh Than twenty times the value of the sum That he did owe him; and I know, my lord, If law, authority, and power, deny not, It will go hard with poor Antonio.	55
Portia:	Is it your dear friend that is thus in trouble?	
Bassanio:	The dearest friend to me, the kindest man, The best condition'd and unwearied spirit In doing courtesies; and one in whom The ancient Roman honour more appears Than any that draws breath in Italy.	60
Portia:	What sum owes he the Jew?	
Bassanio:	For me, three thousand ducats.	65
Portia:	What! no more? Pay him six thousand, and deface the bond; Double six thousand, and then treble that, Before a friend of this description	
	Shall lose a hair through Bassanio's fault. First go with me to church and call me wife, And then away to Venice to your friend; For never shall you lie by Portia's side With an unquiet soul. You shall have gold	70
	To pay the petty debt twenty times over. When it is paid, bring your true friend along. My maid Nerissa and myself meantime Will live as maids and widows. Come, away; For you shall hence upon your wedding-day.	75

(from Act 3, Scene 2)

5

10

15

20

25

30

35

40

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: King Lear

2 Either (a) '[...] he hath ever but slenderly known himself.'

Discuss Shakespeare's presentation of King Lear in the light of Regan's comment.

Or (b) Analyse the following extract, showing what it adds to your understanding of Shakespeare's dramatic presentation of relationships between children and parents in the play. You should pay close attention to language, tone and action in your answer.

Edmund: If the matter were good, my lord, I durst swear it were his; but

in respect of that, I would fain think it were not.

Gloucester: It is his.

Edmund: It is his hand, my lord; but I hope his heart is not in the contents.

Gloucester: Has he never before sounded you in this business?

Edmund: Never, my lord; but I have heard him oft maintain it to be fit

that, sons at perfect age and fathers declin'd, the father should be as ward to the son, and the son manage his revenue.

Gloucester: O villain, villain! His very opinion in the letter! Abhorred villain!

Unnatural, detested, brutish villain! Worse than brutish! Go, sirrah, seek him; I'll apprehend him. Abominable villain! Where

is he?

Edmund: I do not well know, my lord. If it shall please you to suspend

your indignation against my brother till you can derive from him better testimony of his intent, you should run a certain course; where, if you violently proceed against him, mistaking his purpose, it would make a great gap in your own honour, and shake in pieces the heart of his obedience. I dare pawn down

my life for him that he hath writ this to feel my affection to your

honour, and to no other pretence of danger.

nonour, and to no other pretence of danger.

Gloucester: Think you so?

Edmund: If your honour judge it meet, I will place you where you shall

hear us confer of this, and by an auricular assurance have your satisfaction; and that without any further delay than this

very evening.

Gloucester: He cannot be such a monster.

Edmund: Nor is not, sure.

Gloucester: To his father, that so tenderly and entirely loves him. Heaven

and earth! Edmund, seek him out; wind me into him, I pray you. Frame the business after your own wisdom. I would unstate

myself to be in a due resolution.

Edmund: I will seek him, sir, presently; convey the business as I shall

find means, and acquaint you withal.

Gloucester: These late eclipses in the sun and moon portend no good to

us. Though the wisdom of nature can reason it thus and thus, yet nature finds itself scourg'd by the sequent effects: love cools, friendship falls off, brothers divide; in cities, mutinies; in countries, discord; in palaces, treason; and the bond crack'd 'twixt son and father. This villain of mine comes under the

prediction: there's son against father. The King falls from

bias of nature: there's father against child. We have seen the best of our time: machinations, hollowness, treachery, and all ruinous disorders, follow us disquietly to our graves. Find out this villain, Edmund; it shall lose thee nothing; do it carefully. And the noble and true-hearted Kent banish'd! His offence, honesty! 'Tis strange. [Exit.]

45

50

Edmund:

This is the excellent foppery of the world, that, when we are sick in fortune, often the surfeits of our own behaviour, we make guilty of our disasters the sun, the moon, and stars; as if we were villains on necessity; fools by heavenly compulsion; knaves, thieves, and treachers, by spherical predominance; drunkards, liars, and adulterers, by an enforc'd obedience of planetary influence; and all that we are evil in, by a divine thrusting on – an admirable evasion of whoremaster man, to lay his goatish disposition on the charge of a star! My father compounded with my mother under the Dragon's tail, and my nativity was under Ursa Major, so that it follows I am rough and lecherous. Fut, I should have been that I am, had the maidenliest star in the firmament twinkled on my bastardizing. Edgar!

55

60

[Enter EDGAR.]

(from Act 1, Scene 2)

6

Section B: Drama

Answer one question from this section.

ATHOL FUGARD: The Train Driver and Other Plays

- **3 Either (a)** How, and with what dramatic effects, does Fugard present characters' past experiences in these plays?
 - **Or (b)** Analyse the following extract and consider in what ways it is characteristic of Fugard's dramatic presentation of dreams and ambitions in these plays. You should pay close attention to the language, tone and action in your answer.

Veronica [A little laugh and shake of her head]: I made up a song about you, you know.

Content removed due to copyright restrictions.

Content removed due to copyright restrictions.

You

can't really get the crowd going with songs about potatoes and pumpkins.

(from Coming Home, Act 1, Scene 1)

SHELAGH STEPHENSON: An Experiment with an Air Pump

	SHELAGH STEPHENSON: An Experiment with an Air Pump				
4	Either	er (a) In what ways, and with what dramatic effects, does Stephenson contrast t worlds of the play?			
	Or	(b)	methods	he following extract, considering it in relation to Stephenson's drand concerns, here and elsewhere in the play. You should pay o language, tone and action in your answer.	
				[Lights up. ISOBEL is hanging from a rope in the middle of the stage, the chair overturned beneath her dangling feet.	
				MARIA comes on. She screams. ARMSTRONG comes running on.]	
		Arn	nstrong:	Oh my God, oh my God –	5
				[He runs to the body, climbs on the chair, tries to get her down. MARIA is frozen with horror.]	
		Arn	nstrong:	Help me, help me, Maria, for God's sake –	
				[She helps him and together they get ISOBEL down.]	
		Mai	ria:	Oh, Isobel, Isobel, I don't understand –	10
				[She feels for a pulse. ARMSTRONG puts his ear to ISOBEL's chest.]	
				I can feel a pulse, it's weak but it's there –	
				[ARMSTRONG takes off his coat and places it under ISOBEL's head.]	15
		Arn	nstrong:	Fetch help, Maria, find your father, anyone –	
		Mai	ria:	They're out walking –	
		Arn	nstrong:	Well, find them!	
				[She goes. ARMSTRONG feels the side of ISOBEL's neck for a pulse.]	20
		Arn	nstrong:	Isobel? Can you hear me?	
				[There's no response. He hesitates. Then puts his hands over her nose and mouth, presses down. Her heels flutter almost imperceptibly. In a second it is over. He feels her pulse again. He gets up, shakily, and notices the letter lying underneath the chair. He picks it up, unfold it. Reads.]	25
				'Loving words as I do'	
				[He reads to the end, then crumples the paper and puts it in his pocket. FENWICK, ROGET, HARRIET, MARIA and SUSANNAH come in.]	30
		Arn	nstrong:	She's gone. I couldn't save her.	
				[FENWICK and ROGET go to her. The three women hold on to each other in horror.]	
		Fer	nwick:	Why? Why did she do this?	
		Sus	sannah:	She left no note, no explanation?	35
		Arn	nstrong:	It seems not.	
		Fer	nwick:	Isobel, did we not care for you enough? Were we harsh? What did we do?	

[SUSANNAH goes to her.]
© UCLES 2023 9695/31/M/J/23

Susannah:	Oh, her poor neck.	40
	[She takes her hand.]	
	Are you sure she's dead, Joseph?	
Fenwick:	Gone. Snuffed out.	
	[He picks her up in his arms. Tears run down his face.]	
	I'll take her to her room. She should lie on a soft bed not a cold floor. Come with me.	45
	[He goes out. The women follow. ROGET and ARMSTRONG are left. Silence.]	
Armstrong:	Why did you tell her, you stupid fool?	
Roget:	I didn't. She was at the door. She heard what you said about her.	50
	[Pause.]	
Armstrong:	Well, how was I to know? It's not my fault, I didn't know she was	
Roget:	What?	55
Armstrong:	Unstable. I didn't know. Don't say anything, eh?	
	[Silence.]	
	I mean, we don't know for a fact that it was me who drove her to it, do we? It could have been anything.	
	(from Act 2 Scene 5)	

TOM STOPPARD: Indian Ink

- **5 Either (a)** In what ways, and with what dramatic effects, does Stoppard present English people and their values in the play?
 - **Or (b)** Analyse the following extract, considering it in relation to Stoppard's dramatic methods and concerns, here and elsewhere in the play. You should pay close attention to language, tone and action in your answer.

Das: Oh, but we Hindus can afford to be generous; we have gods to spare, one for every occasion.

Content removed due to copyright restrictions.

Content removed due to copyright restrictions.

Flora: Sex.

(from Act 1)

12

BLANK PAGE

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of Cambridge Assessment. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is a department of the University of Cambridge.