



A-level ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Paper 2 Exploring Conflict

Thursday 22 May 2025

Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book
- a copy of the set texts you have studied for Section A and Section B. 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 **7707/2**.
- There are **two** sections:
Section A: Writing about Society
Section B: Dramatic Encounters
- Answer **three** questions in total: **two** questions from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 100.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets. There are 55 marks in total for the questions in Section A and 45 marks for the question in Section B.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

It is recommended that you spend 80 minutes on Section A and 70 minutes on Section B.

Section A**Writing about Society**

Answer on **one** text in this section.

Answer **both** questions on your chosen set text.

Either***Into the Wild* – Jon Krakauer**

0	1
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Read the section of Chapter 13,

from

‘Carine made peace with her parents shortly after Chris disappeared, and now, at the age of twenty-two, she calls their relationship “extremely good”.’

to

‘Carine carried her brother’s ashes in her knapsack.’

This describes Carine’s life with her husband Chris Fish and her reaction to the news of her brother Chris’s death.

Recast the base text into an account that Chris Fish, Carine’s husband, gives to a customer at the auto repair business they own.

In your transformation you should consider:

- Chris Fish’s feelings about his brother-in-law Chris’s life and death and its impact on his wife Carine
- Chris Fish’s view of his own life and ambitions for the future.

You should write about 300 words.

[25 marks]

and

0	2
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Write a commentary explaining the decisions you have made in transforming the base text for this new account and the effects of reshaping Krakauer’s original description.

In your commentary you should:

- consider how you have used language to shape your intended meaning
- demonstrate the connections between the base text and your transformed text
- structure your commentary clearly to express your ideas.

You should write about 400 words.

[30 marks]

or

The Suspicions of Mr Whicher: or the Murder at Road Hill House – Kate Summerscale

0	3
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Read the section of Chapter 11,

from

‘The magistrates sat on their platform, alongside Detectives Whicher and Williamson, Captain Meredith, Superintendent Wolfe and Henry Clark, the magistrates’ clerk.’

to

‘I have been putting questions according to the rule of evidence,’ said Clark, ‘and if I do not get an answer, I must put the question again.’

This describes the magistrates’ examination of Constance Kent in order to decide if she should be sent for trial.

Recast the base text into an account that Henry Clark gives to a magistrate discussing the day’s events in court.

In your transformation you should consider:

- Henry Clark’s views about the case and the ongoing events both in and outside the courtroom
- his impressions of the lawyers, the witnesses and Constance Kent.

You should write about 300 words.

[25 marks]

and

0	4
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Write a commentary explaining the decisions you have made in transforming the base text for this new account and the effects of reshaping Summerscale’s original description.

In your commentary you should:

- consider how you have used language to shape your intended meaning
- demonstrate the connections between the base text and your transformed text
- structure your commentary clearly to express your ideas.

You should write about 400 words.

[30 marks]

Turn over ►

or

***The Great Gatsby* – F. Scott Fitzgerald**

0	5
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Read the section of Chapter 5,

from

‘After half an hour, the sun shone again, and the grocer’s automobile rounded Gatsby’s drive with the raw material for his servants’ dinner – I felt sure he wouldn’t eat a spoonful.’

to

‘Daisy took the brush with delight, and smoothed her hair, whereupon Gatsby sat down and shaded his eyes and began to laugh.’

This describes Nick Carraway’s visit to Gatsby’s house with Daisy Buchanan.

Recast the base text into an account that Gatsby’s maid gives to a local market trader about Daisy’s visit to Gatsby’s house.

In your transformation you should consider:

- the maid’s impressions of Daisy and Gatsby’s relationship
- the relationship between the servants at Gatsby’s house and their attitudes to the richer residents of East and West Egg.

You should write about 300 words.

[25 marks]

and

0	6
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Write a commentary explaining the decisions you have made in transforming the base text for this new account and the effects of reshaping Fitzgerald’s original description.

In your commentary you should:

- consider how you have used language to shape your intended meaning
- demonstrate the connections between the base text and your transformed text
- structure your commentary clearly to express your ideas.

You should write about 400 words.

[30 marks]

or

***The Kite Runner* – Khaled Hosseini**

0	7
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Read the section of Chapter 8,

from

‘I had to greet each of the guests personally – Baba made sure of that; no one was going to gossip the next day about how he’d raised a son with no manners.’

to

‘I just sat in the dark for a while, knees drawn to my chest, looking up at the stars, waiting for the night to be over.’

This describes Amir’s birthday party, a large event arranged by Baba. Assef and his parents attend the party and Assef gives Amir an unwelcome gift.

Recast the base text into an account that Assef’s mother Tanya gives to a friend about Amir’s thirteenth birthday party.

In your transformation you should consider:

- Tanya’s views about her son Assef and his behaviour towards Amir
- her impressions of Baba, Amir and the party, and her feelings about her life in Afghanistan.

You should write about 300 words.

[25 marks]

and

0	8
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Write a commentary explaining the decisions you have made in transforming the base text for this new account and the effects of reshaping Hosseini’s original description.

In your commentary you should:

- consider how you have used language to shape your intended meaning
- demonstrate the connections between the base text and your transformed text
- structure your commentary clearly to express your ideas.

You should write about 400 words.

[30 marks]

Turn over ►

Section B**Dramatic Encounters**

Answer **one** question in this section.

Either***Othello* – William Shakespeare**

0	9
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Refer to Act 3 Sc 4,

beginning

‘I will not leave him now till Cassio Be called to him.’ and

ending

‘Zounds!’ *Exit*

This interaction occurs near the beginning of the scene. Desdemona is attempting to persuade Othello to meet Cassio, whom he demoted following his drunken behaviour. Othello’s own behaviour is becoming more erratic as he suspects both Desdemona and Cassio of betraying him.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Shakespeare presents characters’ attitudes to trust at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

1	0
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Refer to Act 4 Sc3,

beginning

‘How goes it now? He looks gentler than he did.’ and

ending

‘God me such uses send, not to pick bad from bad, but by bad mend!’

This interaction occurs near the beginning of the scene. Desdemona is discussing her concerns about Othello’s recent treatment of her with Emilia and generally about men’s behaviour towards women.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Shakespeare presents characters’ anxieties about others at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

All My Sons – Arthur Miller

1	1
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Refer to Act 1,

beginning

'[*emotionally*] You think of him! You see?' [*Triumphantly*] She thinks of him!' and

ending

'[*resolutely*] No, Kate.'

This interaction occurs near the end of Act 1. Kate wants to know if Ann is also waiting for Larry to return. Ann attempts to convince Kate that she is moving on with her life.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Miller presents characters' waiting for others at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

1	2
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Refer to Act 2,

beginning

'I resent living next to the Holy Family.' and

ending

'All right, Chris, all right. [*They embrace as KELLER appears quietly on porch. ANN simply studies him.*]

This interaction occurs near the beginning of Act 2. Kate is talking to Sue, the Kellers' next-door neighbour, whilst waiting for the family to come back into the garden. Chris and Ann share their concerns about the imminent arrival of Ann's brother George.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Miller presents characters' rejection of others at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

Turn over ►

or

A Streetcar Named Desire – Tennessee Williams

1	3
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Refer to Scene 3,

beginning

'[*sharply*] That's not fun, Stanley.' and

ending

'[STANLEY jumps up and, crossing to the radio, turns it off. He stops short at sight of BLANCHE in the chair. She returns his look without flinching. Then he sits again at the poker table. *Two of the men have started arguing hotly.*']

This interaction is near the beginning of the scene. Stella and Blanche have returned to the apartment after a night out together and want to get ready for bed. Stanley and his friends are still playing poker.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Williams presents characters' rudeness to others at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

1	4
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Refer to Scene 10,

beginning

'Well, it's a red-letter night for us both.' and

ending

'Do you hear me? *Ha – ha – ha!*' [*He walks into the bedroom.*]

This interaction occurs at the beginning of the scene. Blanche has been alone in the apartment since Stanley and Stella had to rush to the hospital in the middle of Blanche's birthday party. Stanley has finally returned and Stella has remained in hospital in labour.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Williams presents characters' delusions at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

The Herd – Rory Kinnear

1	5
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Refer to the section,

beginning (page 16)

‘I’ll call him and tell him not to come.’ and

ending (page 19)

‘I don’t want her to throw away that chance for...well, for Andy.’

This interaction occurs near the beginning of the play. Andy’s grandparents Patricia and Brian have arrived for Andy’s birthday celebrations. Patricia is sharing her concerns about Carol’s life with Claire, during which Carol discovers that Andy might miss his party.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Kinnear presents characters’ feelings about luck at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

or

1	6
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Refer to the section,

beginning (page 38)

‘How long have you lived in Brighton, Mark?’ and

ending (page 41)

‘Claire, I want to be here. I want to.’

This interaction occurs near the middle of the play. Claire’s new boyfriend Mark has arrived and is meeting Claire’s family for the first time.

Referring to these lines and other parts of the play, explore how and why Kinnear presents characters’ judgements of others at different points in the play.

[45 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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