

GCSE

3720UC0-1



WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY 2023 - MORNING

ENGLISH LITERATURE

UNIT 2b

(Contemporary drama and literary heritage prose) HIGHER TIER

2 hours

SECTION A

	Pages
The History Boys	2–3
Blood Brothers	4–5
A View from the Bridge	6–7
Be My Baby	8–9
My Mother Said I Never Should	10–11
SECTION B	
Silas Marner	12–13
Pride and Prejudice	14–15
A Christmas Carol	16–17
Lord of the Flies	18–19
Ash on a Young Man's Sleeve	20-21

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Answer **both** Section A and Section B. Answer on **one** text in each section.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer,

for example 2 1.

Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Section A: 30 marks Section B: 30 marks

You are advised to spend your time as follows: Section A – about one hour

Section B – about one hour

The number of marks is given in brackets after each question or part-question. You are reminded that the accuracy and organisation of your writing will be assessed.

SECTION A

Answer questions on **one** text.

The Histor	y Boys	
Answer 1	1 and either 1 2 or 1 3.	
You are adv	rised to spend about 20 minutes on 1 1 , and about 40 minutes on 1 2.	
1 1	Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question: Look closely at how the Headmaster and Irwin speak and behave here. What does reveal to an audience about their characters?	s it [10]
Either,	How is the character of Posner presented to an audience throughout <i>The History Boys</i> ? Refer closely to the play in your answer.	[20]
Or, 1 3	Which relationship in <i>The History Boys</i> do you think is the most interesting? Show this relationship is presented in the play.	how [20]

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Scripps I'd been on playground duty, so I saw him on what must have been his first morning

waiting outside the study. I thought he was a new boy, which of course he was, so I

smiled.

Then Felix turned up.

Irwin is a young man, about twenty-five or so.

HEADMASTER You are?

IRWIN Irwin.
HEADMASTER Irwin?

IRWIN The supply teacher.

HEADMASTER Quite so.

He beckons Irwin cagily into the study.

Scripps Hector had said that if I wanted to write I should keep a notebook, and there must

have been something furtive about Irwin's arrival because I wrote it down. I called it

clandestine, a word I'd just learnt and wasn't sure how to pronounce.

HEADMASTER The examinations are in December, which gives us three months at the outside ...

Well, you were at Cambridge, you know the form.

IRWIN Oxford, Jesus.

HEADMASTER I thought of going, but this was the fifties. Change was in the air. A spirit of

adventure.

IRWIN So, where did you go?

Headmaster I was a geographer. I went to Hull.

IRWIN Oh. Larkin.

HEADMASTER Everybody says that. 'Hull? Oh, Larkin.' I don't know about the poetry ... as I

say, I was a geographer ... but as a librarian he was pitiless. The Himmler of the

Accessions Desk. And now, we're told, women in droves.

Art. They get away with murder.

They are a likely lot, the boys. All keen. One oddity. Rudge. Determined to try for Oxford and Christ Church of all places. No hope. Might get in at Loughborough in a bad year. Otherwise all bright. But they need polish. Edge. Your job. We are low in the league. I want to see us up there with Manchester Grammar School, Haberdashers' Aske's. Leighton Park. Or is that an open prison? No matter.

Pause.

There is a vacancy in history.

IRWIN (thoughtfully) That's very true.

HEADMASTER In the school.

IRWIN Ah.

HEADMASTER Get me scholarships, Irwin, pull us up the table, and it is yours. I am corseted by the

curriculum, but I can find you three lessons a week.

IRWIN Not enough.

HEADMASTER I agree. However, Mr Hector, our long-time English master, is General Studies.

There is passion there. Or, as I prefer to call it, commitment. But not curriculum-

directed. Not curriculum-directed at all.

In the circumstances we may be able to filch an hour. (going) You are very

young.

Grow a moustache.

I am thinking classroom control.

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Blood	Brothers

Answer 1 4 and either 1 5 or 1 6.

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on 1 4, and about 40 minutes on 1 5 or 1 6.

1 4 Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:

How does Willy Russell create mood and atmosphere for an audience here? Refer closely to the extract in your answer. [10]

Either,

1 5 How is the character of Mickey Johnstone important to the play as a whole? [20]

Or,

1 6 For which character in *Blood Brothers* do you have the greatest sympathy? Show how Willy Russell creates sympathy for your chosen character. [20]

Mrs Lyons I need about fifty pounds.

Mr Lyons My God, what for?

MRS LYONS I've got lots of things to buy for the baby, I've got the nursery to sort out ...

MR LYONS All right, all right, here. (He hands her the money.)

MR LYONS exits.

MRS LYONS considers what she is about to do and then calls

Mrs Lyons Mrs Johnstone. Mrs Johnstone, would you come out here for a moment,

please.

MRS JOHNSTONE *enters*.

Yes? Mrs Johnstone

MRS JOHNSTONE

MRS LYONS Sit down. Richard and I have been talking it over and, well the thing is, we

both think it would be better if you left.

Mrs Johnstone Left where?

MRS LYONS It's your work. Your work has deteriorated.

But, I work the way I've always worked.

MRS LYONS Well, I'm sorry, we're not satisfied.

MRS JOHNSTONE What will I do? How are we gonna live without my job?

MRS LYONS Yes, well we've thought of that. Here, here's ... (She pushes the money

into Mrs Johnstone's hands.) It's a lot of money ... but, well ...

MRS JOHNSTONE (thinking, desperate. Trying to get it together.) OK. All right. All right, Mrs

Lyons, right. If I'm goin', I'm takin' my son with me, I'm takin' ...

As Mrs Johnstone moves towards the cot Mrs Lyons roughly drags her out

of the way.

Mrs Lyons Oh no, you're not. Edward is my son. Mine.

MRS JOHNSTONE I'll tell someone ... I'll tell the police ... I'll bring the police in an' ...

MRS LYONS No ... no you won't. You gave your baby away. Don't you realise what a

crime that is. You'll be locked up. You sold your baby.

MRS JOHNSTONE, horrified, sees the bundle of notes in her hand, and throws

it across the room.

Mrs Johnstone I didn't ... you told me, you said I could see him every day. Well, I'll tell

someone, I'm gonna tell ...

Mrs Johnstone starts to leave but Mrs Lyons stops her.

No. You'll tell nobody. Mrs Lyons

Music.

Because ... because if you tell anyone... and these children learn of the truth, then you know what will happen, don't you? You do know what they

say about twins, secretly parted, don't you?

Mrs Johnstone (terrified) What? What?

Mrs Lyons They say ... they say that if either twin learns that he once was a pair, they

shall both immediately die. It means, Mrs Johnstone, that these brothers shall grow up, unaware of the other's existence. They shall be raised apart and never, ever told what was once the truth. You won't tell anyone about

this, Mrs Johnstone, because if you do, you will kill them.

Mrs Lyons picks up the money and thrusts it into Mrs Johnstone's hands.

MRS LYONS turns and walks away.

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A View from	the Bridge	
Answer 1	7 and either 1 8 or 1 9.	
You are advis	sed to spend about 20 minutes on 1 7, and about 40 minutes on 1 8.	
1 7 F	Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:	
	Look closely at how Eddie and Catherine speak and behave here. What does it reso an audience about their characters?	veal [10]
Either,	How is the character of Beatrice important to the play as a whole?	[20]
Or,		
	Not one of the characters, including Alfieri, had the power to stop the events of the clay.' How far do you agree with this statement?	e [20]

[20]

EDDIE goes into the house, as light rises in the apartment. CATHERINE is waving to Louis from the window and turns to him.

CATHERINE HI, Eddie!

Eddle is pleased and therefore shy about it; he hangs up his cap and jacket.

Eddle Where you goin' all dressed up?

CATHERINE, running her hands over her skirt: I just got it. You like it?

Eddle Yeah, it's nice. And what happened to your hair?

CATHERINE You like it? I fixed it different. Calling to kitchen: He's here, B.!

EDDIE Beautiful. Turn around, lemme see in the back. She turns for him. Oh, if your mother

was alive to see you now! She wouldn't believe it.

CATHERINE You like it, huh?

EDDIE You look like one of them girls that went to college. Where you goin'?

CATHERINE, *taking his arm:* Wait'll B. comes in, I'll tell you something. Here, sit down. *She is walking him to the armchair. Calling offstage:* Hurry up, will you, B.?

Eddie, sitting: What's goin' on?

CATHERINE I'll get you a beer, all right?

Eddle Well, tell me what happened. Come over here, talk to me.

CATHERINE I want to wait till B. comes in. She sits on her heels beside him. Guess how much

we paid for the skirt.

Eddle I think it's too short, ain't it?

CATHERINE, standing: No! Not when I stand up.

Eddle Yeah, but you gotta sit down sometimes.

CATHERINE Eddie, it's the style now. She walks to show him. I mean, if you see me walkin' down

the street-

EDDIE Listen, you been givin' me the willies the way you walk down the street, I mean it.

CATHERINE Why?

Eddle Catherine, I don't want to be a pest, but I'm tellin' you you're walkin' wavy.

CATHERINE I'm walkin' wavy?

EDDIE Now don't aggravate me, Katie, you are walkin' wavy! I don't like the looks they're

givin' you in the candy store. And with them new high heels on the sidewalk-clack,

clack, clack. The heads are turnin' like windmills.

CATHERINE But those guys look at all the girls, you know that.

Eddle You ain't "all the girls".

Catherine, almost in tears because he disapproves: What do you want me to do? You want me to-

Eddle Now don't get mad, kid.

CATHERINE Well, I don't know what you want from me.

Eddle Katie, I promised your mother on her deathbed. I'm responsible for you. You're a

baby, you don't understand these things. I mean like when you stand here by the

window, wavin' outside.

CATHERINE I was wavin' to Louis!

EDDIE Listen, I could tell you things about Louis which you wouldn't wave to him no more.

CATHERINE, trying to joke him out of his warning: Eddie, I wish there was one guy you couldn't tell

me things about!

Eddle Catherine, do me a favor, will you? You're gettin' to be a big girl now, you gotta keep

yourself more, you can't be so friendly, kid.

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Answer 2 0 and either 2 1 or 2 2.

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on **2 0**, and about 40 minutes on **2 1** or **2 2**.

2 0 Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:

How does Amanda Whittington create mood and atmosphere for an audience here? Refer closely to the extract in your answer. [10]

Either,

2 1 How is the character of Mary important to the play as a whole? [20]

Or,

2 2 'Music is what saves the girls in *Be My Baby*.' How far do you agree with this statement? [20]

Laundry. Two weeks later. Queenie and Mary are washing sheets whilst Dolores and Norma each read from a teen annual and a medical book.

Dolores 'Which are the great days in a girl's life? A hard question to answer but you can be

sure that on her greatest days, there will be a boy in the picture somewhere ...'

NORMA 'The actual onset of labour is probably governed by the endocrine secretion of the

posterior part of the pituitary gland.'

Dolores 'First Date is one of the millstones in a girl's life.'

MARY Milestones.

Dolores 'The day she stops being a child and becomes a woman. This is why the first date

should be a happy affair – but it won't if you go all ... all ...'

Dolores shows the magazine to Mary.

Mary Neurotic, Doll.

Dolores Did you go neurotic?

Mary No, I went dancing.

Dolores Me and Alfie went dancing. Round and round our yard to the wireless.

Mary Jonathan took me to the Palais on our first date.

Dolores Is that where you met him?

QUEENIE Am I the only scrubber left in this laundry?

MARY I used to sit behind him on the bus home from work. Couldn't take my eyes off the

back of his neck. Eventually he turned, walked me home and we never looked back.

Dolores returns to her book.

Dolores 'Saying goodnight to your date is left to your good taste and judgement – and to the

way you have been brought up.'

NORMA 'This finally overcomes the opposite influences from the progesterone and placental

hormones.'

Dolores 'Remember as you say goodbye and thank you that your date wants to respect you as

well as like you.

NORMA 'And produces the rhythmic, painful contractions of labour.'

Dolores 'Deep inside, he wants you to reject his offer of a goodnight kiss.'

Mary Painful?

Dolores 'Even if his actions may not support that idea.'

Mary Painful like a headache? Toothache? Earache?

QUEENIE I'll give you earache if you don't get working.

Dolores 'Ey, Norma? Is there owt on wind?

QUEENIE I've heard we're due for rain.

Dolores In your doctor's book. Between you and me, I've had shocking wind.

Mary I can't stop spending a penny.

Norma It bears down on the bladder.

MARY Bears down?
NORMA The uterus.
MARY Uterus?
NORMA Womb.
DOLORES You what?

NORMA What the baby's in, look.

NORMA shows Dolores a picture in the book.

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My Mother	Said I	Never	Should
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Answer 2 3 and either 2 4 or 2 5.

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on **2 3**, and about 40 minutes on **2 4** or **2 5**.

2 3 Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:

How does Charlotte Keatley create mood and atmosphere for an audience here? Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

[10]

Either,

How does Charlotte Keatley present the relationship between Doris and her daughter, Margaret? [20]

Or,

'The four women in *My Mother Said I Never Should* are all very different because of the various times in which they live.' How far do you agree with this statement? [20]

Doris Come along Rosie, put your anorak on.

As Doris helps Rosie into her anorak, the room is suddenly plunged into darkness

Oh!

Rosie I left the big torch on the landing!—Wait there, Gran.

Rosie Exits

Doris goes to the french windows

The sound of wind

Jack? Jack ... You should see how the roses have all blown down in the garden ... Doris

crushed ... You rattle like a dry pod, now. Skin on your skull like frayed paper (Pause) I tried so hard, even in those last few years ... Something nourishing and not difficult to chew ... The tray pushed aside on your bed. You did that deliberately, didn't you?

The wind rattles the windows

When you died and the nurses left me alone with you, to pray I suppose, I climbed into bed beside you, yes I did, lay beside you then ... the sun was shining through the window, hot; only you were cold as ice.

Rosie enters, carrying a round wooden board and the flashlight. She swings the flashlight around the room until the beam comes to rest on Doris's face. Doris has been crying.

Rosie -Gran?

Doris Give me a minute. I'll put my hat and gloves on.

Rosif Gran? Hurry, what are you doing?

A car horn honks outside

Doris Are they waiting for us?

Rosie (gently) You haven't got any gloves ... Oh Gran. (She goes to Doris. A split second of

hesitation)

Doris Don't kiss-

Yes! Rosif

Rosie

Rosie kisses Doris. Doris strokes Rosie's hair

Doris Lovely hair ... mine are all old grey hairs ...

(holds up the wooden board) Look, Gran, look what I found in the spare room. What is Rosif

it?

Doris Solitaire. Why, that was my mother's, she gave it me. It's a game. I used to sit and play

it in the evenings, while Jack read the papers. You have to get rid of all the marbles

from the holes in the board, until there is just one left, in the centre. Solitaire.

The car horn sounds again

Rosie Can we take it with us?

Doris Yes, if you want, Rosie.

Will you show me how to do it? **Doris** If you come and visit me. Put your hood up now, it's snowing out.

Rosie takes the Solitaire board and flashlight. She swings the beam round the room one last time

They exit

The sound of wind and snow increases

Black-out

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SECTION B

Answer questions on **one** text.

Silas Marne	er
Answer 2	6 and either 2 7 or 2 8.
You are adv	ised to spend about 20 minutes on 2 6, and about 40 minutes on 2 7.
2 6	Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:
	How does George Eliot create mood and atmosphere here? Refer closely to the extract in your answer. [10]
Either,	
2 7	For which character in <i>Silas Marner</i> do you have the greatest sympathy? Remember to support your answer with reference to the novel and comment on its social, cultural and historical context. [20]
Or,	<i>'Silas Marner</i> is set in the nineteenth century but its message is timeless.' How far do you agree with this statement? [20]

'I wish we had a little garden, father, with double daisies in, like Mrs Winthrop's,' said Eppie, when they were out in the lane; 'only they say it 'ud take a deal of digging and bringing fresh soil – and you couldn't do that, could you, father? Anyhow, I shouldn't like you to do it, for it 'ud be too hard work for you.'

'Yes, I could do it, child, if you want a bit o' garden: these long evenings, I could work at taking in a little bit o' the waste, just enough for a root or two o' flowers for you; and again, i' the morning, I could have a turn wi' the spade before I sat down to the loom. Why didn't you tell me before as you wanted a bit o' garden?'

'I can dig it for you, Master Marner,' said the young man in fustian, who was now by Eppie's side, entering into the conversation without the trouble of formalities. 'It'll be play to me after I've done my day's work, or any odd bits o' time when the work's slack. And I'll bring you some soil from Mr Cass's garden – he'll let me, and willing.'

'Eh, Aaron, my lad, are you there?' said Silas; 'I wasn't aware of you; for when Eppie's talking o' things, I see nothing but what she's a-saying. Well, if you could help me with the digging, we might get her a bit o' garden all the sooner.'

'Then, if you think well and good,' said Aaron, 'I'll come to the Stone-pits this afternoon, and we'll settle what land's to be taken in, and I'll get up an hour earlier i' the morning, and begin on it.'

'But not if you don't promise me not to work at the hard digging, father,' said Eppie. 'For I shouldn't ha' said anything about it,' she added, half bashfully, half roguishly, 'only Mrs Winthrop said as Aaron 'ud be so good and —'

'And you might ha' known it without mother telling you,' said Aaron. 'And Master Marner knows too, I hope, as I'm able and willing to do a turn o' work for him, and he won't do me the unkindness to anyways take it out o' my hands.'

'There, now, father, you won't work in it till it's all easy,' said Eppie, 'and you and me can mark out the beds, and make holes and plant the roots. It'll be a deal livelier at the Stone-pits when we've got some flowers, for I always think the flowers can see us and know what we're talking about. And I'll have a bit o' rosemary, and bergamot, and thyme, because they're so sweetsmelling; but there's no lavender; only in the gentlefolks' gardens, I think.'

'That's no reason why you shouldn't have some,' said Aaron, 'for I can bring you slips of anything; I'm forced to cut no end of 'em when I'm gardening, and throw 'em away mostly. There's a big bed o' lavender at the Red House: the missis is very fond of it.'

'Well,' said Silas, gravely, 'so as you don't make free for us, or ask for anything as is worth much at the Red House: for Mr Cass's been so good to us, and built us up the new end o' the cottage and given us beds and things, as I couldn't abide to be imposin' for garden-stuff or anything else.'

Pride and Prejudice

Answer 2 9 and either 3 0 or 3 1.

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on **2 9**, and about 40 minutes on **3 0** or **3 1**.

2 9 Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:

Look closely at how the characters speak and behave here. How does it create mood and atmosphere? [10]

Either,

How is the character of Mrs Bennet important to the novel as a whole? Remember to support your answer with reference to the novel and comment on its social, cultural and historical context.

Or,

'Love conquers all in *Pride and Prejudice*.' How far do you agree with this statement? Remember to support your answer with reference to the novel and comment on its social, cultural and historical context. [20]

When the ladies returned to the drawing room, there was little to be done but to hear Lady Catherine talk, which she did without any intermission till coffee came in, delivering her opinion on every subject in so decisive a manner as proved that she was not used to have her judgment controverted. She enquired into Charlotte's domestic concerns familiarly and minutely, and gave her a great deal of advice, as to the management of them all; told her how every thing ought to be regulated in so small a family as her's, and instructed her as to the care of her cows and her poultry. Elizabeth found that nothing was beneath this great Lady's attention, which could furnish her with an occasion of dictating to others. In the intervals of her discourse with Mrs. Collins, she addressed a variety of questions to Maria and Elizabeth, but especially to the latter, of whose connections she knew the least, and who she observed to Mrs. Collins, was a very genteel, pretty kind of girl. She asked her at different times, how many sisters she had, whether they were older or younger than herself, whether any of them were likely to be married, whether they were handsome, where they had been educated, what carriage her father kept, and what had been her mother's maiden name?—Elizabeth felt all the impertinence of her questions, but answered them very composedly.—Lady Catherine then observed,

"Your father's estate is entailed on Mr. Collins, I think. For your sake," turning to Charlotte, "I am glad of it; but otherwise I see no occasion for entailing estates from the female line.—It was not thought necessary in Sir Lewis de Bourgh's family.—Do you play and sing, Miss Bennet?"

"A little."

"Oh! then—some time or other we shall be happy to hear you. Our instrument is a capital one, probably superior to—You shall try it some day.—Do your sisters play and sing?"

"One of them does."

"Why did not you all learn?—You ought all to have learned. The Miss Webbs all play, and their father has not so good an income as your's.—Do you draw?"

"No, not at all."

"What, none of you?"

"Not one."

"That is very strange. But I suppose you had no opportunity. Your mother should have taken you to town every spring for the benefit of masters."

"My mother would have had no objection, but my father hates London."

"Has your governess left you?"

"We never had any governess."

"No governess! How was that possible? Five daughters brought up at home without a governess!—I never heard of such a thing. Your mother must have been quite a slave to your education."

Elizabeth could hardly help smiling, as she assured her that had not been the case.

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Answer 3 2 and either 3 3 or 3 4.

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on 3 2, and about 40 minutes on 3 3 or 3 4.

3 2 Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:

How does Dickens create mood and atmosphere here? Refer closely to the extract in your answer. [10]

Either,

3 3 How does Charles Dickens use the character of Scrooge to highlight some aspects of Victorian society? [20]

Or,

'Family is shown to be the most important thing to the characters in *A Christmas Carol*.' How far do you agree with this statement? Remember to support your answer with reference to the novel and comment on its social, cultural and historical context. [20]

They stood in the city streets on Christmas morning, where (for the weather was severe) the people made a rough, but brisk and not unpleasant kind of music, in scraping the snow from the pavement in front of their dwellings, and from the tops of their houses, whence it was mad delight to the boys to see it come plumping down into the road below, and splitting into artificial little snow-storms.

The house-fronts looked black enough, and the windows blacker, contrasting with the smooth white sheet of snow upon the roofs, and with the dirtier snow upon the ground; which last deposit had been ploughed up in deep furrows by the heavy wheels of carts and waggons; furrows that crossed and recrossed each other hundreds of times where the great streets branched off; and made intricate channels, hard to trace, in the thick yellow mud and icy water. The sky was gloomy, and the shortest streets were choked up with a dingy mist, half thawed, half frozen, whose heavier particles descended in a shower of sooty atoms, as if all the chimneys in Great Britain had, by one consent, caught fire, and were blazing away to their dear hearts' content. There was nothing very cheerful in the climate or the town, and yet was there an air of cheerfulness abroad that the clearest summer air and brightest summer sun might have endeavoured to diffuse in vain.

For, the people who were shovelling away on the house-tops were jovial and full of glee; calling out to one another from the parapets, and now and then exchanging a facetious snowball—betternatured missile far than many a wordy jest—laughing heartily if it went right, and not less heartily if it went wrong.

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Answer 3 5 and either 3 6 or 3 7.

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on 3 5, and about 40 minutes on 3 6 or 3 7.

3 5 Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:

How does Golding create mood and atmosphere here? Refer closely to the extract in your answer. [10]

Either,

How is the character of Jack important to the novel as a whole? Remember to support your answer with reference to the novel and comment on its social, cultural and historical context.

Or,

'Lord of the Flies is a dark story about the savagery of human nature.' How far do you agree with this statement? Remember to support your answer with reference to the novel and comment on its social, cultural and historical context. [20]

Simon stayed where he was, a small brown image, concealed by the leaves. Even if he shut his eyes, the sow's head still remained like an after-image. The half-shut eyes were dim with the infinite cynicism of adult life. They assured Simon that everything was a bad business.

'I know that.'

Simon discovered that he had spoken aloud. He opened his eyes quickly and there was the head grinning amusedly in the strange daylight, ignoring the flies, the spilled guts, even ignoring the indignity of being spiked on a stick.

He looked away, licking his dry lips.

A gift for the beast. Might not the beast come for it? The head, he thought, appeared to agree with him. Run away, said the head silently, go back to the others. It was a joke really—why should you bother? You were just wrong, that's all. A little headache, something you ate, perhaps. Go back, child, said the head silently.

Simon looked up, feeling the weight of his wet hair, and gazed at the sky. Up there, for once, were clouds, great bulging towers that sprouted away over the island, grey and cream and coppercoloured. The clouds were sitting on the land; they squeezed, produced moment by moment, this close, tormenting heat. Even the butterflies deserted the open space where the obscene thing grinned and dripped. Simon lowered his head, carefully keeping his eyes shut, then sheltered them with his hand. There were no shadows under the trees but everywhere a pearly stillness, so that what was real seemed illusive and without definition. The pile of guts was a black blob of flies that buzzed like a saw. After a while these flies found Simon. Gorged, they alighted by his runnels of sweat and drank. They tickled under his nostrils and played leapfrog on his thighs. They were black and iridescent green and without number; and in front of Simon, the Lord of the Flies hung on his stick and grinned. At last Simon gave up and looked back; saw the white teeth and dim eyes, the blood—and his gaze was held by that ancient, inescapable recognition. In Simon's right temple, a pulse began to beat on the brain.

Ash on a Young Man's S	Sleeve
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Answer 3 8 and either 3 9 or 4 0.

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on 3 8, and about 40 minutes on 3 9 or 4 0.

8 Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:

How does Dannie Abse create mood and atmosphere here? Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

[10]

Either,

Which relationship in *Ash on a Young Man's Sleeve* do you think is the most interesting? Show how this relationship is presented in the novel. Remember to support your answer with reference to the novel and comment on its social, cultural and historical context. [20]

Or,

How are different kinds of love presented in *Ash on a Young Man's Sleeve*?

Remember to support your answer with reference to the novel and comment on its social, cultural and historical context. [20]

Now I sat in the park, emperor of my eighteen years, king of the tall fading trees, big boss of the grass that was covered with a net of leaves. For the leaves were falling. Some branches already leaned nakedly into the scant oxygen – grim, wintry, and dead looking. Other trees were but lightly dressed and, minute after minute, another leaf would drop silently to the damp earth. The breeze would catch one sometimes and, instead of descending like a dead bird perpendicular to the grass, it would float in the air blown this and that way, like a child's paper aeroplane thrown, before descending unwillingly to the ground below. This was the death of leaves. Their falling was their dying. Those that came down unhindered, straight down the vertical rope of air were lucky, falling as they did, without protestation, a quick, easy, silent journey to death everlasting. But those that danced so gracefully, so lightly, so sadly to earth shouted in their untranslatable leaf-vocabulary. I was one who heard, that late autumn afternoon, their death agony. They fought against falling, even as some of us might, at night, struggle against falling in our most vivid dreams. Their descent was a cry of longing; they looked up yearningly at the branches from which they fell – not wishing to go. Like hands they dropped, yellow khaki hands, cold red hands, sinking in the air, waving goodbye, goodbye, to the branches that, already in our war weather, ached with their absence.

Near the air-raid shelters I heard, also, the waterfall crashing down into its disaster and saw, in the harp of wind, pools of rain-water trembling on the gravel pathway, reflecting shuddering fragments of sky. Pieces of sky, water, leaves, hands all fallen, falling in the convalescent sunlight. I stood up and walked out of the park, crossing the brook over the toy bridge, only stopping when I reached the street to gaze back at the distant summerhouse, at the nearer tall trees, at one more leaf, like a coloured minute, poised between high branch and grass – and I heard not one lingering cry of a child playing in that park which was made for children. I lit a cigarette, turned up the collar of my mackintosh, and strolled home that was never to be home again.

END OF PAPER

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