



**GCE AS/A LEVEL**

2720U20-1



**ENGLISH LITERATURE – AS unit 2**  
**Poetry Post-1900**

WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY 2018 – AFTERNOON

2 hours

2720U201  
01

### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet and clean copies (no annotation) of the poetry texts you have studied for this unit.

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided.

### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

Section A carries 40 marks and Section B 80 marks.

You are advised to spend 45 minutes on Section A and one hour 15 minutes on Section B.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You are reminded that assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

**Section A: Critical Analysis (open book)**

Answer **one** question in this section.

You must have a clean copy (no annotation) of the poetry texts which you have studied. Only the prescribed editions must be used.

In your response, you are required to analyse how meanings are shaped.

**Either,**

**Edward Thomas: *Selected Poems* (Faber)**

0	1	Re-read 'Rain' on page 110. Explore the ways in which Thomas depicts isolation in this poem. <span style="float: right;">[40]</span>
---	---	--

**Or,**

**Alun Lewis: *Collected Poems* (Seren)**

0	2	Re-read 'The Rhondda' on page 89. Examine the ways in which Lewis portrays the effects of industry in this poem. <span style="float: right;">[40]</span>
---	---	--

**Or,**

**D H Lawrence: *Selected Poems* (Penguin Classics, ed. James Fenton)**

0	3	Re-read 'Weeknight Service' on pages 29-30. Explore the ways in which religion is presented in this poem. <span style="float: right;">[40]</span>
---	---	---

Or,

**Gillian Clarke: *Making the Beds for the Dead* (Carcenet)**

0	4
---	---

Re-read 'On the Train' on page 46. Explore the ways in which Clarke portrays separation in this poem. [40]

Or,

**Ted Hughes: *Poems selected by Simon Armitage* (Faber)**

0	5
---	---

Re-read 'The Jaguar' on page 4. Explore the ways in which Hughes depicts imprisonment in this poem. [40]

Or,

**Sylvia Plath: *Poems selected by Ted Hughes* (Faber)**

0	6
---	---

Re-read 'Face Lift' on pages 19-20. Explore the ways in which Plath examines identity in this poem. [40]

Or,

**Philip Larkin: *The Whitsun Weddings* (Faber)**

0	7
---	---

Re-read 'An Arundel Tomb' on pages 45-46. Explore how Larkin depicts love in this poem. [40]

**Or,**

**Carol Ann Duffy: *Mean Time* (Picador)**

0	8
---	---

Re-read 'Welltread' on page 10. Explore the ways in which Duffy portrays school life in this poem. [40]

**Or,**

**Seamus Heaney: *Field Work* (Faber)**

0	9
---	---

Re-read 'The Badgers' on pages 18-19. Explore the ways in which Heaney portrays fear in this poem. [40]

**Or,**

**Owen Sheers: *Skirrid Hill* (Seren)**

1	0
---	---

Re-read 'Mametz Wood' on page 1. Explore how Sheers presents the effects of war in this poem. [40]

### Section B: Poetry Comparison (open book)

Answer **one** question in this section.

You must have a clean copy (no annotation) of the poetry texts which you have studied. Only the prescribed editions must be used.

Where prescribed sections of texts are indicated in brackets, **only poems from these sections** can be included in your response.

**You must not choose or refer to any poems named in Section A in your response to Section B.**

In your response, you are required to:

- analyse how meanings are shaped
- demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received
- explore connections across the set texts
- show how different interpretations have informed your reading.

**Edward Thomas: Selected Poems (Faber)**  
(poems as listed in the specification)

**Alun Lewis: Collected Poems (Seren)**  
(poems as listed in the specification)

**Either,**

1	1
---	---

How far do you agree that Thomas and Lewis are alike in the way they discuss their longing for home? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**Or,**

1	2
---	---

“The mind of the poet is frequently troubled.” In the light of this view, explore connections between the ways in which Thomas and Lewis respond to difficult circumstances. You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**D H Lawrence: *Selected Poems* (Penguin Classics, ed. James Fenton)**  
*(Love Poems and Others, Amores, New Poems, Birds, Beasts and Flowers, Last Poems)*

**Gillian Clarke: *Making the Beds for the Dead* (Carcenet)**

**Or,**

1	3
---	---

“Poets may write in isolation but they are especially influenced by the people around them.” In response to this view, explore connections between the ways in which Lawrence and Clarke write about interactions with others. You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**Or,**

1	4
---	---

How far do you agree that Lawrence and Clarke are alike in depicting rural life? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**Ted Hughes: *Poems selected by Simon Armitage* (Faber)**  
*(all poems up to and including ‘Rain’ on pages 68/69)*

**Sylvia Plath: *Poems selected by Ted Hughes* (Faber)**

**Or,**

1	5
---	---

How far do you agree that Hughes and Plath are alike in the ways in which they depict death? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**Or,**

1	6
---	---

“Their works frequently display the malice in the human spirit.” In response to this view, explore the connections between the ways in which Hughes and Plath write about cruelty. You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**Philip Larkin: *The Whitsun Weddings* (Faber)**

**Carol Ann Duffy: *Mean Time* (Picador)**

**Or,**

1	7
---	---

How far do you agree that Larkin and Duffy are alike in the ways in which they write about the superficiality of society in their poetry? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**Or,**

1	8
---	---

“Larkin and Duffy are alike in the ways in which they present a world of lost opportunities.” How far do you agree? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**Seamus Heaney: *Field Work* (Faber)**

**Owen Sheers: *Skirrid Hill* (Seren)**

**Or,**

1	9
---	---

“Love dominates their poetry.” In response to this view, explore connections between the ways in which Heaney and Sheers depict love. You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**Or,**

2	0
---	---

How far do you agree that Heaney and Sheers are alike in portraying change? You must analyse in detail **at least two** poems from **each** of your set texts. [80]

**END OF PAPER**