



JURONG JUNIOR COLLEGE

JC2 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2016

CANDIDATE NAME		CLASS	
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General Certificate of Education

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

H1 8811/1
H2 9748/1

Paper 1 Reading Literature

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

3 hours

Set texts may be taken into the examination room. They may bear underlining or highlighting. Any kind of folding or flagging of papers in the texts (e.g. use of post-its, tape flags or paper clips) is not permitted.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, civics class on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

ANSWER A TOTAL OF 3 QUESTIONS, ONE FROM EACH SECTION.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

Answer one question from each Section.

At the end of the examination, fasten your responses together in the order of Section A, B and C, respectively.

All the questions in this paper carry equal marks.

Section 1	/25	<u>Examiner's Remarks:</u>
Section 2	/25	
Section 3	/25	
Total	/75	

SECTION A

1

Either (a) Write a critical comparison of the following poems, considering in detail ways in which language, style and form contribute to each poet's portrayal of journeys.

A The Journey

Our journey had advanced -
Our feet were almost come
To that odd Fork in Being's road -
Eternity - by Term -

Our pace took sudden awe - 5
Our feet – reluctant – led -
Before - were Cities - but Between -
The Forest of the Dead-

Retreat - was out of Hope -
Behind - a Sealed Route - 10
Eternity's White Flag – Before-
And God- at every Gate -

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

B Up-Hill

Does the road wind up-hill all the way?
Yes, to the very end.
Will the day's journey take the whole long day?
From morn to night, my friend.

But is there for the night a resting-place? 5
A roof for when the slow dark hours begin.
May not the darkness hide it from my face?
You cannot miss that inn.

Shall I meet other wayfarers at night?
Those who have gone before. 10
Then must I knock, or call when just in sight?
They will not keep you standing at that door.

Shall I find comfort, travel-sore and weak?
Of labour you shall find the sum.
Will there be beds for me and all who seek? 15
Yea, beds for all who come.

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Or (b) Write a critical comparison of the following poems, considering in detail ways in which language, style and form contribute to each poet's portrayal of memories.

A **Sonnet**

Time does not bring relief; you all have lied
 Who told me time would ease me of my pain!
 I miss him in the weeping of the rain;
 I want him at the shrinking of the tide;
 The old snows melt from every mountain-side, 5
 And last year's leaves are smoke in every lane;
 But last year's bitter loving must remain
 Heaped on my heart, and my old thoughts abide!

There are a hundred places where I fear
 To go,—so with his memory they brim! 10
 And entering with relief some quiet place
 Where never fell his foot or shone his face
 I say, "There is no memory of him here!"
 And so stand stricken, so remembering him!

Edna St. Vincent Millay (1892-1956)

B **Memory**

When I was young my heart and head were light,
 And I was gay and feckless as a colt
 Out in the fields, with morning in the may,
 Wind on the grass, wings in the orchard bloom.
 O thrilling sweet, my joy, when life was free 5
 And all the paths led on from hawthorn-time
 Across the carolling meadows into June.

But now my heart is heavy-laden. I sit
 Burning my dreams away beside the fire:
 For death has made me wise and bitter and strong; 10
 And I am rich in all that I have lost.
 O starshine on the fields of long-ago,
 Bring me the darkness and the nightingale;
 Dim wealds of vanished summer, peace of home,
 And silence; and the faces of my friends. 15

Siegfried Sassoon (1886-1967)

Section B

KAZUO ISHIGURO: *The Remains of the Day*

2

- Either** (a) Discuss the role and contribution of loss in the novel.
- Or** (b) Write a close critical commentary on the following passage, identifying the effects the author achieves and the means he employs to achieve them, and referring briefly to similar occasions.

Lord Darlington called me into his study, and I could see at once that he was in a state of some agitation. He seated himself at his desk and, as usual, resorted to holding open a book—this time it was *Who's Who*—turning a page to and fro.

'Oh, Stevens' he began with a false air of nonchalance, but then seemed at a loss how to continue. I remained standing there ready to relieve his discomfort at the first opportunity. His lordship went on fingering his page for a moment, leaned forward to scrutinise an entry, then said: 'Stevens, I realise this is a somewhat irregular thing to ask you to do.'

'Sir?' 5

'It's just that one has so much of importance on one's mind just now.'

'I would be very glad to be of assistance, sir.'

'I'm sorry to bring up a thing like this, Stevens. I know you must be awfully busy yourself. But I can't see how on earth to make it go away.'

I waited a moment while Lord Darlington returned his attention to *Who's Who*. 15

Then he said, without looking up: 'You are familiar, I take it, with the facts of life.'

'Sir?'

'The facts of life, Stevens. Birds, bees. You are familiar, aren't you?'

'I'm afraid I don't quite follow you, sir.'

'Let me put my cards on the table, Stevens. Sir David is a very old friend. And he's been invaluable in organising the present conference. Without him, I dare say, we'd not have secured M. Dupont's agreement to come.'

'Indeed, sir.'

'However, Stevens, Sir David has his funny side. You may have noticed it yourself. He's brought his son, Reginald, with him. To act as secretary. The point is, he's engaged to be married. Young Reginald, I mean.'

'Yes, sir.'

'Sir David has been attempting to tell his son the facts of life for the last five years. The young man is now twenty-three.'

'Indeed, sir.'

'I'll get to the point, Stevens. I happen to be the young man's godfather. Accordingly, Sir David has requested that I convey to young Reginald the facts of life.'

'Indeed, sir.'

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25

30

‘Sir David himself finds the task rather daunting and suspects he will not accomplish it before Reginald’s wedding day.’ 35

‘Indeed ,sir.’

‘The point is, Stevens,I’m terribly busy. Sir David should know that, but he’s asked me none the less.’ His lordship paused and went on studying his page.

‘Do I understand ,sir,’ I said,’that you wish me to convey the information to the young gentleman?’ 40

‘If you don’t mind, Stevens.Be an awful lot off my mind.Sir David continues to ask me every couple of hours if I’ve done it yet.’

‘I see , sir.It must be most trying under the present pressures.’

‘Of course, this is far beyond the call of duty, Stevens.’ 45

‘I will do my best, sir. I may , however, have difficulty finding the appropriate moment to convey such information.’

‘I’d be very grateful if you’d try, Stevens. Awfully decent of you. Look here, There’s no need to make a song and dance of it.Just convey the basic facts And be done with it.Simple approach is the best, that’s my advice, Stevens.’ 50

‘Yes, sir .I shall do my best.’

‘Jolly grateful to you, Stevens.Let me know how you get on.’

DAY TWO – MORNING.SALISBURY

Bosola Will you rather make yourself a mercenary herald
 Rather to examine men's pedigrees than virtues?
 You shall want him.
 For know an honest statesman to a prince
 Is like a cedar planted by a spring: 40
 The spring bathes the tree's root; the grateful tree
 Rewards it with his shadow. You have not done so.
 I would sooner swim to the Bermoothes on two politicians' rotten bladders tied
 together with an intelligencer's heart string than depend on so changeable a
 prince's favour. Fare thee well, Antonio! Since the malice of the world 45
 would needs down with thee, it cannot be said that any ill happened unto
 thee, considering thy fall was accompanied with virtue'

Duchess Oh, you render me excellent music!

Bosola Say you?

Duchess This good one that you speak is my husband. 50

Bosola Do I not dream? Can this ambitious age
 Have so much goodness in't as to prefer
 A man merely for worth, without those shadows
 Of wealth and painted honours? Possible?

Duchess I have had three children by him.

Act 3, Scene 2

End of Paper