

A-level ENGLISH LITERATURE A

Paper 2A Texts in shared contexts: WW1 and its aftermath

Wednesday 5 June 2024 Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book
- a copy of the Insert for use with Section B (enclosed)
- a copy of each of the set texts you have studied for this paper. 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 7712/2A.
- Read all of the questions. Then choose **either** Option 1 **or** Option 2 **or** Option 3. Answer **one** question from Section A and **both** questions from Section B from your chosen option. You must answer questions from **only one** option.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 75.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- In your response you need to:
 - analyse carefully the writers' methods
 - explore the contexts of the texts you are writing about
 - explore connections across the texts you have studied
 - explore different interpretations of your texts.

Option 1**Section A: Poetry Set Text**

Answer **one** question in this section.

Up the Line to Death* – ed. Brian Gardner*Either**

0	1
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Examine the view that poems about combat in this anthology express despair rather than anger.

You must write about **at least two** poems in your answer.

[25 marks]**or**

0	2
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‘Soldiers go to war with strong values and beliefs.’

In the light of this view, examine the presentation of strong values and beliefs in *Up the Line to Death*.

You must write about **at least two** poems in your answer.

[25 marks]***Scars Upon My Heart* – ed. Catherine Reilly****or**

0	3
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Examine the significance of memory in this anthology.

You must write about **at least two** poems in your answer.

[25 marks]**or**

0	4
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‘In this anthology, the war is presented as strengthening women more than causing them to suffer.’

Examine this view.

You must write about **at least two** poems in your answer.

[25 marks]

Option 1**Section B: Drama and Prose Contextual Linking**

Read the Insert. Answer **both** questions in this section.

Read the Insert carefully. It is taken from the end of *The Patriot's Progress*, a novel by Henry Williamson (1895–1977), published in 1930. In this extract John Bullock, a young soldier who has lost his leg in action, returns home.

Answer **both** questions.

0	5
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Explore the significance of conflicting attitudes towards war in this extract.

Remember to include in your answer relevant detailed analysis of the ways that Williamson shapes meanings.

[25 marks]

and

0	6
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Compare the significance of conflicting attitudes towards war in **two** other texts you have studied.

Remember to include in your answer reference to how meanings are shaped in the texts you are comparing.

You must use **one** drama text and **one** prose text in your response, at least **one** of which **must** be a text written post-2000.

[25 marks]

Turn over for the next section

Turn over ►

Option 2**Section A: Drama Set Text**

Answer **one** question in this section.

Oh! What a Lovely War* – Joan Littlewood*Either**

0	7
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'Lions led by donkeys.'

In the light of this view, examine the presentation of how the war is conducted in *Oh! What a Lovely War*.

[25 marks]**or**

0	8
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Joan Littlewood describes war as 'only for clowns'.

In the light of this view, examine the presentation of war in *Oh! What a Lovely War*.

[25 marks]***Journey's End* – R C Sherriff****or**

0	9
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'*Journey's End* is more about the anticipation of combat rather than combat itself.'

Examine this view of the play.

[25 marks]**or**

1	0
---	---

'In *Journey's End*, Sherriff suggests that military discipline is more important than individual feelings.'

Examine this view.

[25 marks]

Option 2**Section B: Prose and Poetry Contextual Linking**

Read the Insert. Answer **both** questions in this section.

Read the Insert carefully. It is taken from the end of *The Patriot's Progress*, a novel by Henry Williamson (1895–1977), published in 1930. In this extract John Bullock, a young soldier who has lost his leg in action, returns home.

Answer **both** questions.

1	1
---	---

Explore the significance of conflicting attitudes towards war in this extract.

Remember to include in your answer relevant detailed analysis of the ways that Williamson shapes meanings.

[25 marks]

and

1	2
---	---

Compare the significance of conflicting attitudes towards war in **two** other texts you have studied.

Remember to include in your answer reference to how meanings are shaped in the texts you are comparing.

You must use **one** prose text written post-2000 and **one** poetry text in your response.

You must write about **at least two** poems.

[25 marks]

Turn over for the next section

Turn over ►

Option 3**Section A: Prose Set Text**

Answer **one** question in this section.

Regeneration* – Pat Barker*Either**

1	3
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Examine the significance of the relationship between Rivers and Sassoon in *Regeneration*.

[25 marks]**or**

1	4
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'In *Regeneration*, Barker suggests there is no escape from war.'

Examine this view of the novel.

[25 marks]***Birdsong* – Sebastian Faulks****or**

1	5
---	---

Examine the significance of the natural world in *Birdsong*.

[25 marks]**or**

1	6
---	---

'In *Birdsong*, the trauma of war is never healed.'

Examine this view.

[25 marks]

Option 3**Section B: Drama and Poetry Contextual Linking**

Read the Insert. Answer **both** questions in this section.

Read the Insert carefully. It is taken from the end of *The Patriot's Progress*, a novel by Henry Williamson (1895–1977), published in 1930. In this extract John Bullock, a young soldier who has lost his leg in action, returns home.

Answer **both** questions.

1	7
---	---

 Explore the significance of conflicting attitudes towards war in this extract.

Remember to include in your answer relevant detailed analysis of the ways that Williamson shapes meanings.

[25 marks]

and

1	8
---	---

 Compare the significance of conflicting attitudes towards war in **two** other texts you have studied.

Remember to include in your answer reference to how meanings are shaped in the texts you are comparing.

You must use the drama text written post-2000 (*The Wipers Times*) and **one** poetry text in your response.

You must write about **at least two** poems.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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