

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the examination is to test literary appreciation.

The objectives of the examination are:

1. to test how far candidates have understood the content of the set texts.
2. to test how far candidates have developed an ability to recognise, describe and assess thoughts and feelings as expressed in various forms of literature.
3. to test candidates' knowledge and appropriate use of terminology used in description and critical analysis.
4. to test how far candidates can support their individual responses with relevant reasons.

THE EXAMINATION

One paper of 2½ hours will be set. It will consist of three sections.

Candidates will be required to answer FOUR questions: one from Section A, two from Section B and one from Section C.

There will be a choice of questions except in Section B(b) which will be compulsory.

Questions will be essay type except that in Section B, questions may be sub-divided.

Candidates will be expected to show knowledge and understanding of the texts, both set and unseen.

BOOKS FOR 2009

The texts used should be complete and not 'abridged', 'shortened', or 'simplified'.

Section A: Prose

(34%)

1. *Modern Short Stories Two* by Jim Hunter
2. *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
3. *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens

Section B: Poetry

Candidates must answer on BOTH a set text AND an unseen poem.

(a) Set text

(22%)

Touched with Fire, ed. Jack Hydes

A selection of poems: 'Cold in the earth' (p.21); 'Piano and Drums' (p.27); 'The Wild Swans at Coole' (p.28); 'Look, stranger, at this island now' (p.35); 'The Pond' (p.45); 'The Soldier' (p.75); 'A Hard Frost' (p.83); 'The Shipwreck' (p.92); '5 Ways to Kill a Man' (p.111); 'The Lesson' (p.123); 'Hawk Roosting' (p.125); 'Sonnet' (p.126); 'My Blue Heaven' (p.128); 'Beautiful Old Age' (p.130); 'One Flesh' (p.156); 'The Good Morrow' (p.185).

Copies of the poems to be discussed will be included in the question paper.

- (b) Unseen poetry (11%)

In this section, the one compulsory question may have sub-questions.

For this part of the paper, candidates should study a broad range of modern poetry including themes such as love, nature, war, death and animals. Candidates will be expected to show an ability to understand the thought and feeling in the poetry, and the ways in which these are conveyed.

Questions will be set on unseen poetry, which will be printed in the question paper.

Section C: Drama (33%)

As well as having knowledge of the text, candidates should be aware of the characteristics of drama. They are encouraged to support their answers with references to the text.

1. *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, William Shakespeare
2. *The Glass Menagerie*, Tennessee Williams