Guidance

This guide is designed to take you through the H472/01 OCR A Level English Literature exam paper. Our aim is to explain how candidates should approach each paper and how marks are awarded to the different questions.

The advice given is the same for all questions across all of the set texts as question wording and structure is consistent.

The orange text boxes offer further explanation of the questions on the exam paper. They offer guidance on the wording of questions and what candidates should do in response to them.

The green text boxes focus on the awarding of marks for each question. They give further information on the percentage weighting of each assessment objective attributed to each question.

E.g. “This will always be a comparison based on a cultural or social situation with a clear thematic link between the situations and/or experiences.”

E.g. AO3 (5%)
Section 1
Shakespeare

Answer one question, both parts (a) and (b), from this section. You should spend about 1 hour and 15 minutes on this section.

1 Coriolanus
(a) Discuss the following passage from Act 2 Scene 2, exploring Shakespeare’s use of language and dramatic effects.

*In the paper, the extract will be printed underneath this question.*

The extract will be approximately 35 – 65 lines long.

Assessment Objective weightings for this question:
AO2: 75%
AO1: 25%

The task for this question will be similar year on year, but will vary depending on the extract that is chosen.

Students must answer a compulsory two part question on their set text.

Students should split their time equally between part (a) and part (b).
Section 1
Shakespeare

Answer one question, both parts (a) and (b), from this section. You should spend about 1 hour and 15 minutes on this section.

1 Coriolanus

(b) ‘More a victim of his own arrogance than of political plotting.’

Using your knowledge of the play as a whole, show how far you agree with this view of the character Coriolanus.

Remember to support your answer with reference to different interpretations.

This instruction reminds students that AO5 is assessed in this part of the question.

This part of the question is variable and will change for each exam.

This reminds students that they should range across the whole text.

Students should split their time equally between part (a) and part (b).

There will always be a proposition at the head of the question but it will change for each exam.

Total mark for both part (a) and part (b)
Section 2
Drama and poetry pre-1900

Answer one question from this section. You should spend about 1 hour and 15 minutes on this section.

Or
10 ‘Forbidden tastes are sweetest.’

In the light of this view, consider ways in which writers explore the attraction of that which is forbidden. In your answer, compare one drama text and one poetry text from the above lists.

The first part of the question will be similarly worded each year.
The rubric about comparing one drama text with one poetry text is fixed and will remain in place.
This part of the question is variable and will change each year.

Assessment Objective weightings for this question:
AO3 – 50%
AO4 – 25%
AO1 – 12.5%
AO5 – 12.5%