

AS LEVEL

ENGLISH LITERATURE

H072

For first teaching in 2015

H072/01
Shakespeare and
poetry pre-1900

www.ocr.org.uk/english

Qualification
Accredited

OCR
Oxford Cambridge and RSA



Guidance

This guide is designed to take you through the H072/01 OCR AS 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.

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.”

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. AO3 (5%)

Section 1 Shakespeare

Answer **one** question from this section. You should spend 45 minutes on this section.

1 *Coriolanus*

Either

(a) 'Coriolanus is a play in which actions speak louder than words.'

How far and in what ways do you agree with this view?

Or

(b) 'As the play unfolds, it becomes increasingly hard to sympathise with Coriolanus.'

How far and in what ways do you agree with this view?

Students must answer one question from a choice of two on their set text.

Students should spend an equal amount of time on each section.

Assessment Objective weightings for this question:

AO2: 40%
AO1: 30%
AO5: 20%
AO3: 10%

There will always be a proposition at the head of the question and the theme or character focus will change from series to series.

[30]

Section 2 Poetry pre-1900

This is an extract based question. There is one question (no choice) on one poem (or extract from a longer poem) relating it to the poetry text studied as a whole. Students have 1 hour and 30 minutes for this paper so should spend equal time on each section (45 minutes).

Answer **one** question from this section. You should spend 45 minutes on this section.

7 Geoffrey Chaucer: The Merchant's Prologue and Tale

Discuss Chaucer's portrayal of **Damyant and his situation** in the following extract from The Merchant's Tale.

In your answer explore the author's use of **language, imagery and verse form**, and consider ways in which you find this extract **characteristic of The Merchant's Prologue and Tale**.

AO2 is the dominant assessment objective for this question.

The extract is available on the next slide*

This command part of the question will remain similar from series to series.

The question is variable and will change from series to series.

This is pointing to AO4: students should be making pertinent references to the wider text.

[30]

Assessment Objective weightings for this question:

AO2: 40%
AO1: 30%
AO4: 20%
AO3: 10%

Extract from Chaucer: *The Merchant's Prologue and Tale*

*This sike Damyan in Venus fyr
So brenneth that he dyeth for desyr,
For which he putte his lyf in aventure.
No lenger myghte he in this wise endure,
But prively a penner gan he borwe,
And in a lettre wroot he al his sorwe,
In manere of a compleynt or a lay,
Unto his faire, fresshe lady May;
And in a purs of sylk, heng on his sherte
He hath it put, and leyde it at his herte.
The moone, that at noon was thilke day
That Januarie hath wedded fresshe May
In two of Tawr, was into Cancre glyden;
So longe hath Mayus in hir chambre abyden,
As custume is unto thise nobles alle.
A bryde shal nat eten in the halle
Til dayes foure, or thre dayes atte leeste,
Ypassed been; thanne lat hire go to feeste.
The fourthe day compleet fro noon to noon,
Whan that the heighe masse was ydoon,*

*In halle sit this Januarie and May,
As fressh as is the brighte someres day.
And so bifel how that this goode man Remembred hym
upon this Damyan,
And seyde, Seynte Marie! how may this be, That
Damyan entendeth nat to me?
Is he ay syk, or how may this bityde?
His squieres, whiche that stoden ther bisyde, Excused
hym by cause of his siknesse,
Which letted hym to doon his bisynesse;
Noon oother cause myghte make hym tarye. That me
forthynketh, quod this Januarie,
He is a gentil squier, by my trouthe!
If that he deyde, it were harm and routhe.
He is as wys, discreet, and as secree
As any man I woot of his degree,
And therto manly, and eek servysable.*

The extracts set in this section will vary in length but will usually be around 30-70 lines as per the sample assessment materials. For Chaucer, the extract set in the exam might come from the Prologue or the Tale, for Milton, the extract might come from Paradise Lost book 9 or 10, for Coleridge and Rossetti, the extract (or whole poem, depending on length) will be chosen from *any of the 15* set and for Tennyson's Maud the extract might come from section 1, 2 or 3.