



**Section A: Drama**

Answer **one** question from this section.

**ARTHUR MILLER: *All My Sons***

- 1 **Either** (a) Discuss Miller's dramatic exploration of different attitudes to marriage in *All My Sons*.
- Or** (b) Discuss Miller's presentation of George in the following extract. In your answer you should pay close attention to language and dramatic methods.

*George:* He's too smart for me, I can't prove a phone call.

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*Chris:*       The voice of God!

*(from Act 2)*



- Leonato:* Confirm'd, confirm'd! O, that is stronger made  
Which was before barr'd up with ribs of iron!  
Would the two princes lie; and Claudio lie,  
Who lov'd her so, that, speaking of her foulness, 45  
Wash'd it with tears? Hence from her! let her die.
- Friar:* Hear me a little;  
For I have only been silent so long,  
And given way unto this course of fortune,  
By noting of the lady: I have mark'd 50  
A thousand blushing apparitions  
To start into her face, a thousand innocent shames  
In angel whiteness beat away those blushes;  
And in her eye there hath appear'd a fire 55  
To burn the errors that these princes hold  
Against her maiden truth. Call me a fool;  
Trust not my reading nor my observations,  
Which with experimental seal doth warrant  
The tenour of my book; trust not my age,  
My reverence, calling, nor divinity, 60  
If this sweet lady lie not guiltless here  
Under some biting error.
- Leonato:* Friar, it cannot be.  
Thou seest that all the grace that she hath left  
Is that she will not add to her damnation 65  
A sin of perjury; she not denies it.  
Why seek'st thou then to cover with excuse  
That which appears in proper nakedness?
- Friar:* Lady, what man is he you are accus'd of?
- Hero:* They know that do accuse me; I know none. 70  
If I know more of any man alive  
Than that which maiden modesty doth warrant,  
Let all my sins lack mercy! O my father,  
Prove you that any man with me convers'd  
At hours unmeet, or that I yesternight 75  
Maintain'd the change of words with any creature,  
Refuse me, hate me, torture me to death.
- Friar:* There is some strange misprision in the princes.
- Benedick:* Two of them have the very bent of honour;  
And if their wisdoms be misled in this, 80  
The practice of it lives in John the bastard,  
Whose spirits toil in frame of villainies.

(from Act 4 Scene 1)

**WOLE SOYINKA: *The Trials of Brother Jero and Jero's Metamorphosis***

- 3** **Either** (a) Discuss some of the ways Soyinka develops the role and character of Jero as these plays unfold.
- Or** (b) With close attention to detail of language and action, discuss Soyinka's presentation of the relationship between Amope and Chume in the following extract from *The Trials of Brother Jero*.

[*Early morning.*

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Just help me unload the things and place them against  
the wall ... you know I wouldn't ask if it wasn't for the ankle.

*(from The Trials of Brother Jero, Scene 2)*

THOMAS MIDDLETON AND WILLIAM ROWLEY: *The Changeling*

- 4 **Either** (a) '*Beatrice*: This ominous ill-faced fellow more disturbs me  
Than all my other passions.'

With *Beatrice's* comment about De Flores in mind, discuss Middleton and Rowley's presentation of her relationship with De Flores in *The Changeling*.

- Or** (b) Discuss the presentation of *Isabella* in the following extract. In your answer you should pay close attention to dramatic methods and their effects.

[*Enter Madmen above, some as birds, others as beasts.*]

*Antonio*: What are these?

*Isabella*: Of fear enough to part us;  
Yet are they but our schools of lunatics,  
That act their fantasies in any shapes 5  
Suiting their present thoughts; if sad, they cry;  
If mirth be their conceit, they laugh again;  
Sometimes they imitate the beasts and birds,  
Singing, or howling, braying, barking; all  
As their wild fancies prompt 'em. [*Exeunt Madmen above.*] 10  
[*Enter LOLLIO.*]

*Antonio*: These are no fears.

*Isabella*: But here's a large one, my man.

*Antonio*: Ha, he, that's fine sport indeed, cousin.

*Lollio*: I would my master were come home, 'tis too much for one 15  
shepherd to govern two of these flocks; nor can I believe that  
one churchman can instruct two benefices at once; there will  
be some incurable mad of the one side, and very fools on the  
other. Come, Tony.

*Antonio*: Prithee, cousin, let me stay here still. 20

*Lollio*: No, you must to your book now you have play'd sufficiently.

*Isabella*: Your fool is grown wondrous witty.

*Lollio*: Well, I'll say nothing; but I do not think but he will put you  
down one of these days. [*Exeunt LOLLIO and ANTONIO.*]

*Isabella*: Here the restrained current might make breach, 25  
Spite of the watchful bankers; would a woman stray,  
She need not gad abroad to seek her sin,  
It would be brought home one ways or other:  
The needle's point will to the fixed north;  
Such drawing arctics women's beauties are. 30

[*Enter LOLLIO.*]

*Lollio*: How dost thou, sweet rogue?

*Isabella*: How now?

*Lollio*: Come, there are degrees, one fool may be better than 35  
another.

*Isabella*: What's the matter?

*Lollio*: Nay, if thou giv'st thy mind to fool's-flesh, have at thee!

[*Tries to kiss her.*]

- Isabella:* You bold slave, you!
- Lollio:* I could follow now as t'other fool did: 40  
 'What should I fear,  
 Having all joys about me? Do you but smile,  
 And love shall play the wanton on your lip,  
 Meet and retire, retire and meet again:  
 Look you but cheerfully, and in your eyes 45  
 I shall behold my own deformity,  
 And dress myself up fairer; I know this shape  
 Becomes me not –' And so as it follows; but is not this  
 the more foolish way? Come, sweet rogue; kiss me, my  
 little Lacedemonian. Let me feel how thy pulses beat; 50  
 thou hast a thing about thee would do a man pleasure,  
 I'll lay my hand on't.
- Isabella:* Sirrah, no more! I see you have discovered  
 This love's knight-errant, who hath made adventure  
 For purchase of my love; be silent, mute, 55  
 Mute as a statue, or his injunction  
 For me enjoying, shall be to cut thy throat:  
 I'll do it, though for no other purpose,  
 And be sure he'll not refuse it.
- Lollio:* My share, that's all; I'll have my fool's part with you. 60
- Isabella:* No more! Your master.

(from Act 3 Scene 3)

## Section B: Poetry

Answer **one** question from this section.

## ROBERT BROWNING: Selected Poems

- 5 **Either** (a) Discuss ways in which Browning presents attitudes to death in **two** poems from your selection.
- Or** (b) Comment closely on Browning's presentation of the effects of the painting in the following extract from *Pictor Ignotus*.

from *Pictor Ignotus*

Florence, 15—

I could have painted pictures like that youth's  
 Ye praise so. How my soul springs up! No bar  
 Stayed me—ah, thought which saddens while it soothes!  
 —Never did fate forbid me, star by star, 5  
 To outburst on your night with all my gift  
 Of fires from God: nor would my flesh have shrunk  
 From seconding my soul, with eyes uplift  
 And wide to heaven, or, straight like thunder, sunk 10  
 To the centre, of an instant; or around  
 Turned calmly and inquisitive, to scan  
 The licence and the limit, space and bound,  
 Allowed to truth made visible in man.  
 And, like that youth ye praise so, all I saw, 15  
 Over the canvas could my hand have flung,  
 Each face obedient to its passion's law,  
 Each passion clear proclaimed without a tongue;  
 Whether Hope rose at once in all the blood,  
 A-tiptoe for the blessing of embrace, 20  
 Or Rapture drooped the eyes, as when her brood  
 Pull down the nesting dove's heart to its place;  
 Or Confidence lit swift the forehead up,  
 And locked the mouth fast, like a castle braved,—

O human faces, hath it spilt, my cup? 25  
 What did ye give me that I have not saved?  
 Nor will I say I have not dreamed (how well!)  
 Of going—I, in each new picture,—forth,  
 As, making new hearts beat and bosoms swell,  
 To Pope or Kaiser, East, West, South, or North, 30  
 Bound for the calmly-satisfied great State,  
 Or glad aspiring little burgh, it went,  
 Flowers cast upon the car which bore the freight,  
 Through old streets named afresh from the event,

Till it reached home, where learned age should greet 35  
 My face, and youth, the star not yet distinct  
 Above his hair, lie learning at my feet!—  
 Oh, thus to live, I and my picture, linked

With love about, and praise, till life should end,  
And then not go to heaven, but linger here,  
Here on my earth, earth's every man my friend,—  
The thought grew frightful, 't was so wildly dear!  
But a voice changed it. Glimpses of such sights  
Have scared me, like the revels through a door  
Of some strange house of idols at its rites!

40

OWEN SHEERS: *Skirrid Hill*

- 6 **Either** (a) Compare ways in which Sheers presents landscapes in **two** poems from *Skirrid Hill*.
- Or** (b) Discuss Sheers's presentation of the speaker's experience in the following poem. In your answer you should comment in detail on poetic methods.

*Hedge School*

'Though that hir soules goon a-blakeberied'  
 Chaucer, *The Pardoner's Prologue*

The walk home from school got longer  
 those first weeks of September,  
 listening to the mini bus diminish 5  
 through the hedges and trees,  
 then slipping the straps of my bag over each shoulder  
 to free up both hands for the picking of blackberries.

Another lesson perhaps, this choice of how to take them.  
 One by one, tracing their variety on my tongue, 10  
 from the bitterness of an unripe red  
 tightly packed as a nervous heart,  
 to the rain-bloated looseness of those older,  
 cobwebbed and dusty as a Claret  
 laid down for years in a cellar. 15

Or to hoard them? Piling in the palm  
 until I cupped a coiled black pearl necklace,  
 a hedgerow caviar, the bubbles of just poured wine  
 stilled in my fingers which I'd take together,  
 each an eye of one great berry, a sudden symphony. 20

Or as I did just once, strolling towards the low house  
 growing at the lane's end,  
 not to eat them at all,  
 but slowly close my palm into a fist instead,  
 dissolving their mouthfeel over my skin 25  
 and emerging from the hedge and tree tunnel,  
 my knuckles scratched and my hand blue-black red,  
 as bloodied as a butcher's or a farmer's at lambing,  
 or that of a boy who's discovered for the very first time,  
 just how dark he runs inside. 30

*Songs of Ourselves, Volume 2*

- 7 **Either** (a) Compare ways in which **two** poems present relationships coming to an end.
- Or** (b) Comment closely on ways in which the following poem presents the speaker's feelings about the wedding.

*The Wedding*

I expected a quiet wedding  
high above a lost city  
a marriage to balance on my head

like a forest of sticks, a pot of water.  
The ceremony tasted of nothing  
had little colour – guests arrived

5

stealthy as sandalwood smugglers.  
When they opened their suitcases  
England spilled out.

They scratched at my veil  
like beggars on a car window.  
I insisted my dowry was simple –

10

a smile, a shadow, a whisper,  
my house an incredible structure  
of stiffened rags and bamboo.

15

We travelled along roads with English  
names, my bridegroom and I.  
Our eyes changed colour

like traffic-lights, so they said.  
The time was not ripe  
for us to view each other.

20

We stared straight ahead as if  
we could see through mountains  
breathe life into new cities.

I wanted to marry a country  
take up a river for a veil  
sing in the Jinnah Gardens

25

hold up my dream, tricky  
as a snake-charmer's snake.  
Our thoughts half-submerged

30

like buffaloes under dark water  
we turned and faced each other  
with turbulence

and imprints like maps on our hands.

(Moniza Alvi)

## GILLIAN CLARKE: Selected Poems

- 8 **Either** (a) In what ways, and with what effects, does Clarke present the relationship between humans and animals in **two** poems?
- Or** (b) Paying close attention to Clarke's poetic methods, discuss the presentation of the dead body in the following poem.

*Lunchtime Lecture*

And this from the second or third millennium  
 B.C., a female, aged about twenty-two.  
 A white, fine skull, full up with darkness  
 As a shell with sea, drowned in the centuries.  
 Small, perfect. The cranium would fit the palm 5  
 Of a man's hand. Some plague or violence  
 Destroyed her, and her whiteness lay safe in a shroud  
 Of silence, undisturbed, unrained on, dark  
 For four thousand years. Till a tractor in summer  
 Biting its way through the longcairn for supplies 10  
 Of stone, broke open the grave and let a crowd of light  
 Stare in at her, and she stared quietly back.

As I look at her I feel none of the shock  
 The farmer felt as, unprepared, he found her.  
 Here in the Museum, like death in hospital, 15  
 Reasons are given, labels, causes, catalogues.  
 The smell of death is done. Left, only her bone  
 Purity, the light and shade beauty that her man  
 Was denied sight of, the perfect edge of the place  
 Where the pieces join, with no mistakes, like boundaries. 20

She's a tree in winter, stripped white on a black sky,  
 Leafless formality, brow, bough in fine relief.  
 I, at some other season, illustrate the tree  
 Fleshed, with woman's hair and colours and the rustling  
 Blood, the troubled mind that she has overthrown. 25  
 We stare at each other, dark into sightless  
 Dark, seeing only ourselves in the black pools,  
 Gulping the risen sea that booms in the shell.



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