

# **Cambridge Pre-U**

# LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

Paper 3 Comment and Analysis

9765/03

October/November 2020

2 hours 15 minutes

You must answer on the answer booklet/paper.

You will need: Answer booklet/paper

# INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
  - Answer Question 1.
  - Answer **one** other question.
- If you have been given an answer booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number on all the work you hand in.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- At the end of the examination, fasten all your work together. Do **not** use staples, paper clips or glue.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- All questions are worth 25 marks.

This syllabus is regulated for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

This document has 8 pages. Blank pages are indicated.

#### Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.

## All questions carry equal marks.

In your answers you should comment closely on effects of language, style and form, and pay close attention to features that are characteristic of their period and context.

1 Write a critical comparison of the following play extract and poem, considering in detail ways in which your responses are shaped by the writers' language, style and form.

Vittoria:	To pass away the time, I'll tell your grace A dream I had last night	
Brachiano:	•	
Vittoria:	A foolish idle dream:	
	Methought I walked about the mid of night	5
	Into a churchyard, where a goodly yew-tree	
	Spread her large root in ground: under that yew,	
	•	10
D //	5	
		45
Vittoria:		15
		20
		20
	•	
Flamineo		25
Vittoria:		
	A whirlwind, which let fall a massy arm	
	From that strong plant;	
	And both were struck dead by that sacred yew,	
	In that base shallow grave that was their due.	30
Flamineo:	Excellent devil!	
	•	
	To make away his duchess and her husband.	
	From The White Devil by John Webster	
	Brachiano: Vittoria: Brachiano: Vittoria: Flamineo Vittoria:	A dream I had last night.Brachiano:Most wishedly.Vittoria:A foolish idle dream: Methought I walked about the mid of night Into a churchyard, where a goodly yew-tree Spread her large root in ground: under that yew, As I sat sadly leaning on a grave, Chequer'd with cross-sticks, there came stealing in Your duchess and my husband; one of them A pickaxe bore, th'other a rusty spade, And in rough terms they 'gan to challenge me About this yew.Brachiano:That tree?Vittoria:This harmless yew; They told me my intent was to root up That well-grown yew, and plant i' the stead of it A wither'd blackthorn, and for that they vow'd To bury me alive. My husband straight With pickaxe 'gan to dig, and your fell duchess With shovel, like a fury, voided out The earth and scatter'd bones: Lord, how methought I trembled! and yet for all this terror Loudl not pray.Flamineo[Listening]: No; the devil was in your dream. 

From *The White Devil* by John Webster (c. 1580–c. 1634)

Α

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В

I run down the streets Of dim houses, low, Narrow and of few Windows, looking down Corners to find her.	5
There she stands under An unlit street-lamp, Smiling with someone Else over what had Been our own old joke.	10
Then I wake, moaning. Why, O why? All this Need not have been a dream: It is what I see With my opened eye.	15
Why does sleep reveal What the day has not Hidden, as if it Were a dark secret My heart could not keep?	20
John Hollander (1929–2013)	

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**2** Write a critical commentary on the following poem, considering in detail ways in which your responses are shaped by the writer's form, language and style.

#### I Am a Cameraman

They suffer, and I catch only the surface. The rest is inexpressible, beyond What can be recorded. You can't be them. If they'd talk to you, you might guess What pain is like though they might spit on you.	5
Film is just a reflection Of the matchless despair of the century. There have been twenty centuries since charity began. Indignation is day-to-day stuff; It keeps us off the streets, it keeps us watching.	10
Film has no words of its own. It is a silent waste of things happening Without us, when it is too late to help. What of the dignity of those caught suffering? It hurts me. I robbed them of privacy.	15
My young friends think Film will be all of Art. It will be revolutionary proof. Their films will not guess wrongly and will not lie. They'll film what is happening behind barbed wire. They'll always know the truth and be famous.	20
Politics softens everything. Truth is known only to its victims. All else is photographs – a documentary The starving and the playboys perish in. Life disguises itself with professionalism.	25
Life tells the biggest lies of all, And draws wages from itself. Truth is a landscape the saintly tribes live on, And all the lenses of Japan and Germany Wouldn't know how to focus on it.	30
Life flickers on the frame like beautiful hummingbirds. That is the film that always comes out blank. The painting the artist can't get shapes to fit. The poem that shrugs off every word you try. The music no one has ever heard.	35
Dougloo Dupp (borp 1012)	

Douglas Dunn (born 1942)

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3 The following passage is a letter written in England to a friend in France by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu (1689–1762). Write a critical commentary on it, considering in detail ways in which your responses are shaped by the writer's language, style and form.

#### Dover, September 1718

I am willing to take your word for it that I shall really oblige you by letting you know as soon as possible my safe passage over the water. I arrived this morning at Dover after being tossed a whole night in the packetboat in so violent a manner that the master, considering the weakness of his vessel, thought it prudent to remove the mail, and gave us notice of the danger. We called a little fisher boat, which could hardly make up to us, while all the people on board us were crying to heaven, and 'tis hard to imagine one's self in a scene of greater horror than on such an occasion; and yet, shall I own it to you? though I was not at all willing to 10 be drowned, I could not forbear being entertained at the double distress of a fellow passenger. She was an English lady that I had met at Calais, who desired me to let her go over with me in my cabin. She had bought a fine point head[dress] which she was contriving to conceal from the customhouse officers. When the wind grew high and our little vessel cracked, she fell very heartily to her prayers and thought wholly of her soul; when it 15 seemed to abate, she returned to the worldly care of her head-dress, and addressed herself to me. 'Dear Madame, will you take care of this point? if it should be lost - Ah Lord! we shall all be lost! Lord have mercy on my soul - pray, Madame, take care of this head-dress.' This easy transition 20 from her soul to her head-dress, and the alternate agonies that both gave her, made it hard to determine which she thought of greatest value.

But, however, the scene was not so diverting but I was glad to get rid of it and be thrown into the little boat, though with some hazard of breaking my neck. It brought me safe hither, and I cannot help looking with partial 25 eyes on my native land. That partiality was certainly given us by nature to prevent rambling, the effect of an ambitious thirst after knowledge which we are not formed to enjoy. All we get by it is a fruitless desire of mixing the different pleasures and conveniencies which are given to different parts of the world and cannot meet in any one of them. After having read all 30 that is to be found in the languages I am mistress of, and having decayed my sight by midnight studies, I envy the easy peace of mind of a ruddy milkmaid who, undisturbed by doubt, hears the sermon with humility every Sunday, having not confused the sentiments of natural duty in her head by the vain inquiries of the schools, who may be more learned, yet after 35 all must remain as ignorant. And after having seen part of Asia and Africa and almost made the tour of Europe I think the honest English squire more happy who verily believes the Greek wines less delicious than March beer, that the African fruits have not so fine a flavour as golden pippins, and the beccafichi\* of Italy are not so well tasted as a rump of beef, and that, in 40 short, there is no perfect enjoyment of this life out of Old England. I pray God I may think so for the rest of my life, and since I must be contented with our scanty allowance of daylight, that I may forget the enlivening sun of Constantinople.

\*beccafichi: songbirds

From The Selected Letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu

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