OXFORD AQA

INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

INTERNATIONAL AS
ENGLISH LITERATURE

Unit 2 Place in literary texts

Tuesday 12 May 2026 | 08:00 UK Time | Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an OxfordAQA 12-page Answer Book
- a copy of the set text(s) you have studied for **Section A**. These texts must not be annotated and must not contain additional notes or materials
- a clean copy of the Oxford International AQA Place in Literary Texts: Combined Poetry Selections Anthology for use in **Section B**.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  – use good English
  – organise information clearly
  – analyse carefully the writers' methods
  – use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Section A: Prose

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0 1 **Joseph Conrad: *Heart of Darkness***

'African people in *Heart of Darkness* are presented as having lost everything and gained nothing.'

To what extent do you agree with this view?

[25 marks]

or

0 2 **F. Scott Fitzgerald: *The Great Gatsby***

'In the society of *The Great Gatsby*, money is presented as something which is fought over rather than enjoyed.'

To what extent do you agree with this view?

[25 marks]

or

0 3 **Kazuo Ishiguro: *The Remains of the Day***

'The setting of Darlington Hall is used mainly as a way of showing the decline of an out-of-date way of life.'

To what extent do you agree with this view?

[25 marks]

or

0 4 **Aravind Adiga: *Last Man in Tower***

'The community of Vishram Society is destroyed largely by the 21st century development of Mumbai.'

To what extent do you agree with this view?

[25 marks]

or

0 5 **Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: *Americanah***

'Ultimately, Ifemelu's return to Nigeria is a complete rejection of America.'

To what extent do you agree with this view?

[25 marks]

or

0 6 **Andrea Levy: *Small Island***

'In *Small Island*, England is presented as a place of conflict for everyone who lives there.'

To what extent do you agree with this view?

[25 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B: Poetry

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0 7 **Thomas Hardy poetry selection**

'Hardy's places are used as little more than background for the worries and concerns of life.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should make detailed reference to 'Neutral Tones' and at least one other poem.

[25 marks]

or

0 8 **William Wordsworth poetry selection**

'Wordsworth's poetry is far more concerned with human nature than with places.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should make detailed reference to at least two poems.

[25 marks]

or

0 9 **Robert Frost poetry selection**

'Frost uses his settings to show that it is impossible to escape from the feeling of loneliness.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should make detailed reference to at least two poems.

[25 marks]

or

1 0 **Seamus Heaney poetry selection**

'Heaney presents the natural world as something that always lifts the human spirit.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should make detailed reference to at least two poems.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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