

INTERNATIONAL A-LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

Unit 3 Elements of crime and mystery

Monday 18 May 2026

08:00 UK Time

Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an OxfordAQA 12-page Answer Book.

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 **two** questions.

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.

Answer **two** questions.

Either

0	1
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William Shakespeare: *Macbeth*

‘Bloody instructions, which being taught, return to plague the inventor.’

To what extent do you agree that Shakespeare’s *Macbeth* suggests violent behaviour is never rewarded?

[25 marks]

or

0	2
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Samuel Taylor Coleridge: *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*

‘Ultimately, Coleridge presents the Ancient Mariner as a criminal rather than a victim.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

[25 marks]

or

0	3
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Robert Browning: *Selected Poems*

‘In these poems, the motives for crime are presented as simple and straightforward.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

In your answer, make reference to ‘My Last Duchess’ and at least one other poem.

[25 marks]

or

0	4
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Charles Dickens: *Oliver Twist*

‘Fagin’s worst crime is his involvement in Nancy’s murder.’

To what extent do you agree with this view of the way Dickens presents Fagin?

[25 marks]

or

0	5
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Edgar Allan Poe: *Collected Stories*

‘In these stories, death is always presented as shocking.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

In your answer, make reference to ‘The Fall of the House of Usher’ and at least one other story.

[25 marks]

or

0	6
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Robert Louis Stevenson: *Collected Stories*

‘Although the criminals in these stories are not presented as being good people, they are not completely bad either.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

In your answer, make reference to ‘Markheim’ and at least one other story.

[25 marks]

or

0	7
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Agatha Christie: *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*

‘Christie presents Poirot’s methods of detection as being as unusual as they are effective.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

[25 marks]

or

0	8
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Qiu Xiaolong: *Death of a Red Heroine*

‘We need to solve this not because it’s political but because we’re good cops.’

To what extent do you agree that Chen and Yu are presented as a good investigative team?

[25 marks]

or

0	9
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Kate Atkinson: *When Will There Be Good News?*

‘The opening murder of the Hunter family is the most disturbing of all the crimes in the novel.’

To what extent do you agree with this view?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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