



Please paste the barcoded
label here

TOTAL
MARKS

--

INTERNATIONAL SECONDARY CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
MAY 2025

FURTHER STUDIES ENGLISH

EXAMINATION NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Time: 3 hours

300 marks

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. This question paper consists of 22 pages. Please check that your question paper is complete.
2. Read all the questions carefully.
3. **Answer ALL the questions on the question paper and hand this in at the end of the examination. Remember to write your examination number in the space provided on the question paper.**
4. You are required to answer all three questions set in this paper.

Question 1: Texts studied from TWO of the following genres:

- Prose (Novels)
- Drama
- Film

Question 2: TWO Immersions of Poetry

Question 3: Philosophical reflection on your own reading history

5. Each answer must take the form of a rigorously argued and thoroughly substantiated essay. There is no prescribed length for the set essays, only an expectation that you argue with accuracy and insight about the texts you have read, and that you aim to bring your own voice strongly to the fore in your essays.
6. Please note that the quality of your style of writing, the structure of your argument, and the skill and appropriateness of your use of quotations (as well as direct references to texts) will be taken into account when the markers assess your responses.
7. Three blank pages (pages 20 to 22) are included at the end of the paper. If you run out of space for a question, use these pages. Clearly indicate the question number of your answer should you use this additional space.

FOR MARKERS' USE ONLY

Question	1	2	3	Total
Marks	100	100	100	300
Obtained				



QUESTION 1 NOVEL, DRAMA AND FILM

[100]

THEME: Being and being-with

This question requires you to refer closely to TWO texts from each of the TWO genres (prose [novels], drama, film) you have studied, i.e., FOUR texts in total. You may refer to more than two texts from each of the two genres you have studied.

Consider the following quotation and respond to the question that follows.

'Everywhere transience¹ is plunging into the depths of Being ... [We] imprint this temporary, perishable earth into ourselves so deeply, so painfully and passionately, that its essence can rise again, invisibly, inside us.' — **Rainer Maria Rilke**

Transience¹ – lasting a short time, a non-permanent state

[Adapted from A. S. Kline, *The Poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke*, <<https://www.poetryintranslation.com/>>
May 2015.]

Rilke suggests that 'transience' is characteristic of our state of 'Being' while on earth. Critically examine your chosen texts in order to explore how they represent the relationship between that which is permanent and that which is temporary in their respective worlds.

You must engage with the theme of 'Being and being-with' in your analysis and discussion.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

AND**QUESTION 2 POETRY****[100]**

This question expects you to refer to at least THREE poems from each of the TWO immersions of poetry that you have studied, (i.e., SIX poems in total) selected from the works of two poets from each immersion. You must refer to at least **four poets and six poems** but may incorporate additionally studied poems, if you wish to do so.

Use the following poem as a starting point for your engagement with the question that follows.

Wild Geese – Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.

[M. Oliver, *Dream Work*, Atlantic Monthly: 1984]

Mary Oliver depicts a dynamic world in which we have a 'place' and should feel a sense of belonging. Critically explore whether your studied poems suggest that the world 'calls to [us] like the wild geese, harsh and exciting – over and over announcing [our] place in the family of things.'

You must note the immersions to which your poems belong.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

AND

QUESTION 3 **OWN READING**

[100]

In answering this question, you are expected to consider and make direct reference to THREE substantial fictional works (novels or collections of short stories) that you have read independently.

Consider the following quotation and respond to the question that follows.

'One of the nice things about looking at a bear is that you know it spends 100 per cent of every minute of every day being a bear. It doesn't strive to become a better bear. It doesn't go to sleep thinking, 'I wasn't really a very good bear today'. They are just 100 per cent bear, whereas human beings feel we're not 100 per cent human, that we're always letting ourselves down. We're constantly striving towards something, to some fulfilment.' – **Stephen Fry**

[Fry, S. 2011, *Moab Is My Washpot*, p. 298, Soho Press]

Consider Stephen Fry's observation about human beings. Explore whether the characters in your chosen texts reflect his belief that human beings are 'constantly striving towards something, to some fulfilment' and evaluate how this impacts upon their wellbeing. Your analysis needs to be well supported and carefully argued with close textual references.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[100]

Total: 300 marks

PLEASE TURN OVER

ADDITIONAL SPACE (ALL QUESTIONS)

REMEMBER TO CLEARLY INDICATE AT THE QUESTION THAT YOU HAVE USED THE ADDITIONAL SPACE TO ENSURE THAT ALL ANSWERS ARE MARKED.

[illegible]

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

[illegible]