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Specification



*Rewarding Learning*

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)**  
**General Certificate of Education**  
**2017**

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# English Literature

Assessment Unit AS 2  
*assessing*  
The Study of Prose Pre 1900

**[SEL21]**

**WEDNESDAY 24 MAY, AFTERNOON**

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## TIME

1 hour.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **one** question on your chosen novel.  
This unit is closed book.

## INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 50.  
Quality of written communication will be assessed in the question.

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## THE STUDY OF PROSE PRE 1900

Answer **one** question on your chosen prose text.

### You will be marked on your ability to:

- articulate informed, personal and creative responses to literary texts, using appropriate concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate written expression (AO1)
- analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in literary texts (AO2)
- demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received (AO3)
- explore literary texts informed by different interpretations (AO5)

## 1 Hawthorne: *The Scarlet Letter*

### Answer (a) or (b)

(a) *The Scarlet Letter* is a feminist novel.

With reference to Hawthorne's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

(b) It is easy to sympathise with Dimmesdale because of the nature of the society in which he lives.

With reference to Hawthorne's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

## 2 Shelley: *Frankenstein*

### Answer (a) or (b)

(a) Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* is little more than a horror story.

With reference to Shelley's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

(b) Victor Frankenstein cannot be considered a hero.

With reference to Shelley's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

**3 Eliot: *Silas Marner***

**Answer (a) or (b)**

- (a) Silas Marner does not possess the qualities of a hero.

With reference to Eliot's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

- (b) In *Silas Marner* the presentation of nineteenth-century life is too pleasant to be convincing.

With reference to Eliot's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

**4 Brontë: *Wuthering Heights***

**Answer (a) or (b)**

- (a) Catherine Earnshaw is a victim of the male attitudes of her society.

With reference to Brontë's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

- (b) *Wuthering Heights* is little more than a love story.

With reference to Brontë's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

5 **Austen: *Emma***

**Answer (a) or (b)**

- (a) Frank Churchill possesses more of the qualities of a hero than Mr. Knightley does.

With reference to Austen's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

- (b) In *Emma*, Austen challenges the nineteenth-century view of women as weak and submissive.

With reference to Austen's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

6 **Stoker: *Dracula***

**Answer (a) or (b)**

- (a) *Dracula* does little more than play upon the fears of late-nineteenth-century society.

With reference to Stoker's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

- (b) In *Dracula*, Stoker challenges the nineteenth-century view of men as powerful.

With reference to Stoker's narrative methods, and relevant contextual information, **show to what extent** you agree with the above statement.

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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