



Rewarding Learning

General Certificate of Secondary Education
2025

English Literature

Unit 1

The Study of Prose

MV18

[GEL11]

MONDAY 12 MAY, MORNING

Time

1 hour 45 minutes, plus your additional time allowance.

Instructions to Candidates

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.

Answer **two** questions. Answer **one** question from Section A and the question set from Section B.

Spend 1 hour on Section A and 45 minutes on Section B.

You should **not** have a copy of your novel for Section A.

Information for Candidates

The total mark for this paper is 60.

Section A is worth 40 marks.

Section B is worth 20 marks.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in all responses.

Examiners can only credit what they can read. Keep your work legible.

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Section A – Novel

Answer **one** question from this section.

1 **Golding: Lord of the Flies**

Answer either (a) or (b)

(a) With reference to the ways Golding **presents** Jack, show how far you agree that Jack is a **threat** to the other boys.

(b) With reference to the ways Golding **presents** the conch, show how far you agree that the conch is **important** to the boys.

2 Hornby: About a Boy

Answer either (a) or (b)

- (a) With reference to the ways Hornby **presents** Marcus, show how far you agree that Marcus faces **difficulties**.
- (b) With reference to the ways Hornby **presents** Fiona and Ellie, show how far you agree that Fiona and Ellie are **willing** to change.

3 Johnston: How Many Miles to Babylon?

Answer either (a) or (b)

(a) With reference to the ways Johnston **presents** Alicia, show how far you agree that Alicia **abuses** her power.

(b) With reference to the ways Johnston **presents** friendship, show how far you agree that Alec and Jerry **cannot overcome** the barriers to their friendship.

4 Lee: To Kill a Mockingbird

Answer either (a) or (b)

(a) With reference to the ways Lee **presents** Jem, show how far you agree that Jem **understands** the difficulties others face.

(b) With reference to the ways Lee **presents** the people of Maycomb, show how far you agree that courage is **admired** by the people of Maycomb.

5 Steinbeck: Of Mice and Men

Answer either (a) or (b)

(a) With reference to the ways Steinbeck **presents** Curley's wife, show how far you agree that Curley's wife is **powerless**.

(b) With reference to the ways Steinbeck **presents** the ranch workers, show how far you agree that the ranch workers are **deliberately cruel**.

6 Doyle: Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha

Answer either (a) or (b)

(a) With reference to the ways Doyle **presents** Sinbad, show how far you agree that Sinbad deserves **sympathy**.

(b) With reference to the ways Doyle **presents** friendship, show how far you agree that friendship is **important** to the boys in Barrytown.

7 Orwell: Animal Farm

Answer either (a) or (b)

(a) With reference to the ways Orwell **presents** Boxer, show how far you agree that Boxer deserves to be **respected**.

(b) With reference to the ways Orwell **presents** the pigs, show how far you agree that the pigs' behaviour is **shocking**.

Section B – Unseen Prose

Read carefully the extract below and answer the question.

You should spend **15 minutes** reading the extract and **30 minutes** writing your answer to the question.

8 Show how the writer of the extract engages the reader.

You should consider:

- the characters' feelings and reactions
- the writer's use of language, structure and form

Extract from: *Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne

(Phileas Fogg has placed a bet with his rich friends that he and his butler, Jean Passepartout will travel the entire way around the globe and arrive back at where they started in only eighty days.)

“Round the world!” he murmured.

“In eighty days,” responded Mr. Fogg. “So we haven't a moment to lose.”

“But the trunks?” gasped Passepartout, unconsciously swaying his head from right to left.

“We'll have no trunks; only a carpet-bag, with two shirts and three pairs of stockings for me, and the same for you. We'll buy our clothes on the way. Bring down my mackintosh and travelling-cloak, and some stout shoes, though we shall do little walking. Make haste!”

Passepartout tried to reply, but could not. He went out, mounted to his own room, fell into a chair, and muttered:

“That’s good, that is! And I, who wanted to remain quiet!” He mechanically set about making the preparations for departure. Around the world in eighty days! Was his master a fool? No. Was this a joke, then? They were going to Dover; good! To Calais; good again! After all, Passepartout, who had been away from France five years, would not be sorry to set foot on his native soil again. Perhaps they would go as far as Paris, and it would do his eyes good to see Paris once more. But surely a gentleman so chary of his steps would stop there; no doubt—but, then, it was none the less true that he was going away, this so domestic person hitherto!

By eight o’clock Passepartout had packed the modest carpet-bag, containing the wardrobes of his master and himself; then, still troubled in mind, he carefully shut the door of his room, and descended to Mr. Fogg.

Mr. Fogg was quite ready. Under his arm might have been observed a red-bound copy of Bradshaw’s Continental Railway Steam Transit and General Guide, with its timetables showing the arrival and departure of steamers and railways. He took the carpet-bag, opened it, and slipped into it a goodly roll of Bank of England notes, which would pass wherever he might go.

“You have forgotten nothing?” asked he.

“Nothing, monsieur.”

“My mackintosh and cloak?”

“Here they are.”

“Good! Take this carpet-bag,” handing it to Passepartout.

“Take good care of it, for there are twenty thousand pounds in it.”

Passepartout nearly dropped the bag, as if the twenty thousand pounds were in gold, and weighed him down.

Master and man then descended, the street-door was double-locked, and at the end of Saville Row they took a cab and drove rapidly to Charing Cross. The cab stopped before the railway station at twenty minutes past eight. Passepartout jumped off the box and followed his master, who, after paying the cabman, was about to enter the station, when a poor beggar-woman, with a child in her arms, her naked feet smeared with mud, her head covered with a wretched bonnet, from which hung a tattered feather, and her shoulders shrouded in a ragged shawl, approached, and mournfully asked for alms.

Mr. Fogg took out the twenty guineas he had just won at whist, and handed them to the beggar, saying, "Here, my good woman. I'm glad that I met you;" and passed on.

Passepartout had a moist sensation about the eyes; his master's action touched his susceptible heart.

Two first-class tickets for Paris having been speedily purchased, Mr. Fogg was crossing the station to the train, when he perceived his five friends of the Reform.

"Well, gentlemen," said he, "I'm off, you see; and, if you will examine my passport when I get back, you will be able to judge whether I have accomplished the journey agreed upon."

"Oh, that would be quite unnecessary, Mr. Fogg," said Ralph politely. "We will trust your word, as a gentleman of honour."

"You do not forget when you are due in London again?" asked Stuart.

"In eighty days; on Saturday, the 21st of December, 1872, at a quarter before nine p.m. Good-bye, gentlemen."

Phileas Fogg and his servant seated themselves in a first-class carriage at twenty minutes before nine; five

minutes later the whistle screamed, and the train slowly glided out of the station.

The night was dark, and a fine, steady rain was falling. Phileas Fogg, snugly ensconced in his corner, did not open his lips. Passepartout, not yet recovered from his stupefaction, clung mechanically to the carpet-bag, with its enormous treasure.

Just as the train was whirling through Sydenham, Passepartout suddenly uttered a cry of despair.

“What’s the matter?” asked Mr. Fogg.

“Alas! In my hurry—I—I forgot—”

“What?”

“To turn off the gas in my room!”

“Very well, young man,” returned Mr. Fogg, coolly; “it will burn—at your expense.”

Glossary:

guineas – old-fashioned coins

whist – a card game

Reform – a gentlemen’s elite club

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