**AQA Paper 2 Questions**

**Section A**

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| **Text** | **Questions** |
| An Inspector Calls | How far does Priestley present Eric as a character who changes his attitudes towards himself and others during the play?  Write about:  • what Eric says and does throughout the play  • how far Priestley presents Eric as a character who changes his attitudes  How does Priestley explore the importance of social class in An Inspector Calls? Write about:  • some ideas about social class in the play  • how Priestley presents the importance of social class.  How far does Priestley present Mrs Birling as an unlikeable character? Write about:  • what Mrs Birling says and does in the play  • how Priestley presents her by the ways he writes  How does Priestley use the character of the Inspector to suggest ways that society could be improved? Write about:  • what society is shown to be like in the play and how it might be improved  • how Priestley presents society through what the Inspector says and does.  How and why does Sheila change in An Inspector Calls? Write about:  • how Sheila responds to her family and to the Inspector  • how Priestley presents Sheila by the ways he writes.  How does Priestley explore responsibility in An Inspector Calls? Write about:  • the ideas about responsibility in An Inspector Calls  • how Priestley presents these ideas by the ways he writes.  How does Priestley present selfishness and its effects in An Inspector Calls? Write about:  • examples of selfish behaviour in the play  • how Priestley presents selfishness and its effects.  How does Priestley present Sheila as a character who learns important lessons about herself and society? Write about:  • some of the things Sheila learns in the play  • how Priestley presents Sheila as a character who learns important lessons about herself and society. |
| Blood Brothers | How does Russell present Linda as an important character in the play Blood Brothers? Write about:  • what Linda says and does in the play  • how Russell presents Linda as an important character in the play Blood Brothers  How does Russell present the ways that Mickey and Edward are affected by their different experiences of family life? Write about:  • what family life is like for Mickey and Edward  • how Russell presents the differences in their family lives.  How does Russell use the characters of Mrs Johnstone and Mrs Lyons in Blood Brothers to explore ideas about class? Write about:  • how Russell presents Mrs Johnstone and Mrs Lyons  • how Russell uses these characters to explore ideas about class.  How does Russell explore the effects of Mickey’s and Edward’s different upbringings? Write about:  • how the boys’ upbringings have different effects on their lives  • how Russell presents these effects by the ways he writes.  What kind of mother does Russell show Mrs Johnstone to be in Blood Brothers? Write about:  • what Mrs Johnstone says and does in the play  • how Russell presents Mrs Johnstone by the ways he writes.  How does Willy Russell present childhood and growing up in Blood Brothers? Write about:  • the ways particular characters change as they grow up  • how Russell presents childhood and growing up by the ways he writes.  How does Russell present the importance of money in Blood Brothers? Write about:  • the importance of money to characters in the play  • how Russell presents the importance of money  How far does Russell present Mrs Lyons as a lonely and unhappy character in Blood Brothers? Write about:  • what Mrs Lyons says and does  • how far Russell presents Mrs Lyons as lonely and unhappy. |
| The History Boys | How does Bennett present different attitudes to learning in The History Boys? Write about:  • what some of these attitudes to learning are  • how Bennett presents these attitudes  Bennett has said that the boys in the play know more than any of their teachers. How far do you agree that the boys “know more” than the staff? Write about:  • what the boys say and do  • how far Bennett presents the boys as “knowing more” than the staff  ‘Dakin is presented as the most confident of the boys in the Oxbridge class.’ How far do you agree with this view of Dakin? Write about:  • what Dakin says and does and what others say about him in the play  • how Bennett presents Dakin by the ways he writes.  Bennett has said about The History Boys, ‘It seemed to me to be about two sorts of teaching – or two teachers, anyway’. How does Bennett present Hector and Irwin as different kinds of teacher? Write about:  • what Hector and Irwin say and do in their work  • how Bennett presents their differences by the ways he writes.  How does Bennett use the character of Posner to explore ideas about belonging? Write about:  • how Bennett presents the character of Posner  • how Bennett uses Posner to explore ideas about belonging.  How does Bennett present some of the different attitudes to school in The History Boys? Write about:  • what different characters’ attitudes are to school  • how Bennett presents attitudes to school by the ways he writes.  How far does Bennett present Irwin as an unlikeable character in The History Boys? Write about:  • what Irwin says and does  • how far Bennett presents Irwin as an unlikeable character.  How does Bennett present the importance of history in The History Boys? Write about:  • what kinds of history appear in the play and why they are important  • how Bennett presents the importance of history in the play. |
| DNA | How does Kelly use the character of Cathy to explore ideas about leadership? Write about:  • what Cathy says and does throughout the play  • how Kelly uses Cathy to explore these ideas about leadership  How does Kelly use the play DNA to explore ideas about gang membership? Write about:  • what the gang members say and do  • how Kelly presents what being in a gang is like.  How far does Kelly present Leah as a morally good character in DNA? Write about:  • what Leah says and does in the play  • how Kelly presents Leah throughout the play  What ideas about society is Kelly suggesting by calling the play DNA? Write about:  • some of the different ideas about DNA in the play  • how Kelly presents these ideas by the ways he writes.  In DNA, Phil says: ‘I’m in charge. Everyone is happier.’ How does Kelly present Phil as a leader? Write about:  • how Kelly presents the character of Phil  • how Kelly uses the character of Phil to explore ideas about leadership.  How does Kelly explore the effects of peer pressure in DNA? Write about:  • how some of the characters respond to peer pressure  • how Kelly presents the effects of peer pressure.  How does Kelly use the play’s settings to explore ideas about people and society? Write about:  • the play’s settings and what happens in them  • how Kelly uses the play’s settings to explore ideas about people and society.  How does Kelly present different styles of leadership in DNA? Write about:  • examples of leadership in the play  • how Kelly presents different styles of leadership. |
| The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time | How does Stephens use Christopher’s book to explore Christopher’s feelings and attitudes to life? Write about:  • some of Christopher’s feelings and attitudes to life  • how Stephens uses the book to explore these feelings and attitudes.  How far does Stephens present Christopher’s teacher, Siobhan, as an important character in the play? Write about:  • what Siobhan says and does  • how far Stephens presents her as important in the play.  How does Stephens present Judy as a mother? Write about:  • what Judy says and does in the play  • how Stephens presents Judy as a mother by the ways he writes  How does Stephens present Christopher facing up to new challenges in the play? Write about:  • what Christopher says and does when he faces a new challenge  • how Stephens presents Christopher in these situations.  How does Stephens present Christopher’s father as a parent? Write about:  • what Christopher’s father says and does and the difficulties he has to deal with  • how Stephens presents Christopher’s father  How does Stephens present the ways Christopher deals with loss? Write about:  • how Christopher deals with loss  • how Stephens presents Christopher’s attitudes and feelings.  How does Stephens present Christopher’s relationship with his parents in The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time? Write about:  • what happens in the play between Christopher and his parents  • how Stephens presents Christopher’s relationship with his parents.  How does Stephens explore the importance of secrets and truth in The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time? Write about:  • examples of secrets and truth in the play  • how Stephens presents the importance of secrets and truth. |
| A Taste of Honey | How does Delaney use the character of Peter to explore male attitudes to women in A Taste of Honey?  Write about:  • what Peter says and does in the play  • how Delaney uses the character of Peter to explore male attitudes to women.  ‘Some characters in A Taste of Honey suffer because they are different from most people in society at that time.’ How does Delaney present the effects of being different in this society? Write about:  • what characters who are different say and do  • how Delaney presents the effects of being different.  ‘I’m an extraordinary person’ says Jo. How far does Delaney present Jo as an extraordinary young woman? Write about:  • what Jo says and does that could be considered extraordinary  • how Delaney presents Jo by the ways she writes  What ideas about happiness does Delaney explore in the play A Taste of Honey? Write about:  • how Delaney uses different characters and their ideas about happiness  • how Delaney presents these ideas by the ways she writes.  How does Delaney present the character of Helen as a mother in A Taste of Honey? Write about:  • how Delaney presents the character of Helen  • how Delaney uses the character of Helen to explore ideas about motherhood.  How does Delaney present prejudice in A Taste of Honey? Write about: • the ideas about prejudice in A Taste of Honey  • how Delaney presents these ideas by the ways she writes.  How far does Delaney present Helen as a victim in A Taste of Honey? Write about:  • what happens to Helen in the play  • how far Delaney presents Helen as a victim.  A Taste of Honey has been described as a play about the importance of taking care of each other. How far do you agree with this view of the play? Write about:  • what characters say and do in the play  • how far Delaney presents the importance of taking care of each other. |
| Lord of the Flies | How does Golding present Simon as different from the other boys on the island? Write about:  • what Simon says and does that suggest he is different from the other boys  • how Golding presents him as different.  ‘The head is for the Beast. It’s a gift.’ How does Golding present the importance of the Beast to different characters in Lord of the Flies? Write about:  • the ways that some characters react to the Beast  • how Golding presents the importance of the Beast.  How does Golding present Ralph as a leader in Lord of the Flies? Write about:  • what Ralph says and does as a leader  • how Golding uses Ralph to explore ideas about leadership.  ‘Ralph wept for the end of innocence, the darkness of man’s heart…’. What does Golding have to say about human nature in Lord of the Flies? Write about:  • how the boys behave on the island  • how Golding uses the boys’ behaviour to explore ideas about human nature.  Do you think Piggy is an important character in Lord of the Flies? Write about:  • how Golding presents the character of Piggy  • how Golding uses Piggy to present ideas about people and society  What do you think is the importance of the ‘beast’ in Lord of the Flies? Write about:  • how different characters respond to the ‘beast’  • how Golding uses the ‘beast’ to explore ideas about society and people in Lord of the Flies.  How far does Golding present Piggy as a character with useful and important ideas in Lord of the Flies? Write about:  • what Piggy says and does that can be seen as useful and important  • how far Golding presents Piggy as a character with useful and important ideas  In Chapter 8 of Lord of the Flies Ralph asks, ‘What makes things break up like they do?’ How does Golding present the reasons why society on the island breaks up? Write about:  • what happens on the island  • how Golding presents the reasons why society on the island breaks up. |
| Telling Tales | How do writers present the ways characters react to difficult situations in ‘Invisible Mass of the Back Row’ and in one other story from Telling Tales? Write about:  • what characters say and do in their difficult situations in the two stories  • how the writers present the ways characters react to difficult situations.  How do writers present different kinds of love in ‘Odour of Chrysanthemums’ and different kinds of love in one other story from Telling Tales? Write about:  • the different kinds of love in the two stories  • how the writers present different kinds of love  How do writers present difficult relationships in ‘Korea’ and in one other story from Telling Tales? Write about:  • the difficult relationships in the two stories  • how the writers present these relationships by the ways they write.  How do writers present unpleasant childhood experiences in ‘The Darkness Out There’ and in one other story from Telling Tales? Write about:  • the details of the unpleasant childhood experiences in the two stories • how the writers present these experiences.  How do writers present conflict in ‘A Family Supper’ and in one other story from Telling Tales? Write about:  • some of the ideas about conflict that are presented in the two stories • how the writers present these ideas by the ways they write.  How do writers present characters losing their innocence in ‘The Darkness Out There’ and in one other story from Telling Tales? Write about:  • some of the ideas about loss of innocence that are presented in the two stories  • how the writers present these ideas by the ways they write.  How do writers present characters learning about themselves and others in ‘My Polish Teacher’s Tie’ and in one other story from Telling Tales? Write about:  • examples of what characters learn in the stories  • how the writers present characters learning about themselves and others  How do writers present difficult family relationships in ‘A Family Supper’ and in one other story from Telling Tales? Write about:  • the difficult family relationships in the stories  • how the writers present these difficult family relationships. |
| Animal Farm | How does Orwell use the character of Squealer to explore ideas about truth and lies in Animal Farm? Write about:  • what Squealer says and does  • how Orwell uses the character of Squealer to explore ideas about truth and lies  How does Orwell use events in Animal Farm to explore ideas about revolution? Write about:  • some of the events in the book  • how Orwell uses these events to explore ideas about revolution  Orwell creates a shocking and unexpected ending to Animal Farm.’ How far do you agree with this statement? Write about:  • what happens towards the end of the novel  • how Orwell presents the ending.  How does Orwell use the character of Snowball to explore ideas about leadership in Animal Farm? Write about:  • what Snowball says and does and what happens to him  • how Orwell presents Snowball.  How does Orwell use the character of Napoleon to explore ideas about power and control in Animal Farm? Write about:  • how Orwell presents the character of Napoleon  • how Orwell uses the character of Napoleon to present ideas about power and control in the novel.  ‘All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others.’ How far is this idea important in Animal Farm? Write about:  • what you think Orwell is saying about equality and inequality  • how Orwell presents these ideas through the events of the novel.  How does Orwell use Moses and Benjamin to explore attitudes to revolution in Animal Farm? Write about:  • what Moses and Benjamin say and do  • how Orwell uses Moses and Benjamin to explore attitudes to revolution.  How does Orwell present the failure of the rebellion in Animal Farm? Write about:  • the ways the rebellion fails  • how Orwell presents the failure of the rebellion. |
| Never Let Me Go | How does Ishiguro present the influence of life at Hailsham on the lives of Kathy, Tommy and Ruth? Write about:  • what life is like at Hailsham  • how Ishiguro presents the influence of life at Hailsham.  ‘It is strange that none of the young people rebel against the system.’ How far do you agree with this view of Never Let Me Go? Write about: • how the young people behave  • how Ishiguro uses the young people to explore ideas about rebellion.  How far does Ishiguro present Ruth as a selfish character in Never Let Me Go? Write about:  • what Ruth says and does that could be seen as selfish  • how Ishiguro presents Ruth by the ways he writes.  How far do you agree that Ishiguro creates ‘a nightmarish vision of society’ in Never Let Me Go? Write about:  • what kind of society Ishiguro presents in the novel  • how Ishiguro presents this society by the ways he writes.  How does Ishiguro present fear about the future in Never Let Me Go? Write about:  • how Ishiguro uses different characters to present fear about the future  • how Ishiguro presents these ideas by the ways he writes.  How does Ishiguro present the importance of friendship for the characters in Never Let Me Go? Write about:  • how Ishiguro presents some of the friendships  • how Ishiguro uses some of the friendships to explore his ideas.  How does Ishiguro present the friendship between Kathy and Ruth in Never Let Me Go? Write about:  • the friendship between Kathy and Ruth  • how Ishiguro presents the friendship between Kathy and Ruth.  ‘Tommy is presented as the character who suffers the most in Never Let Me Go.’ How far do you agree with this view? Write about:  • what Tommy says and does, and what happens to him  • how Ishiguro presents Tommy in the novel. |
| Anita and Me | How does Syal present Meena’s relationships with some of the male characters in Anita and Me? Write about:  • Meena’s relationships with some of the male characters in the novel  • how Syal presents these relationships.  How does Syal present the importance of family life in Anita and Me? Write about:  • some of the aspects of family life in the novel  • how Syal presents the importance of family life.  How does Syal present Meena’s relationship with her mother? Write about: •  Meena’s feelings for her mother and how Meena behaves with her  • how Syal presents this relationship by the ways she writes.  How does Syal show that their Punjabi heritage is important to Meena’s family? Write about:  • Meena’s family, their traditions, and their behaviour  • how Syal presents the family’s heritage by the ways she writes.  How does Syal present the ways Meena’s attitude towards Anita changes during the course of the novel? Write about:  • how Syal presents Meena’s changing attitude towards Anita  • how Meena’s attitude towards Anita is influenced by the world she lives in  How does Syal present family relationships in Anita and Me? Write about:  • how Syal presents some of the relationships  • how Syal uses these relationships to explore ideas about family.  How does Syal present the importance of female friendship in Anita and Me? Write about: • one or more female friendship(s) in the novel  • how Syal presents the importance of female friendship.  How does Syal present Meena’s struggle for independence in Anita and Me? Write about:  • some of the ways that Meena tries to be independent  • how Syal presents Meena’s struggle for independence. |
| Pigeon English | How does Kelman present the importance to Harrison of his friendships with Dean and with Jordan in Pigeon English? Write about:  • Harrison’s friendships with Dean and with Jordan  • how Kelman presents the importance of these friendships to Harrison.  How does Kelman present the experience of being an immigrant in Pigeon English? Write about:  • Harrison’s life as an immigrant in the novel  • how Kelman presents Harrison’s experience of being an immigrant.  How does Kelman present London as a violent place for young people in Pigeon English? Write about:  • some of the violence featured in the novel  • how Kelman presents London as a violent place for young people.  How does Kelman present Harrison’s relationships with other teenagers in Pigeon English? Write about:  • the different relationships Harrison has with other teenagers  • how Kelman presents these relationships by the ways he writes.  In Pigeon English, Harrison says, ‘Somebody dies on the news every day. It’s nearly always a child.’ How does Kelman present Harrison’s daily life? Write about:  • what we learn about Harrison’s daily life  • how Kelman presents Harrison’s daily life by the ways he writes  How does Kelman present ideas about being a teenager in the modern world in Pigeon English? Write about:  • how Kelman presents being a teenager  • how Kelman uses some of the teenagers to explore ideas about the modern world  How does Kelman present Harrison as a kind of detective who investigates a boy’s murder? Write about:  • what Harrison says and does  • how Kelman presents Harrison as a kind of detective.  How does Kelman present the challenges facing young people who live on the estate? Write about:  • the challenges young people face  • how Kelman presents the challenges facing young people. |

**Section B – Poetry Anthology**

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| **Anthology** | **Questions** |
| Love & Relationships | Compare how poets present romantic love in ‘Singh Song!’ and in one other poem from ‘Love and relationships’  Compare how poets present growing up in ‘Mother, any distance’ and in one other poem from ‘Love and relationships’.  Compare how poets present attitudes towards a parent in ‘Follower’ and in one other poem from ‘Love and relationships’.  Compare how poets present romantic feelings in ‘Winter Swans’ and in one other poem from ‘Love and relationships’. |
| Power & Conflict | Compare how poets present ideas about power in ‘Ozymandias’ and in one other poem from ‘Power and conflict’.  Compare how poets present the effects of war in ‘Bayonet Charge’ and in one other poem from ‘Power and conflict’.  Compare the ways poets present ideas about power in ‘Ozymandias’ and in one other poem from ‘Power and conflict’.  Compare how poets present the ways that people are affected by war in ‘War Photographer’ and in one other poem from ‘Power and conflict’. |

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| **Poem(s)** | **Questions** |
| On Aging - Maya Angelou  Jessie Emily Schofield - Judy Williams | 1. In ‘On Aging’ how does the poet present the speaker’s attitudes to growing old? 2. In both ‘Jessie Emily Schofield’ and ‘On Aging’ the speakers describe their attitudes to the effects of growing old. What are the similarities and/or differences between the ways the poets present these attitudes? |
| Autumn – Alan Bold  Today – Billy Collins | 1. In ‘Autumn’, how does the poet present the effects of the season of autumn? 2. In both ‘Today’ and ‘Autumn’ the speakers describe attitudes towards the seasons. What are the similarities and/or differences between the ways the poets present these attitudes? |
| To a Daughter Leaving Home -Linda Pastan  Poem for My Sister – Liz Lochhead | 1. In ‘To a Daughter Leaving Home’, how does the poet present the speaker’s feelings about her daughter? 2. In both ‘Poem for My Sister’ and ‘To a Daughter Leaving Home’ the speakers describe feelings about watching someone they love grow up. What are the similarities and/or differences between the ways the poets present those feelings? |
| The Richest Poor Man in the Valley – Lindsay Macrae  Nobody – Michael Laskey | 1. In ‘The Richest Poor Man in the Valley’, how does the poet present ideas about living a happy and contented life?   (ii) In both ‘Nobody’ and ‘The Richest Poor Man in the Valley’ the poets describe ideas about how to live your life. What are the similarities and/or differences between the methods the poets use to present these ideas? |