**AQA English Literature Exam Questions – Paper 1**

**Section A**

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| **Text** | **Extract first line** | **Question** |
| Macbeth | But ’tis strange, And oftentimes, to win us to our harm (Act 1, Scene 3)Glamis thou art, and Cawdor, and shalt be (Act 1, Scene 5)The raven himself is hoarse (Act 1, Scene 5)Doubtful it stood (Act 1, Scene 2) | Starting with this moment in the play, explore how Shakespeare presents the attitudes of Macbeth and Banquo towards the supernatural. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents the attitudes of Macbeth and Banquo towards the supernatural in this extract • how Shakespeare presents the attitudes of Macbeth and Banquo towards the supernatural in the play as a wholeStarting with this speech, explore how Shakespeare presents ambition in Macbeth. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents ambition in this speech • how Shakespeare presents ambition in the play as a whole.Starting with this speech, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth as a powerful woman. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in this speech • how Shakespeare presents Lady Macbeth in the play as a whole.Starting with this speech, explore how far Shakespeare presents Macbeth as a violent character. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Macbeth in this extract • how far Shakespeare presents Macbeth as a violent character in the play as a whole |
| Romeo & Juliet | How now, wife, Have you delivered to her our decree? (Act 3, Scene 5)My naked weapon is out. Quarrel, I will back thee. (Act 1, Scene 1)But now, my lord, what say you to my suit? (Act 1, Scene 2)If I profane with my unworthiest hand (Act 1, Scene 5) | Starting with this moment in the play, explore how Shakespeare presents relationships between adults and young people in Romeo and Juliet. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents relationships between adults and young people at this moment in the play • how Shakespeare presents relationships between adults and young people in the play as a whole.Starting with this conversation, explore how Shakespeare presents aggressive male behaviour in Romeo and Juliet. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents aggressive male behaviour in this conversation • how Shakespeare presents aggressive male behaviour in the play as a whole.Starting with this conversation, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Lord Capulet as a good father. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Lord Capulet in this extract • how Shakespeare presents Lord Capulet in the play as a whole.Starting with this conversation, explore how Shakespeare presents the relationship between Romeo and Juliet. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents their relationship in this conversation • how Shakespeare presents the relationship between Romeo and Juliet in the play as a whole. |
| The Tempest | I do not know One of my sex; no woman’s face remember, (Act 3, Scene 1)All hail, great master, grave sir, hail! I come (Act 1, Scene 2)Your charm so strongly works ’em That if you now beheld them, your affections (Act 5, Scene 1)Why, as I told thee, ’tis a custom with him (Act 3, Scene 2) | Starting with this conversation, explore how Shakespeare presents the romantic relationship between Miranda and Ferdinand. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents the romantic relationship at this moment in the play • how Shakespeare presents the romantic relationship in the play as a whole.Starting with this moment in the play, explore how far Shakespeare presents Ariel as a loyal servant to Prospero in The Tempest. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Ariel at this moment in the play • how Shakespeare presents Ariel in the play as a whole.Starting with this moment in the play, explore how Shakespeare presents Prospero’s use of his power. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Prospero at this moment in the play • how Shakespeare presents Prospero’s use of power in the play as a whole.Starting with this speech, explore how Shakespeare presents ideas about revenge in The Tempest. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents ideas about revenge in this speech • how Shakespeare presents ideas about revenge in the play as a whole. |
| The Merchant of Venice | A pound of that same merchant’s flesh is thine, The court awards it, and the law doth give it. (Act 4, Scene 1)They shall, Nerissa, but in such a habit (Act 3, Scene 4)Signior Antonio, many a time and oft (Act 1, Scene 3)In Belmont is a lady richly left (Act 1, Scene 1) | Starting with this moment in the play, explore how Shakespeare presents ideas about justice in The Merchant of Venice. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents ideas about justice in this extract • how Shakespeare presents ideas about justice in the play as a wholeStarting with this speech, explore how far Shakespeare presents Portia as a strong female character in The Merchant of Venice. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Portia in this speech • how far Shakespeare presents Portia as a strong female character in the play as a whole.Starting with this speech, how does Shakespeare present Shylock’s feelings about the way he is treated? Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Shylock in this speech • how Shakespeare presents Shylock in the play as a whole.Starting with this speech, explore how Shakespeare presents ideas about romantic love in The Merchant of Venice. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents ideas about romantic love in this speech • how Shakespeare presents ideas about romantic love in the play as a whole. |
| Much Ado About Nothing | I wonder that you will still be talking, Signor Benedick, nobody marks you. (Act 1, Scene 1)Well, niece, I hope to see you one day fitted with a husband. (Act 2, Scene 1)Stand thee by, friar: father, by your leave, (Act 4, Scene 1)Come bid me do anything for thee. (Act 4, Scene 1) | The relationship between Beatrice and Benedick is described as ‘a merry war’ in the play. Starting with this conversation, explore how Shakespeare presents the relationship between Beatrice and Benedick. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents the relationship between Beatrice and Benedick at this moment in the play • how Shakespeare presents the relationship between Beatrice and Benedick in the play as a whole.Starting with this extract, how does Shakespeare present Beatrice’s attitude towards romantic love in Much Ado About Nothing? Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Beatrice’s attitude towards romantic love in this extract • how Shakespeare presents Beatrice’s attitude towards romantic love in the play as a whole.Starting with this conversation, explore how Shakespeare presents attitudes towards women in Much Ado About Nothing. Write about: • what Claudio says about Hero in this conversation • how Shakespeare presents attitudes towards women in the play as a whole.Starting with this conversation, explore how far Shakespeare presents Beatrice as a strong woman. Write about: • how far Shakespeare presents Beatrice as a strong woman in this conversation • how far Shakespeare presents Beatrice as a strong woman in the play as a whole. |
| Julius Caesar | Our course will seem too bloody, Caius Cassius, To cut the head off and then hack the limbs (Act 2, Scene 1)Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears! (Act 3, Scene 2)It must be by his death. And for my part (Act 2, Scene 1)You are dull, Casca, and those sparks of life That should be in a Roman you do want, (Act 1, Scene 3) | Starting with this speech, explore how Shakespeare presents Brutus as a conspirator in Julius Caesar. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Brutus’ thoughts about the plot to kill Caesar • how Shakespeare presents Brutus as a conspirator in the play as a whole‘Shakespeare presents Antony as a manipulative character who is skilled at getting what he wants’ in Julius Caesar. Starting with this extract, explore how far you agree with this opinion. Write about: • how far Shakespeare presents Antony as manipulative in this speech • how far Shakespeare presents Antony as manipulative in the play as a whole.Starting with this speech, write about how Shakespeare explores ambition in Julius Caesar. Write about: • what Brutus says about ambition in this speech • how Shakespeare explores ambition in the play as a whole.Starting with this speech, explore how far Shakespeare presents Cassius as an effective leader of the conspirators in Julius Caesar. Write about: • how Shakespeare presents Cassius in this speech • how far Shakespeare presents Cassius as an effective leader of the conspirators in the play as a whole. |

**Section B**

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| **Text** | **Extract First Line** | **Question** |
| The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde | It was by this time about nine in the morning, and the first fog of the season. (Chapter 4)The court was very cool and a little damp, and full of premature twilight (Chapter 6)‘We have common friends,’ said Mr Utterson. (Chapter 2)“That's it!” said Poole. “It was this way. (Chapter 8) | Starting with this extract, explore how Stevenson creates mystery and tension in The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. Write about: • how Stevenson creates mystery and tension in this extract • how Stevenson creates mystery and tension in the novel as a whole.‘Stevenson’s presentation of Dr. Jekyll allows the reader to feel sympathy for him.’ Starting with this extract, explore how far you agree with this opinion. Write about: • how Stevenson presents Dr. Jekyll in this extract • how Stevenson presents Dr. Jekyll in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, how does Stevenson present Mr Hyde as a frightening outsider? Write about: • how Stevenson presents Mr Hyde in this extract • how Stevenson presents Mr Hyde as a frightening outsider in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Stevenson presents Mr Hyde as an inhuman and disturbing member of society. Write about: • how Stevenson presents Mr Hyde in this extract • how Stevenson presents Mr Hyde as an inhuman and disturbing member of society in the novel as a whole. |
| A Christmas Carol | The Phantom slowly, gravely, silently, approached. (Chapter 4)Oh, a wonderful pudding! Bob Cratchit said, and calmly too, (Chapter 3)External heat and cold had little influence on Scrooge. (Chapter 1)Again the spectre raised a cry, and shook its chain and wrung its shadowy hands. (Chapter 1) | Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents Scrooge’s fears in A Christmas Carol. Write about: • how Dickens presents what Scrooge is frightened of in this extract • how Dickens presents Scrooge’s fears in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens uses the Cratchit family to show the struggles of the poor. Write about: • how Dickens presents the Cratchit family in this extract • how Dickens uses the Cratchit family to show the struggles of the poor in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, how does Dickens present Scrooge as an outsider to society? Write about: • how Dickens presents Scrooge in this extract • how Dickens presents Scrooge as an outsider to society in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens uses the ghosts to help Scrooge change his attitudes and behaviour. Write about: • how Dickens uses Marley’s Ghost in this extract • how Dickens uses the ghosts to help Scrooge change his attitudes and behaviour in the novel as a whole. |
| Great Expectations | Miss Havisham beckoned her to come close, and took up a jewel from the table, (Chapter 8)"Why do you, a stranger coming into my rooms at this time of the night, ask that question?" (Chapter 39)You are to wait here, you boy,’ said Estella; and disappeared and closed the door (Chapter 8)When I awoke, I was much surprised to find Joe sitting beside me, smoking his pipe. (Chapter 19) | Starting with this extract, explore how far Dickens presents Miss Havisham as a cruel and bitter woman. Write about: • how Dickens presents Miss Havisham in this extract • how far Dickens presents Miss Havisham as a cruel and bitter woman in the novel as a wholeStarting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents Pip’s attitudes to the convict Magwitch. Write about: • how Dickens presents Pip’s attitude to Magwitch in this extract • how Dickens presents Pip’s attitudes to Magwitch in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, write about how Dickens presents the unequal relationship between Pip and Estella. Write about: • how Dickens presents Pip’s feelings in this extract • how Dickens presents the unequal relationship between Pip and Estella in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents Pip and Joe’s relationship and how it changes. Write about: • how Dickens presents Pip and Joe’s relationship in this extract • how Dickens presents Pip and Joe’s relationship and how it changes in the novel as a whole. |
| Jane Eyre | Awaking in the dead of night, I opened my eyes on her disk (Chapter 20)“Ladies,” said he, turning to his family, “Miss Temple, teachers, and children, you all see this girl?” (Chapter 7)‘I grieve to leave Thornfield: I love Thornfield (Chapter 23)Habitually obedient to John, I came up to his chair: he spent some three minutes in thrusting out his tongue at me as far as he could without damaging the roots: (Chapter 1) | Starting with this extract, explore how Brontë presents some of the distressing experiences that Jane deals with in the novel. Write about: • how Brontë presents Jane’s distressing experiences at Thornfield Hall in this extract • how Brontë presents some of the distressing experiences Jane deals with in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how far Brontë presents Jane as a victim of the cruelty of others. Write about: • how Brontë presents Jane as a victim in this extract • how far Brontë presents Jane as a victim of cruelty in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, how does Brontë present Jane as a strong female character? Write about: • how Brontë presents Jane in this extract • how Brontë presents Jane as a strong female character in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Brontë presents the ways male characters treat Jane Eyre. Write about: • how Brontë presents John Reed’s treatment of Jane in this extract • how Brontë presents the ways one or more other male character(s) treat Jane in the novel as a whole. |
| Frankenstein | ‘But it is true that I am a wretch. I have murdered the lovely and the helpless; (Chapter 24)The monster saw my determination in my face, and gnashed his teeth in the impotence of anger. (Chapter 20)Their happiness was not decreased by the absence of summer. (Chapter 15)‘ “How can I thank you, my best and only benefactor? (Chapter 15) | Starting with this extract, explore how far Shelley presents the monster as a victim to be pitied. Write about: • how Shelley presents the monster in this extract • how far Shelley presents the monster as a victim to be pitied in the novel as a wholeStarting with this extract, explore how far Shelley presents the monster as an evil character. Write about: • how far Shelley presents the monster as evil in this extract • how far Shelley presents the monster as evil in the novel as a wholeStarting with this extract, write about how Shelley presents the importance of love and acceptance to society. Write about: • how Shelley presents the monster’s need to be loved and accepted in this extract • how Shelley presents the importance of love and acceptance to society in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Shelley presents the ways the monster is affected by how others treat him. Write about: • how Shelley presents the monster in this extract • how Shelley presents the ways the monster is affected by how others treat him in the novel as a whole. |
| Pride & Prejudice | “In vain I have struggled. It will not do. (Chapter 34)"You can now have nothing further to say," she resentfully answered. (Chapter 56)Mr Bingley was good-looking and gentlemanlike; he had a pleasant countenance, and easy, unaffected manners. (Chapter 3)This information, however, startled Mrs. Bennet; (Chapter 20) | Starting with this extract, explore how Austen presents the ways that pride and prejudice affect the relationship between Mr Darcy and Elizabeth. Write about: • how Mr Darcy and Elizabeth are affected by pride and prejudice at this moment in the novel • how pride and prejudice affect their relationship in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Austen presents Elizabeth as a strong-willed female character. Write about: • how Austen presents Elizabeth as strong-willed in this extract • how Austen presents Elizabeth as a strong-willed female character in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, write about how Austen presents attitudes towards men. Write about: • how Austen presents attitudes towards men in this extract • how Austen presents attitudes towards men in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Austen presents Mr Bennet and Mrs Bennet as parents. Write about: • how Austen presents Mr Bennet and Mrs Bennet in this extract • how Austen presents Mr Bennet and Mrs Bennet as parents in the novel as a whole. |
| The Sign of Four | ‘But here are the regulars, so the auxiliary forces may beat a retreat.’ (Chapter 6)"My dear Watson, try a little analysis yourself," (Chapter 6)At first I had some idea as to the direction in which we were driving; but soon, (Chapter 3)‘This is a very serious matter, Small,’ said the detective. (Chapter 12) | Starting with this extract, explore how Conan Doyle presents the police force as ineffective and foolish in The Sign of Four. Write about: • how Conan Doyle presents Athelney Jones as ineffective and foolish in this extract • how Conan Doyle presents the police force as ineffective and foolish in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Conan Doyle presents Holmes as an interesting and unusual investigator. Write about: • how Conan Doyle presents Holmes as an interesting and unusual investigator in this extract • how Conan Doyle presents Holmes as an interesting and unusual investigator in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Conan Doyle creates a sense of mystery. Write about:• how Conan Doyle uses places to create a sense of mystery in this extract• how Conan Doyle creates a sense of mystery in the novel as a whole.Starting with this extract, explore how Conan Doyle presents ideas about justice in The Sign of Four. Write about: • how Conan Doyle presents ideas about justice in this extract • how Conan Doyle presents ideas about justice in the novel as a whole. |