

OIB BRITISH OPTION

LANGUAGE and LITERATURE TEXTS 2017

WRITTEN PAPER

<i>Candidates prepare one work/author from each genre</i>		
DRAMA	PROSE FICTION	POETRY
Aphra Behn, <i>The Rover</i> *	Thomas Hardy: <i>Far From the Madding Crowd</i>	John Donne, <i>Selected Poems</i> *
GB Shaw, <i>Saint Joan</i> *	Alice Munro: <i>Lying Under the Apple Tree</i>	Christina Rossetti: <i>Selected Poems</i> (Oxford Student Texts edition)
Samuel Beckett: <i>Waiting for Godot</i>	WG Sebald: <i>Austerlitz</i> *	Jo Shapcott: <i>Of Mutability</i>

ORAL

Candidates prepare one Shakespeare play, and one of the two Synoptic Topics

SHAKESPEARE
<i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i> (New Cambridge edition)*
<i>Richard III</i> (New Cambridge edition)
<i>Troilus and Cressida</i> (New Cambridge edition)

Synoptic Topics
Writers and Writing of the Romantic Age
<p><i>Poems</i>: students will be invited to begin their discussion of Writers and writing of the Romantic Age by a brief (2-3 minutes) introduction of <i>one</i> of the following poems selected from <i>The New Penguin Book of English Verse</i> (2000):</p> <p>'The Old Familiar Faces' (Lamb), 'Upon Westminster Bridge' (Wordsworth), 'Kubla Khan' (Coleridge), 'Ozymandias' (Shelley), 'High Waving Heather' (Brontë), 'Prometheus' (Byron)</p> <p><i>Main texts</i>: students will be expected to discuss questions about writers and writing of the Romantic Age by referring in detail to two of the following texts; they may refer to more than two, but in terms of marks there is no need for them to do so.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">William Blake, <i>Songs of Innocence and Experience</i> (1794) (see selection below); <i>Auguries of Innocence</i> (1803); <i>Jerusalem</i>, from <i>Milton</i> (1808)</p>

Wordsworth and Coleridge, *Selected Poems* (1796 *et seq.*) (see selection below)

Dorothy Wordsworth, *Grasmere Journal* (1897)

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (1818 or 1823 ed.)

John Keats, *Selected Poems* (Everyman's Poetry 1996) (see selection below)

Emily Bronte, *Wuthering Heights* (1847)

Recommended background/additional reading for students and teachers:

Michael Ferber: *Romanticism: A Very Short Introduction* (*Very Short Introductions*, 2010); Stuart Curran, *The Cambridge Companion to British Romanticism* (2010); Wordsworth, *A Preface to Lyrical Ballads* (1796)

Postcolonial Writing

Poems: students will be invited to begin their discussion of Postcolonial Writing by a brief (2-3 minutes) introduction of *one* of the following poems. The poems are all available online, and can be accessed via the hyperlinks given below.

[‘A Far Cry from Africa’](#) (Derek Walcott), [‘A Different History’](#) (Sujata Bhatt), [‘Things Fall Apart’](#) (Jackie Kay), [‘The Immigrants’](#) (Margaret Atwood), [‘Checking Out Me History’](#) (John Agard), [‘Colonial Girls School’](#) (Olive Senior)

Main texts: students will be expected to discuss questions about the literary contexts of Postcolonial Writing by referring in detail to two of the following texts; they may refer to more than two, but in terms of marks there is no need for them to do so.

Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (1902)

E.M. Forster, *A Passage to India* (1924)

Brian Friel, *Translations* (1980)

Michael Ondaatje, *The English Patient* (1992)

Arundhati Roy, *The God of Small Things* (1997)

Lloyd Jones, *Mr Pip* (2007)

NB: For the purposes of this British OIB oral examination, ‘Postcolonial writing’ is to be understood as referring to writing about the former British Empire and its colonies. It should also be understood as looking back to the pre-Independence era in which issues of colonialism were explored in the works of writers such as Conrad and Forster, as well as focusing on the work of younger generations of writers specifically concerned with the experience of living in a postcolonial age. In their discussion, students may of course show an awareness that ‘postcolonialism’ is not restricted to literature in English.

Recommended background/additional reading for students and teachers:

Christopher O’Reilly, *Post-Colonial Literature* (Cambridge Contexts in Literature, C.U.P. 2001)

Robert JC Young, *Postcolonialism – A Very Short Introduction* (O.U.P. 2003)

Set poems for 2017 text grid

Selection of Donne poems:

Songs and Sonnets: The Good Morrow; The Apparition; The Ecstasy; The Flea; Love's Alchemy; Love's Growth; The Relic; Song: Go, and catch a falling star; Twickenham Garden; A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning; A Valediction: of Weeping

Elegy: On his Mistress

Religious Poems: Death be not proud; Batter my heart, three-personed God; Good Friday, 1613. Riding Westward; Hymn to God my God, in my Sickness

Selection of Rossetti poems:

Love from the North; Goblin Market; When I am dead, my dearest; A Christmas Carol (In the Bleak Midwinter); A Birthday; Jessie Cameron; In the Round Tower at Jhansi, June 8, 1857; Remember; Somewhere or Other; The PRB; In an Artist's Studio; No Thank You, John; A Daughter of Eve; Paradise

Selection of Shapcott poems:

Of Mutability; Era; Deft; Religion for Girls; Religion for Boys; St Bride's; Gherkin Music; The Black Page; His'n'Hers; I Go Inside the Tree; My Oak; Trasimeno Olive; Cypress; Viral Landscape; Myself Photographed; Composition; Procedure; Piss Flower

Writers and Writing of the Romantic Age

Blake poems: Introduction: 'Piping down the valleys wild'; The Ecchoing Green: 'The sun does arise'; The Little Black Boy: 'My mother bore me in the southern wild'; The Chimney Sweeper: 'When my mother died I was very young'; The Divine Image: 'To Mercy Pity Peace and Love'; Nurse's Song: 'When the voices of children are heard on the green'; Introduction: 'Hear the voice of the Bard'; The Sick rose: 'O rose thou art sick'; The Tyger: 'Tyger, Tyger, burning bright'; The Garden of Love: 'I went to the garden of love'; London: 'I wander thro' each chartered street'; A Poison Tree: 'I was angry with my friend; Jerusalem: 'And did those feet in ancient times'; Auguries of Innocence

Wordsworth poems: 'Tintern Abbey'; 'Intimations of Immortality'; The Lucy Poems; *Prelude* Bks. 1 and 2

Coleridge poems: 'On a Grecian Urn'; 'Frost at Midnight'; 'This Lime Tree Bower My Prison'; 'Dejection, An Ode'; 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner'

Keats poems: Ode to Autumn; The Eve of Saint Agnes; On a Grecian Urn; On First Looking into Chapman's Homer; Ode to a Nightingale; Ode on Melancholy; Isabella, or the Pot of Basil