

Examen de fin d'études secondaires 2005

Section: A1

Branche: ANGLAIS - Textes connus

Nom et prénom du candidat

A. POETRY

(30 marks)

I. "Sonnet 116" and "A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning"

a)

Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
Within his bending sickle's compass come.
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.

b)

But we by a love, so much refined,
That our selves know not what it is,
Inter-assurèd of the mind,
Care less, eyes, lips, and hands to miss.

1. How is love viewed in the above extracts? (10 marks)

II. "Prospice"

I would hate that death bandaged my eyes, and forbore,
And bade me creep past.
No! let me taste the whole of it, fare like my peers,
The heroes of old,
Bear the brunt, in a minute pay glad life's arrears
Of pain, darkness, and cold.

1. How does Browning imagine death and how does he propose to confront it in these lines? Comment on both the form and the content of these lines. (10 marks)

2. How does the speaker picture his confrontation with death in the first part of the poem, before this extract? (5 marks)

3. Why is the speaker not afraid of death? (5 marks)

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B. MACBETH

(30 marks)

Choose either question 1 or question 2.

Your essay should have between 250 and 350 words. Please indicate the number of words used.

1. Menteth “ ... What does the tyrant?”
 Cathness “Great Dunsinane he strongly fortifies.
 Some say he’s mad; others, that lesser hate him,
 Do call it valiant fury ...”

Comment on Macbeth’s behaviour, feelings and state of mind at this moment of crisis in the final act of the play.

2. Macbeth “Methought, I heard a voice cry, ‘Sleep no more!
 Macbeth does murder Sleep,’ – the innocent Sleep;”

Comment on “Sleep” as one of the main motifs of the play.

Epreuve écrite

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Section: *A₁*

Branche: *Anglais, texte inconnu*

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Ambulances

Closed like confessionals, they thread
Loud noons of cities, giving back
None of the glances they absorb.
Light glossy grey, arms on a plaque,
They come to rest at any kerb:
All streets in time are visited.

Then children strewn on steps or road,
Or women coming from the shops
Past smells of different dinners, see
A wild white face that overtops
Red stretcher-blankets momentarily
As it is carried in and stowed,

And sense the solving emptiness
That lies just under all we do,
And for a second get it whole,
So permanent and blank and true.
The fastened doors recede. *Poor soul,*
They whisper at their own distress;

For borne away in deadened air
May go the sudden shut of loss
Round something nearly at an end,
And what cohered in it across
The years, the unique random blend
Of families and fashions, there

At last begin to loosen. Far
From the exchange of love to lie
Unreachable inside a room
The traffic parts to let go by
Brings closer what is left to come
And dulls to distance all we are.

Philip Larkin

Epreuve écrite

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Section: *A₁*

Branche: *Anglais, texte inconnu*

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word explanations:

confessional	: Beichtstuhl, confessional
to thread	: to pick one's way through
arms	: here: Wappen, armoiries
kerb	: stone edging to pavement
to strew	: to scatter
to cohere	: to remain united

Comprehension questions

1. How are the ambulances described in the first stanza? (7 m)
2. How is the opposition between everyday life and victim/patient made clear in the second stanza? (10 m)
3. What is the reaction of the onlookers in the third stanza? (10 m)
4. What have the onlookers realized about their own lives in the last two stanzas? (13 m)
5. Show how Larkin underlines every man's isolation throughout the poem. (10 m)
6. Give a personal appreciation of a stanza of your choice. (10 m)