

GCSE

153/01

ENGLISH LITERATURE SPECIFICATION A FOUNDATION TIER

A.M. TUESDAY, 19 May 2009 $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours

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ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Twelve page answer book.

VP*(S09-153-01)

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer three questions: one from Section A (Questions 1 - 8); one from Section B (Questions 9 - 16); and Question 17 (Section C).

All questions in Sections A and B consist of two parts. Part (a) is based on an extract from the set text. You are then asked to answer **either** (b) **or** (c), which requires some longer writing on the text.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Section A: 30 marks Section B: 30 marks Section C: 10 marks.

You are advised to spend your time as follows: Section A - about one hour

Section B - about one hour

Section C - about 30 minutes. Turn over.

SECTION A

1. I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think are Maya's thoughts and feelings? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Grandmother Baxter speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) Choose **one** or **two** adults who you think had an influence on Maya as she grew up. Write about them, and explain why you think they had an influence on Maya. [20]

Or,

(c) Of all the places Maya lived during the times described in *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*, which do you find the most interesting, and why? [20]

A tall white policeman asked for Mrs. Baxter. Had they found out about the lie? Maybe the policeman was coming to put me in jail because I had sworn on the Bible that everything I said would be the truth, the whole truth, so help me, God. The man in our living room was taller than the sky and whiter than my image of God. He just didn't have the beard.

"Mrs. Baxter, I thought you ought to know. Freeman's been found dead on the lot behind the slaughterhouse."

Softly, as if she were discussing a church program, she said, "Poor man." She wiped her hands on the dishtowel and just as softly asked, "Do they know who did it?"

The policeman said, "Seems like he was dropped there. Some say he was kicked to death."

Grandmother's color only rose a little. "Tom, thanks for telling me. Poor man. Well, maybe it's better this way. He *was* a mad dog. Would you like a glass of lemonade? Or some beer?"

Although he looked harmless, I knew he was a dreadful angel counting out my many sins.

"No, thanks, Mrs. Baxter. I'm on duty. Gotta be getting back."

"Well, tell your ma that I'll be over when I take up my beer and remind her to save some kraut for me."

And the recording angel was gone. He was gone, and a man was dead because I lied. Where was the balance in that? One lie surely wouldn't be worth a man's life. Bailey could have explained it all to me, but I didn't dare ask him. Obviously I had forfeited my place in heaven forever, and I was as gutless as the doll I had ripped to pieces ages ago. Even Christ Himself turned His back on Satan. Wouldn't He turn His back on me? I could feel the evilness flowing through my body and waiting, pent up, to rush off my tongue if I tried to open my mouth. I clamped my teeth shut, I'd hold it in. If it escaped, wouldn't it flood the world and all the innocent people?

Grandmother Baxter said, "Ritie and Junior, you didn't hear a thing. I never want to hear this situation nor that evil man's name mentioned in my house again. I mean that." She went back into the kitchen to make apple strudel for my celebration.

Even Bailey was frightened. He sat all to himself, looking at a man's death – a kitten looking at a wolf. Not quite understanding it but frightened all the same.

In those moments I decided that although Bailey loved me he couldn't help. I had sold myself to the Devil and there could be no escape. The only thing I could do was to stop talking to people other than Bailey.

2. Pride and Prejudice

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Mr Collins speaks and behaves here? [5]
 - (ii) Choose parts of the extract that you find particularly effective and write about them, explaining why you find them effective. [5]

Either,

(b) Elizabeth's feelings for Darcy change from their first meeting to their marriage at the end of the novel. Write about **two** or **three** events which bring about this change. [20]

Or,

(c) One of the themes of *Pride and Prejudice* is attitudes to social class. Write about **two** or **three** characters whose attitudes to social class are important to the events of the novel.

For each character you choose, explain why these attitudes to social class are important. [20]

Mrs Bennet and Kitty walked off, and as soon as they were gone Mr Collins began.

"Believe me, my dear Elizabeth, that your modesty, so far from doing you any disservice, rather adds to your other perfections. You would have been less amiable in my eyes there *not* been this little unwillingness; but allow me to assure you that I have your respected mother's permission for this address. You can hardly doubt the purport of my discourse, however your natural delicacy may lead you to dissemble; my attentions have been too marked to be mistaken. Almost as soon as I entered the house I singled you out as the companion of my future life. But before I am run away with by my feelings on this subject, perhaps it will be advisable for me to state my reasons for marrying – and moreover for coming into Hertfordshire with the design of selecting a wife, as I certainly did."

The idea of Mr Collins, with all his solemn composure, being run away with by his feelings, made Elizabeth so near laughing that she could not use the short pause he allowed in any attempt to stop him farther and he continued:

"My reasons for marrying are, first, that I think it a right thing for every clergyman in easy circumstances (like myself) to set the example of matrimony in his parish. Secondly, that I am convinced it will add very greatly to my happiness; and thirdly – which perhaps I ought to have mentioned earlier, that it is the particular advice and recommendation of the very noble lady whom I have the honour of calling patroness. Twice has she condescended to give me her opinion (unasked too!) on this subject; and it was but the very Saturday night before I left Hunsford – between our pools at quadrille, while Mrs Jenkinson was arranging Miss de Bourgh's foot-stool, that she said, 'Mr Collins, you must marry. A clergyman like you must marry. – Choose properly, choose a gentlewoman for my sake; and for your own, let her be an active, useful sort of person, not brought up high, but able to make a small income go a good way. This is my advice. Find such a woman as soon as you can, bring her to Hunsford, and I will visit her.' Allow me, by the way, to observe, my fair cousin, that I do not reckon the notice and kindness of Lady Catherine de Bourgh as among the least of the advantages in my power to offer. You will find her manners beyond any thing I can describe; and your wit and vivacity I think must be acceptable to her, especially when tempered with the silence and respect which her rank will inevitably excite. Thus much for my general intention in favour of matrimony; it remains to be told why my views were directed to Longbourn instead of my own neighbourhood, where I assure you there are many amiable young women. But the fact is, that being, as I am, to inherit this estate after the death of your honoured father (who, however, may live many years longer), I could not satisfy myself without resolving to choose a wife from among his daughters, that the loss to them might be as little as possible, when the melancholy event takes place – which, however, as I have already said, may not be for several years. This has been my motive, my fair cousin, and I flatter myself it will not sink me in your esteem. And now nothing remains for me but to assure you in the most animated language of the violence of my affection. To fortune I am perfectly indifferent, and shall make no demand of that nature on your father, since I am well aware that it could not be complied with; and that one thousand pounds in the 4 per cents, which will not be yours till after your mother's decease, is all that you may ever be entitled to. On that head, therefore, I shall be uniformly silent; and you may assure yourself that no ungenerous reproach shall ever pass my lips when we are married."

It was absolutely necessary to interrupt him now.

"You are too hasty, Sir," she cried. "You forget that I have made no answer. Let me do it without farther loss of time. Accept my thanks for the compliment you are paying me. I am very sensible of the honour of your proposals, but it is impossible for me to do otherwise than decline them."

3. Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Paddy's da speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Paddy speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) For which character in *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha* do you have the most sympathy? Give reasons for what you say. [20]

Or,

(c) Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha has been described as "both funny and sad." Choose a time that you find funny and a time that you find sad. Write about **each** of these times and explain why **each** one had that effect on you. [20]

– I was thinking of getting pork for a change.

He said nothing; he didn't look.

- It might be nice.

His face was stuck to the page. His eyes weren't moving down. He wasn't reading. He made her say it.

- What do you think?

He cracked the paper. He folded it. He concentrated hard on it. He spoke but it was hardly like he was speaking; it was like the words came out with a sigh – not even a whisper.

– Do what you want.

Face on the paper, legs crossed and stiff, no rhythm.

- Whatever you want.

I didn't look back at my ma yet; not yet.

- You always do.

I still didn't look.

She didn't say anything.

I listened.

He was the only one I could hear breathing. He was pushing the air out, of his nose. Oxygen in, carbon dioxide out. Plants did it the other way round. I heard hers now, her breathing.

- Can I turn on the telly? I said.

I wanted to remind him that I was there. There was a fight coming and I could stop it by being there.

– Television, she said, corrected me.

There was nothing wrong. She'd never have said that if there had been. Ma hated half-words and bits of words and words that weren't real ones. Only full, proper words.

- Television, I said.

She didn't mind Don't and Amn't and shortened words like that. They were different. – It's a television, she'd say, not really giving out. – It's a wellington. It's a toilet.

Her voice was normal.

- Television, I said. Can I?
- What's on? she asked.

I didn't know. It didn't matter. The sound would fill the room. He'd look up.

- Something, I said. There might be, maybe a programme about politics. Something of interest.
- Like what?
- Fianna Fail versus Fine Gael, I said.

That made Da look at me.

- What's on? he said
- There might be, I said. -Not for definite.
- A match between them?
- No, I said. Talking.

The only programmes he didn't pretend he wasn't watching were ones with people talking in them, and The Virginian.

- You want the television on? he said.
- _ Yeah
- Why didn't you say just that?
- I did say it, I said.
- Fire away, he said.

His leg was moving, the one on top of the one on the ground, up and down. He sometimes put Catherine and Deirdre on his foot and carried them up and down. He did it to Sinbad as well once – I could remember it – so he must have done it to me as well. I got up.

4. Silas Marner

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Dunsey speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Godfrey speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) Write about how and why Silas Marner changes in the novel.

Think about:

- the events in Lantern Yard;
- Silas' early years at Raveloe;
- the loss of his gold;
- his relationship with Eppie;
- the end of the story.

[20]

Or,

(c) For which female character in the novel do you have the most sympathy?

Think about:

- what happens to your chosen character;
- your chosen character's relationships with others;
- the way your chosen character speaks and behaves;
- the reasons you have the most sympathy for this character.

[20]

The door opened, and a thick-set, heavy-looking young man entered, with the flushed face and the gratuitously elated bearing which mark the first stage of intoxication. It was Dunsey, and at the sight of him Godfrey's face parted with some of the gloom to take on the more active expression of hatred. The handsome brown spaniel that lay on the hearth retreated under the chair in the chimney-corner.

'Well, Master Godfrey, what do you want with me?' said Dunsey, in a mocking tone. 'You're my elders and betters, you know; I was obliged to come when you sent for me.'

'Why, this is what I want – and just shake yourself sober and listen, will you?' said Godfrey, savagely. He had himself been drinking more than was good for him, trying to turn his gloom into uncalculating anger. 'I want to tell you, I must hand over that rent of Fowler's to the Squire, or tell him I gave it you; for he's threatening to distrain for it, and it'll all be out soon, whether I tell him or not. He said, just now, before he went out, he should send word to Cox to distrain, if Fowler didn't come and pay up his arrears this week. The Squire's short o' cash, and in no humour to stand any nonsense; and you know what he threatened, if ever he found you making away with his money again. So, see and get the money, and pretty quickly, will you?'

'Oh!' said Dunsey, sneeringly, coming nearer to his brother and looking in his face. 'Suppose, now, you get the money yourself, and save me the trouble, eh? Since you was so kind as to hand it over to me, you'll not refuse me the kindness to pay it back for me: it was your brotherly love made you do it, you know.'

Godfrey bit his lips and clenched his fist. 'Don't come near me with that look, else I'll knock you down.'

'Oh, no, you won't,' said Dunsey, turning away on his heel, however. 'Because I'm such a good-natured brother, you know. I might get you turned out of house and home, and cut off with a shilling any day. I might tell the Squire how his handsome son was married to that nice young woman, Molly Farren, and was very unhappy because he couldn't live with his drunken wife, and I should slip into your place as comfortable as could be. But, you see, I don't do it – I'm easy and good-natured. You'll take any trouble for me. You'll get the hundred pounds for me – I know you will.'

'How can I get the money?' said Godfrey, quivering. 'I haven't a shilling to bless myself with.'

5. To Kill A Mockingbird

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Miss Caroline speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Scout speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) What do you think about Calpurnia?

Think about:

- her relationships with Jem, Scout and Atticus;
- her relationships with other characters;
- the way she speaks and behaves;
- the way she is described in the novel.

[20]

Or,

(c) Atticus says, "It's a sin to kill a mockingbird." Miss Maudie says mockingbirds "don't do one thing but sing their hearts out for us."

Several of the characters could be described as mockingbirds.

Choose **one** character you think is the best example of a mockingbird and write about him or her, explaining the reasons for your choice. [20]

Before the first morning was over, Miss Caroline Fisher, our teacher, hauled me up to the front of the room and patted the palm of my hand with a ruler, then made me stand in the corner until noon.

Miss Caroline was no more than twenty-one. She had bright auburn hair, pink cheeks, and wore crimson finger-nail polish. She also wore high-heeled pumps and a red-and-white-striped dress. She looked and smelled like a peppermint drop. She boarded across the street one door down from us in Miss Maudie Atkinson's upstairs front room, and when Miss Maudie introduced us to her, Jem was in a haze for days.

Miss Caroline printed her name on the blackboard and said, 'This says I am Miss Caroline Fisher. I am from North Alabama, from Winston County.' The class murmured apprehensively, should she prove to harbour her share of the peculiarities indigenous to that region. (When Alabama seceded from the Union on January 11th, 1861, Winston County seceded from Alabama, and every child in Maycomb County knew it.) North Alabama was full of Liquor Interests, Big Mules, steel companies, Republicans, professors, and other persons of no background.

Miss Caroline began the day by reading us a story about cats. The cats had long conversations with one another, they wore cunning little clothes and lived in a warm house beneath a kitchen stove. By the time Mrs Cat called the drugstore for an order of chocolate malted mice the class was wriggling like a bucketful of catawba worms. Miss Caroline seemed unaware that the ragged, denim-shirted and floursack-skirted first grade, most of whom had chopped cotton and fed hogs from the time they were able to walk, were immune to imaginative literature. Miss Caroline came to the end of the story and said, 'Oh, my, wasn't that nice?'

Then she went to the blackboard and printed the alphabet in enormous square capitals, turned to the class and asked, 'Does anybody know what these are?'

Everybody did; most of the first grade had failed it last year.

I suppose she chose me because she knew my name; as I read the alphabet a faint line appeared between her eyebrows, and after making me read most of *My First Reader* and the stock-market quotations from *The Mobile Register* aloud, she discovered that I was literate and looked at me with more than faint distaste. Miss Caroline told me to tell my father not to teach me any more, it would interfere with my reading.

'Teach me?' I said in surprise. 'He hasn't taught me anything, Miss Caroline. Atticus ain't got time to teach me anything,' I added, when Miss Caroline smiled and shook her head. 'Why, he's so tired at night he just sits in the living-room and reads.'

'If he didn't teach you, who did?' Miss Caroline asked good-naturedly. 'Somebody did. You weren't born reading *The Mobile Register*.'

'Jem says I was. He read in a book where I was a Bullfinch instead of a Finch. Jem says my name's really Jean Louise Bullfinch, that I got swapped when I was born and I'm really a –'

Miss Caroline apparently thought I was lying. 'Let's not let our imaginations run away with us, dear,' she said. 'Now you tell your father not to teach you any more. It's best to begin reading with a fresh mind. You tell him I'll take over from here and try to undo the damage –'

'Ma'am?'

'Your father does not know how to teach. You can have a seat now.'

I mumbled that I was sorry and retired meditating upon my crime.

6. Of Mice and Men

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Lennie speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way George speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) What do you think of Candy?

Think about:

- his role on the ranch;
- the death of his dog;
- his relationship with George and Lennie;
- the way he speaks and behaves.

[20]

Or,

(c) Write about the relationship between George and Lennie.

Think about:

- the way George speaks and behaves with Lennie at different points in the novel;
- the way Lennie speaks and behaves with George at different points in the novel;
- the way other characters respond to their relationship;
- anything else you think important. [20]

Lennie crawled slowly and cautiously around the fire until he was close to George. He sat back on his heels. George turned the bean-cans so that another side faced the fire. He pretended to be unaware of Lennie so close beside him.

'George,' very softly. No answer. 'George!'

'Whatta you want?'

'I was only foolin', George. I don't want no ketchup. I wouldn't eat no ketchup if it was right here beside me.'

'If it was here, you could have some.'

'But I wouldn't eat none, George. I'd leave it all for you. You could cover your beans with it and I wouldn't touch none of it.'

George still stared morosely at the fire. 'When I think of the swell time I could have without you, I go nuts. I never get no peace.'

Lennie still knelt. He looked off into the darkness across the river. 'George, you want I should go away and leave you alone?'

'Where the hell could you go?'

'Well I could. I could go off in the hills there. Some place I'd find a cave.'

'Yeah? How'd you eat? You ain't got sense enough to find nothing to eat.'

'I'd find things, George. I don't need no nice food with ketchup. I'd lay out in the sun and nobody'd hurt me. An' if I foun' a mouse, I could keep it. Nobody'd take it away from me.'

George looked quickly and searchingly at him. 'I been mean, ain't I?'

'If you don' want me I can go off in the hills an' find a cave. I can go away any time.'

'No - look! I was jus' foolin', Lennie. Course I want you to stay with me.'

7. Stone Cold

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What are your thoughts and feelings as you read this extract? [5]
 - (ii) Choose parts of the extract that you find particularly effective and write about them, explaining why you find them effective. [5]

Either,

(b) Write about the person you think is most important to Link, and explain the reasons for your choice. [20]

Or,

(c) Stone Cold is written using the voices of both Shelter and Link. Write about the effect of this.

Think about:

- what you learn about Shelter from the way he speaks;
- what you learn about Link from the way he speaks;
- the effect the use of the two voices has on the novel as a whole;
- anything else you think important.

[20]

Have you ever seen that famous diagram of a slave ship – slaves crammed like sardines into every square centimetre of space? Well, that's what it was like on the boat me and Ginger ended up on.

We'd parted with our six quid on the tow path, where Probyn had his office in one of those yellow plastic watchman shelters. He didn't look like Captain Hook. He was sitting on a folding canvas chair wearing wellies, a waxed jacket, a muffler, a knitted cap and gloves with the fingers cut out. He had a smooth, pink complexion and pale eyes and looked about thirty-five. When he smiled, as he did when he grabbed our dosh, he showed very small, very even white teeth. He stuffed the notes into a bulging wallet which he returned to an inside pocket. I was wondering why some guy hadn't mugged him for this when I heard a low growl and saw a Rottweiler the size of a horse gazing out from between his feet. Probyn showed his teeth again. 'Don't even think about it, kid,' he purred. He must've been a mind reader or something. Then he pointed to the nearest of his boats, moored fore and aft to bollards on the bank. 'That one,' he said. 'Mind the gap.'

I've told you it looked like a slave ship. What I haven't said is that it stank like one, too. You went through a narrow door and it hit you – the stench of too many damp, unwashed bodies, too much lingering flatulence. There were three steps down and then you were falling over sleepers, looking for a space in the poor light from a paraffin lamp which dangled unlawfully from the deckhead. We found a sliver of unoccupied floorspace and bedded down, drawing grunts and curses from those we kicked and elbowed in doing so.

One thing, though – it was certainly warm, and you weren't straining your ears all the time listening for potential assailants. The boat rocked very gently on the water, and once you stopped noticing the smell the whole thing was quite pleasant. It's amazing how resilient wooden planks feel after lying night after night on stone. I dropped off almost at once; and dreamt I was sailing my yacht through blue, tropic waters of breathtaking clarity under a cloudless sky, while Vince hurried back and forth with long, cool drinks for me, and my rat-faced former landlord cooled me with a peacock fan. It was terrific while it lasted, but waking up was a drag.

8. Anita and Me

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Anita speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Meena speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) What do you think of Anita?

Think about:

- what you learn about Anita's family;
- Anita's relationship with Meena;
- Anita's relationships with other characters;
- the way Anita speak and behaves at different times in the novel. [20]

Or,

(c) Anita and Me has been described as "a funny, sad book." Choose a part of the novel you found funny, and a part of the novel you found sad. Write about **each** part, explaining why it had that effect on you. [20]

Mama had gone to the trouble of preparing two menus, which was fortunate considering Anita's reaction when the serving dishes of various curries were placed in front of her. 'What's that!' she demanded, as if confronted with a festering sheep's head on a platter. 'Oh that's mattar-paneer,' mama said proudly, always happy to educate the sad English palate. 'A sort of Indian cheese, and these are peas with it, of course . . .'

'Cheese and peas?' said Anita faintly. 'Together?'

'Well,' mama went on hurriedly. 'This is chicken curry . . . You have had chicken before, haven't you?'

'What's that stuff round it?'

'Um, just gravy, you know, tomatoes, onions, garlic . . .'

Mama was losing confidence now, she trailed off as she picked up Anita's increasing panic.

'Chicken with tomatoes? What's garlic?'

'Don't you worry!' papa interjected heartily, fearing a culinary cat fight was about to shatter his fragile peace. 'We've also got fishfingers and chips. Is tomato sauce too dangerous for you?'

Anita's relief made her oblivious to his attempt at a joke. She simply picked up her knife and fork and rested her elbows on the table, waiting to be served with something she could recognise. 'I'll have fishfingers, mum! Um, please!' I called out after her. I could tell from the set of mama's back that her charity was wearing a little thin. Although I had yet to cast Anita in the mould of one of the Rainbow orphan kids, I did wonder if food was a problem at her house after seeing her eat. Any romantic idea I had about witty stories over the dinner table disappeared when Anita made a fortress of her arms and chewed stolidly behind it, daring anyone to approach and disturb her concentration or risk losing an eye if they attempted to steal a chip. She looked up only twice, once when my parents began eating, as always, with their fingers, using their chapatti as scoops to ferry the banquet of curries into their mouths.

Anita stopped in mid-chew, looking from her knife and fork to mama and papa's fingers with faint disgust, apparently unaware that all of us had a great view of a lump of half masticated fishfinger sitting on her tongue. It had never occurred to me that this would be a moment of controversy. It had never occurred to me because I had never eaten Indian food in the presence of a white person before. In fact, I only then realised that Anita Rutter was the first non-relative to sit and break bread with us, and the same thought had just hit my parents, who had gradually slowed down their eating and were eyeing a nearby box of paper hankies with longing. I snapped to attention, I would not have Anita play the same games with my parents that had made me dizzy and confused. The girl had not even said a simple thank you yet. 'We always eat our food with our fingers,' I said loudly to Anita. 'Like in all the top restaurants. Bet you didn't know that, did you?'

SECTION B

9. Under Milk Wood

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Mr Pugh speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Mrs Pugh speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) Choose **one** or **two** male characters from *Under Milk Wood* whom you find interesting. Write about them, giving reasons for your choice. [20]

Or,

(c) Most of the characters in *Under Milk Wood* have secrets of some kind. Write about some of the more surprising secrets revealed by the characters in the play. Explain why an audience would find them surprising. [20]

FIRST VOICE In the blind-drawn dark dining-room of School House, dusty and echoing as a

dining-room in a vault, Mr and Mrs Pugh are silent over cold grey cottage pie. Mr Pugh reads, as he forks the shroud meat in, from *Lives of the Great Poisoners*. He has bound a plain brown-paper cover round the book. Slyly, between slow mouthfuls, he sidespies up at Mrs Pugh, poisons her with his eye, then goes on

reading. He underlines certain passages and smiles in secret.

MRS PUGH Persons with manners do not read at table,

FIRST VOICE says Mrs. Pugh. She swallows a digestive tablet as big as a horse-pill, washing it

down with clouded peasoup water.

[Pause

MRS PUGH Some persons were brought up in pigsties.

MR PUGH Pigs don't read at table, dear.

FIRST VOICE Bitterly she flicks dust from the broken cruet. It settles on the pie in a thin gnat-

rain.

MR PUGH Pigs can't read, my dear.

MRS PUGH I know one who can.

FIRST VOICE Alone in the hissing laboratory of his wishes, Mr Pugh minces among bad vats and

jeroboams, tiptoes through spinneys of murdering herbs, agony dancing in his crucibles, and mixes especially for Mrs Pugh a venomous porridge unknown to toxicologists which will scald and viper through her until her ears fall off like figs, her toes grow big and black as balloons, and steam comes screaming out of her

navel.

MR PUGH You know best, dear.

FIRST VOICE says Mr Pugh, and quick as a flash he ducks her in rat soup.

MRS PUGH What's that book by your trough, Mr Pugh?

MR PUGH It's a theological work, my dear. Lives of the Great Saints.

FIRST VOICE Mrs Pugh smiles. An icicle forms in the cold air of the dining-vault.

10. A View From The Bridge

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Eddie speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) How do you think an audience would respond to this part of the play? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) Imagine you are Catherine. At the end of the play you think back over its events. Write down your thoughts and feelings.

You may wish to think about:

- your life before the arrival of Rodolfo and Marco;
- the effect that meeting Rodolfo had on you;
- your changing relationship with Eddie;
- your relationship with Beatrice;
- Eddie's death. [20]

Or,

(c) Write about the effect the events of the play have on the relationship between Eddie and Beatrice.

Think about:

- their relationship at the start of the play;
- their relationship after the arrival of Marco and Rodolfo;
- the way they speak and behave at different times in the play;
- anything else you think important.

[20]

EDDIE Okay, I only wanted the best for you, Katie. I hope you know that.

CATHERINE Okay. (She starts out again.)

EDDIE Catherine? (She turns to him.) I was tellin' Beatrice ... if you wanna go out, like ... I mean

I realize maybe I kept you home too much. Because he's the first guy you ever knew, y'know? I mean now that you got a job, you might meet some fellas, and you get a different idea, y'know? I mean you could always come back to him, you're still only kids, the both of yiz. What's the hurry? Maybe you'll get around a little bit, you grow up a little more, maybe you'll see different in a couple of months. I mean you be surprised, it

don't have to be him.

CATHERINE No, we made it up already.

EDDIE (with increasing anxiety) Katie, wait a minute.

CATHERINE No, I made up my mind.

EDDIE But you never knew no other fella, Katie! How could you make up your mind?

CATHERINE 'Cause I did. I don't want nobody else.
EDDIE But, Katie, suppose he gets picked up.

CATHERINE That's why we gonna do it right away. Soon as we finish the wedding he's goin' right

over and start to be a citizen. I made up my mind, Eddie, I'm sorry. (To BEATRICE)

Could I take two more pillow cases for the other guys?

BEATRICE Sure, go ahead. Only don't let her forget where they came from.

CATHERINE *goes into the bedroom*.

EDDIE She's got other boarders up there?

BEATRICE Yeah, there's two guys that just came over.

EDDIE What do you mean, came over?

CATHERINE From Italy. Lipari the butcher – his nephew. They come from Bari, they just got here

yesterday. I didn't even know till Marco and Rodolfo moved up there before. (CATHERINE enters, going toward exit with two pillow cases.) It'll be nice, they could all talk together.

Eddie Catherine! (She halts near the exit door. He takes in BEATRICE too.) What're you, got no

brains? You put them up there with two other submarines?

CATHERINE Why?

EDDIE (in a driving fright and anger) Why! How do you know they're not trackin' these guys?

They'll come up for them and find Marco and Rodolfo! Get them out of the house!

BEATRICE But they been here so long already –

EDDIE How do you know what enemies Lipari's got? Which they'd love to stab him in the

back?

CATHERINE Well what'll I do with them?

EDDIE The neighbourhood is full of rooms. Can't you stand to live a couple of blocks away

from him? Get them out of the house!

CATHERINE Well maybe tomorrow night I'll –

EDDIE Not tomorrow, do it now. Catherine, you never mix yourself with somebody else's

family! These guys get picked up, Lipari's liable to blame you or me and we got his

whole family on our head. They got a temper, that family. *Two men in overcoats appear outside, start into the house.*

CATHERINE How'm I gonna find a place tonight?

EDDIE Will you stop arguin' with me and get them out! You think I'm always tryin' to fool you

or sump'm? What's the matter with you, don't you believe I could think of your good? Did I ever ask sump'm for myself? You think I got no feelin's? I never told you nothin' in

my life that wasn't for your good. Nothin'!

And look at the way you talk to me! Like I was an enemy! Like I - (A knock on the door. His head swerves. They all stand motionless. Another knock. Eddie, in a whisper, pointing

upstage.) Go up the fire escape, get them out over the back fence.

CATHERINE stands motionless, uncomprehending.

FIRST OFFICER (in the hall) Immigration! Open up in there!

Eddle Go, go. Hurry up! (She stands a moment staring at him in a realized horror.) Well,

what're you lookin' at!

FIRST OFFICER Open up!

EDDIE (calling towards door.) Who's that there?

11. An Inspector Calls

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way the Inspector speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Mrs Birling speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) What do you think of Eric Birling?

Think about:

- his relationship with Eva Smith;
- his relationship with his parents;
- his relationship with his sister, Sheila;
- the way he responds to Inspector Goole;
- the way he speaks and behaves at different points in the play. [20]

Or,

(c) Each member of the Birling family and Gerald Croft misuses their power in their dealings with Eva Smith. Write about the character who you think misuses their power the most. Give reasons for what you say. [20]

BIRLING Is there any reason why my wife should answer questions from you, Inspector?

INSPECTOR Yes, a very good reason. You'll remember that Mr Croft told us – quite truthfully, I

believe - that he hadn't spoken to or seen Eva Smith since last September. But

Mrs Birling spoke to and saw her only two weeks ago.

SHEILA (astonished) Mother!

BIRLING Is this true?

MRS B. (after a pause) Yes, quite true.

INSPECTOR She appealed to your organization for help?

MRS B. Yes.

INSPECTOR Not as Eva Smith?
MRS B. No. Nor as Daisy Renton.

INSPECTOR As what then?

MRS B. First, she called herself Mrs Birling –

BIRLING (astounded) Mrs Birling!

MRS B. Yes, I think it was simply a piece of gross impertinence – quite deliberate – and

naturally that was one of the things that prejudiced me against her case.

BIRLING And I should think so! Damned impudence!

INSPECTOR You admit being prejudiced against her case?

MRS B. Yes.

SHEILA Mother, she's just died a horrible death – don't forget.

MRS B. I'm very sorry. But I think she had only herself to blame.

INSPECTOR Was it owing to your influence, as the most prominent member of the committee, that

help was refused the girl?

MRS B. Possibly.

INSPECTOR Was it or was it not your influence?

MRS B. (stung) Yes, it was. I didn't like her manner. She'd impertinently made use of our name,

though she pretended afterwards it just happened to be the first she thought of. She had to admit, after I began questioning her, that she had no claim to the name, that she wasn't married, and that the story she told at first – about a husband who'd deserted her – was quite false. It didn't take me long to get the truth – or some of the truth – out of

her.

INSPECTOR Why did she want help?

MRS B. You know very well why she wanted help.

INSPECTOR No, I don't. I know why she needed help. But as I wasn't there, I don't know what she

asked from your committee.

MRS B. I don't think we need discuss it.

INSPECTOR You have no hope of *not* discussing it, Mrs Birling.

MRS B. If you think you can bring any pressure to bear upon me, Inspector, you're quite

mistaken. Unlike the other three, I did nothing I'm ashamed of or that won't bear investigation. The girl asked for assistance. We were asked to look carefully into the claims made upon us. I wasn't satisfied with the girl's claim – she seemed to me to be not a good case – and so I used my influence to have it refused. And in spite of what's happened to the girl since, I consider I did my duty. So if I prefer not to discuss it any

further, you have no power to make me change my mind.

INSPECTOR Yes I have.

MRS B. No you haven't. Simply because I've done nothing wrong – and you know it.

INSPECTOR (very deliberately) I think you did something terribly wrong – and that you're going to

spend the rest of your life regretting it.

12. The Merchant Of Venice

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Shylock speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Antonio speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) Give advice to an actor playing Portia on how she should present the character to an audience.

Think about:

- the way she should speak and behave in Belmont;
- the way she should speak and behave in Venice, at the trial;
- anything else you think important.

[20]

Or,

(c) Write about the relationship between Shylock and Antonio.

Think about:

- the way Shylock speaks and behaves with Antonio;
- the way Antonio speaks and behaves with Shylock;
- the way Shylock and Antonio speak and behave during the trial scene;
- anything else you think important.

[20]

SHYLOCK This kindness will I show.

Go with me to a notary, seal me there Your single bond, and, in a merry sport, If you repay me not on such a day, In such a place, such sum or sums as are Expressed in the condition, let the forfeit Be nominated for an equal pound Of your fair flesh, to be cut off and taken

Of your fair flesh, to be cut off and taken In what part of your body pleaseth me.

Antonio Content, in faith! I'll seal to such a bond, And say there is much kindness in the Jew.

BASSANIO You shall not seal to such a bond for me;

I'll rather dwell in my necessity.

ANTONIO Why, fear not, man I will not forfeit it.

Within these two months, that's a month before

This bond expires, I do expect return Of thrice three times the value of this bond.

SHYLOCK O father Abram, what these Christians are,

Whose own hard dealings teaches them suspect The thoughts of others! Pray you tell me this: If he should break his day what should I gain

By the exaction of the foreiture?

A pound of man's flesh, taken from a man, Is not so estimable, profitable neither, As flesh of muttons, beefs, or goats. I say To buy his favour, I extend this friendship.

If he will take it, so; if not, adieu,

And for my love, I pray you wrong me not.

ANTONIO Yes, Shylock, I will seal unto this bond.

SHYLOCK Then meet me forthwith at the notary's.

Give him direction for this merry bond, And I will go and purse the ducats straight, See to my house left in the fearful guard Of an unthrifty knave, and presently

I'll be with you.

Exit

Antonio Hie thee, gentle Jew.

The Hebrew will turn Christian, he grows kind.

BASSANIO I like not fair terms and a villain's mind

ANTONIO Come on, in this there can be no dismay,

My ships come home a month before the day.

Exeunt

13. Romeo and Juliet

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Romeo speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Juliet speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) Write about Mercutio and the importance of his character to the play.

Think about:

- his friendship with Romeo;
- his fight with Tybalt;
- the way he speaks and behaves at different points in the play;
- his impact on the events of the play.

[20]

Or,

(c) One of the themes of *Romeo and Juliet* is the conflict between the older and younger generations. Write about **one** or **two** occasions when this conflict between the generations is important.

Think about:

- what happens;
- who is involved;
- how the occasion(s) you have chosen are important to the play as a whole. [20]

ROMEO (Taking JULIET'S hand) If I profane with my unworthiest hand

This holy shrine, the gentle sin is this: My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.

JULIET Good pilgrim, you do wrong your hand too much,

Which mannerly devotion shows in this –

For saints have hands that pilgrims' hands do touch,

And palm to palm is holy palmers' kiss.

ROMEO Have not saints lips, and holy palmers too?

JULIET Ay, pilgrim, lips that they must use in prayer.

ROMEO O then, dear saint, let lips do what hands do:

They pray: grant thou – lest faith turn to despair.

JULIET Saints do not move, though grant for prayers' sake.

ROMEO Then move not, while my prayer's effect I take.

He kisses her.

JULIET

ROMEO

Thus from my lips, by thine, my sin is purged.
Then have my lips the sin that they have took.
Sin from my lips? O trespass sweetly urged!

Give me my sin again.

He kisses her again.

JULIET You kiss by the book.

NURSE (Approaching them) Madam, your mother craves a word with you.

ROMEO (As JULIET goes) What is her mother?

NURSE Marry, bachelor,

Her mother is the lady of the house, And a good lady, and a wise and virtuous. I nursed her daughter that you talked withal.

I tell you, he that can lay hold of her

Shall have the chinks.

ROMEO Is she a Capulet?

Oh dear account! My life is my foe's debt.

14. Othello

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What are your thoughts and feelings about Othello here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) Choose parts of this extract you find effective and write about them, explaining why you find them effective. [5]

Either,

(b) What do you think about Desdemona?

Think about:

- her relationship with Othello;
- her relationship with Cassio;
- her relationship with Iago;
- her relationship with Emilia;
- anything else you think important. [20]

Or,

(c) Give advice to an actor playing Othello on how he should present the character to an audience at two or three important points in the play. [20]

DUKE: Fetch Desdemona hither.

OTHELLO: (To IAGO) Ancient, conduct them: you best know the place.

Exit IAGO, with attendants.

And till she come, as truly as to heaven
 I do confess the vices of my blood,
 So justly to your grave ears I'll present
 How I did thrive in this fair lady's love,
 And she in mine.

DUKE: Say it Othello.

OTHELLO: Her father loved me, oft invited me –

Still questioned me the story of my life

From year to year, the battles, sieges, fortunes

That I have passed.

I ran it through – even from my boyish days

To the very moment that he bade me tell it.

Wherein I spoke of most disastrous chances,

Of moving accidents by flood and field,

Of hair-breadth scapes i' the imminent deadly breach,

Of being taken by the insolent foe

And sold to slavery, of my redemption thence

And with it all my travels' history –

Wherein of antres vast and deserts idle,

Rough quarries, rocks and hills whose heads touch heaven,

It was my hint to speak. Such was my process -

And of the Cannibals that each other eat,

The Anthropophagi, and men whose heads

Do grow beneath their shoulders. These things to hear

Would Desdemona seriously incline -

But still the house affairs would draw her thence;

Which ever as she could with haste dispatch,

She'd come again, and with a greedy ear

Devour up my discourse. Which I observing,

Took once a pliant hour, and found good means

To draw from her a prayer of earnest heart

That I would all my pilgrimage dilate,

Whereof by parcels she had something heard,

But not intentively. I did consent –

And often did beguile her of her tears

When I did speak of some distressful stroke

That my youth suffered. My story being done,

She gave me for my pains a world of sighs –

She swore in faith 'twas strange, 'twas passing strange;

'Twas pitiful, 'twas wondrous pitiful.

She wished she had not heard it, yet she wished

That heaven had made her such a man. She thanked me,

And bade me, if I had a friend that loved her,

I should but teach him how to tell my story,

And that would woo her. Upon this hint I spake.

She loved me for the dangers I had passed.

And I loved her that she did pity them,

This only is the witchcraft I have used.

Here comes the lady. Let her witness it.

Re-enter IAGO, with attendants, bringing DESDEMONA.

DUKE: I think this tale would win my daughter too.

15. Hobson's Choice

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Maggie speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Hobson speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) Write about Willie and explain how and why he changes at different points in the play.

Think about:

- the first time the audience meets Willie;
- Willie's changing relationship with Maggie;
- Willie's relationship with other characters;
- the way Willie speaks and behaves at different points in the play. [20]

Or,

(c) The expression "Hobson's choice" means to have no choice at all. Write about **one** or **two** characters in the play who find that they have no choice at all. [20]

MAGGIE: Now tell me what it is you came about?

HOBSON: I'm in sore trouble, Maggie.

MAGGIE: (rising and going towards the door): Then I'll leave you with my husband to talk it

over.

HOBSON: Eh?

MAGGIE: You'll not be wanting me. Women are only in your way.

HOBSON: (rising): Maggie, you're not going to desert me in the hour of my need, are you?

MAGGIE: Surely to goodness you don't want a woman to help you after all you've said! Will 'ull

do his best, I make no doubt. (She goes towards the door.) Give me a call when you've

finished, Will.

HOBSON: (following her): Maggie! It's private.

MAGGIE: Why, yes, I'm going and you can discuss it man to man with no fools of women about.

HOBSON: I tell you I've come to see you, not him. It's private from him.

MAGGIE: Private from Will? Nay, it isn't. Will's in the family and you've nowt to say to me that

can't be said to him.

HOBSON: I've to tell you this with him there?

MAGGIE: Will and me's one.

WILLIE: Sit down, Mr Hobson.

MAGGIE: You call him father now.

WILLIE: (astonished): Do I?

HOBSON: Does he?

MAGGIE: He does. Sit down, Will.

WILLIE sits right of table. MAGGIE stands at the head of the table. HOBSON sits on sofa.

MAGGIE: Now, if you're ready, father, we are. What's the matter?

HOBSON: That - (producing the blue paper) - that's the matter.

MAGGIE accepts and passes it to Will and goes behind his chair. He is reading upside

down. She bends over chair and turns it right way up.

MAGGIE: What is it, Will?

HOBSON: (banging on table): Ruin, Maggie that's what it is! Ruin and bankruptcy. Am I vicar's

warden at St Philip's or am I not? Am I Hobson of Hobson's Boot Shop on Chapel

Street, Salford? Am I respectable ratepayer and the father of a family or –

MAGGIE: (who has been reading over Will's shoulder): It's an action for damages for trespass, I

see.

16. Blood Brothers

Answer both parts of (a) and **either** part (b) **or** part (c).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b) or part (c).

- (a) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following questions:
 - (i) What do you think of the way Mrs Lyons speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]
 - (ii) What do you think of the way Mr Lyons speaks and behaves here? Give reasons for what you say. [5]

Either,

(b) For which character in *Blood Brothers* do you have the most sympathy? Give reasons for what you say. [20]

Or,

(c) What do you think about the Johnstone family?

Think about:

- the way Mrs Johnstone speaks and behaves;
- the way the Johnstone children speak and behave when they are younger;
- the way the Johnstone children speak and behave when they grow up;
- anything else you think important. [20]

MRS LYONS: Oh Richard, Richard.

MR LYONS: For God's sake Jennifer, I told you on the phone, he'll just be out playing somewhere.

MRS LYONS: But where?

MR LYONS: Outside somewhere, with friends. Edward . . .

MRS LYONS: But I don't want him out playing.

MR LYONS: Jennifer, he's not a baby. Edward . . .

MRS LYONS: I don't care. I don't care . . .

MR LYONS: For Christ's sake, you bring me home from work in the middle of the day, just to say

you haven't seen him for an hour. Perhaps we should be talking about you getting

something for your nerves.

MRS LYONS: There's nothing wrong with my nerves. It's just . . . just this place . . . I hate it. Richard,

I don't want to stay here any more. I want to move.

MR LYONS: Jennifer! Jennifer, how many times . . . the factory is here, my work is here . . .

MRS LYONS: It doesn't have to be somewhere far away. But we have got to move, Richard. Because

if we stay here I feel that something terrible will happen, something bad.

MR LYONS sighs and puts his arms round MRS LYONS.

MR LYONS: Look, Jen. What is this thing you keep talking about getting away from? Mm?

MRS LYONS: It's just . . . it's these people . . . these people that Edward has started mixing with. Can't

you see how he's drawn to them? They're . . . they're drawing him away from me.

MR LYONS, in despair, turns away from her.

Mr Lyons: Oh Christ.

He turns to look at her but she looks away. He sighs and absently bends to pick up a

pair of children's shoes from the floor.

I really do think you should see a doctor.

MRS LYONS: (snapping): I don't need to see a doctor. I just need to move away from this

neighbourhood, because I'm frightened. I'm frightened for Edward.

MR LYONS places the shoes on the table before turning to her.

MR LYONS: Frightened of what, woman?

MRS LYONS: (wheeling to face him): Frightened of . . . (She is stopped by the sight of the shoes on

the table. She rushes at the table and sweeps the shoes off.)

SECTION C

Spend about 30 minutes on this section. Think carefully about the poem before you write your answer.

17. Write about the poem and its effect on you.

You may wish to include some or all of these points:

- the poem's content what it is about;
- the ideas the poet may have wanted us to think about;
- the mood or atmosphere of the poem;
- how it is written words or phrases you find interesting, the way the poem is structured or organised, and so on;
- your response to the poem.

[10]

Quieter than Snow

I went to school a day too soon And couldn't understand Why silence hung in the yard like sheets Nothing to flap or spin, no creaks Or shocks of voices, only air.

And the car park empty of teachers' cars Only the first September leaves Dropping like paper. No racks of bikes, No kicking legs, no fights, No voices, laughter, anything.

Yet the door was open. My feet Sucked down the corridor. My reflection Walked with me past the hall. My classroom smelt of nothing. And the silence Rolled like thunder in my ears.

At every desk a still child stared at me Teachers walked through walls and back again Cupboard doors swung open, and out crept More silent children, and still more.

They tiptoed round me Touched me with ice-cold hands And opened up their mouths with laughter That was

Quieter than snow.

BERLIE DOHERTY