**Post Mock - Pre Leaving Cert Exam**

**ENGLISH – HIGHER LEVEL – PAPER 2**

**Total Marks: 200**

**Time Allowed: 3 Hours 20 Minutes**

**SECTION I**

**THE SINGLE TEXT (60 marks)**

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| **MACBETH – WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**  **Q1**. “Macbeth is a play dealing with different versions of monarchy”.  Discuss the contrasts between these different versions, supporting your answer by reference to the play *Macbeth.*  **OR**  **Q2**. In Shakespeare’s plays there are almost always two sides to the characters. Few of them are drawn in simple black and white.  Discuss this statement, supporting your answer by reference to the play *Macbeth.* |

**SECTION II**

**THE COMPARATIVE STUDY (70 marks)**

Answer **one** question from either A or B

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| **A - THE CULTURAL CONTEXT**   1. “The cultural context of a narrative usually determines how the story will unfold”. 2. Compare the way in which the cultural context influenced the storyline in two of the texts you have studied in your comparative course (40) 3. Show how the cultural context influenced the storyline in a third text you have studied (30)   **OR**   1. “Understanding the cultural context of a text adds to our enjoyment of a good narrative”.   In the light of the above statement write an essay comparing the cultural contexts of the texts you have studied in your comparative course. Support the comparisons you make by reference to the texts. (70) |

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| **B - LITERARY GENRE**   1. “A good text will have moments of great emotional power”   Write an essay comparing the ways emotional power was created in each of your **three** texts. (70)  **OR**   1. “No two texts are exactly the same in the manner in which they tell their stories” 2. Compare two of the texts you have studied in light of the above statement. Support your comparisons by making reference to the texts. (40) 3. Write a short commentary on a third text from your comparative study in light of your discussion in part (a) above. (30) |

**SECTION III**

**POETRY (70 marks)**

**Candidates must answer A – Unseen Poem and B – Prescribed Poetry**

**A - UNSEEN POEM** (20 MARKS)

Answer **either** Question 1 **OR** Question 2.

*This poem comes from his collection of poems called "The Green Helmet and other Poems." "The Mask" is about a conversation between a man and a woman.*

**The Mask**

"PUT off that mask of burning gold  
With emerald eyes."  
"O no, my dear, you make so bold  
To find if hearts be wild and wise,  
And yet not cold."  
  
"I would but find what's there to find,  
Love or deceit."  
"It was the mask engaged your mind,  
And after set your heart to beat,  
Not what's behind."  
  
"But lest you are my enemy,  
I must enquire."  
"O no, my dear, let all that be;  
What matter, so there is but fire  
In you, in me?"

**William Butler Yeats**

1. Write a personal response to this poem, describing the impact it has on you. (20)

**OR**

1. (i) Describe the conversation between the couple in the poem. (10)

(ii) Select an image or phrase that you find particularly striking. Explain your choice. (10)

**B. PRESCRIBED POETRY (50 marks)**

Candidates must answer **one** of the following questions

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| 1. **Adrienne Rich**   “Adrienne Rich explores the position of women in society”  Write an assessment of Rich’s poetry in light of the above statement. Support your answer with reference to the poetry you have studied.   1. **Gerard Manley Hopkins**   Hopkins’ poetry still appeals to the modern reader”  Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Support your answer with reference to the poetry you have studied.   1. **William Wordsworth**   ‘In his poetry there is a vivid evocation of both the natural world and the mind of the poet’  Do you agree with this view of Wordsworth’s poetry? Support your answer with reference to the poetry you have studied.   1. **William Shakespeare**   “Shakespeare’s sonnets are lively reflections on love and time”  Do you agree with this view of Shakespeare’s poetry? Support your answer with reference to the poetry you have studied. |