

**Answer ONE question on the texts you have studied. Begin your answer on page 5.**

### **The Supernatural**

#### **Texts**

Pre-1900: *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Oscar Wilde; *Dracula*, Bram Stoker

Post-1900: *The Little Stranger*, Sarah Waters; *Beloved*, Toni Morrison

#### **EITHER**

- 9** Compare the ways in which the writers of your two chosen texts present characters who experience anxiety. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors.

**(Total for Question 9 = 40 marks)**

#### **OR**

- 10** Compare the ways in which the writers of your two chosen texts examine violence. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors.

**(Total for Question 10 = 40 marks)**

### **Women and Society**

#### **Texts**

Pre-1900: *Wuthering Heights*, Emily Brontë; *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, Thomas Hardy

Post-1900: *Mrs Dalloway*, Virginia Woolf; *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, Khaled Hosseini

#### **EITHER**

- 11** Compare the ways in which the writers of your two chosen texts present loss. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors.

**(Total for Question 11 = 40 marks)**

#### **OR**

- 12** Compare the ways in which the writers of your two chosen texts present women's attempts to find happiness. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors.

**(Total for Question 12 = 40 marks)**



Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 1 ☒ Question 2 ☒ Question 3 ☒  
 Question 4 ☒ Question 5 ☒ Question 6 ☒  
 Question 7 ☒ Question 8 ☒ Question 9 ☒  
 Question 10 ☒ Question 11 ☒ Question 12 ☒

Please write the titles of your chosen texts below:

Text 1:

Weathering Heights

Text 2:

Mrs Dalloway

- 1) loss of self - Cathy & Septimus <sup>coverture</sup> Virginia Woolf
- 2) ~~loss of loved ones~~ <sup>commune - I wish I were a little</sup> ~~shaping people of freedom~~ <sup>give away</sup> ~~women as they get older~~ Emily Brontë
- 3) ~~loss of happiness~~ <sup>half savage, half</sup> ~~stream of consciousness~~ <sup>+ free</sup> Mrs Dalloway said she wild busy  
 gender roles ~~loss of loved ones~~ flowers herself Elizabeth Dalloway -  
 it felt so good to be free - the air  
 tasted so delicious - maybe

In the novels 'Weathering Heights' by Emily Brontë, and in 'Mrs Dalloway' by Virginia Woolf, the authors present the theme of loss ~~through~~ in numerous ways. They present it ~~primarily~~ primarily through the ~~use of language~~ language and described actions of the characters. <sup>as</sup> Not only do the authors ~~pre-attitude~~ to draw upon their own experiences in their presentation of loss in the novels, but also other social events that may have influenced their writing.



P 4 8 6 7 2 A 0 5 1 6

Both authors present a loss of self and security within their novels. In *Wuthering Heights*, Catherine<sup>in her adulthood</sup> expresses her regret towards her situation at Thrushcross Grange while married to Edgar, claiming that she repeatedly "dreams she is 'back at Wuthering Heights'". It seems that her ~~residency~~ ~~and confined~~ ~~con~~ sense of confinement at Thrushcross Grange is a cause for her loss of self - she questions "why am I so changed?", and asks "who is this? what is this face" while ~~observing~~ <sup>the</sup> observing herself. ~~This~~ succession of questions indicates her inability to even recognise her current self. This may be a reflection of the increased control she is now under due to marital law. In 18<sup>th</sup> century English law, ~~females~~ ~~now~~ married women were bound by the laws of coverture. William Blackstone describes the principles of this law to be that the 'very legal existence of the woman was suspended by marriage', and that the husband and wife would become 'one'. The female became essentially under full control of her husband's will. Therefore, Catherine's sense of loss may stem from her identity being controlled by Edgar ~~the~~ under English law. This opposes her naturally 'free' and 'fiery' spirit. Similarly, ~~that~~ in *Mrs Dalloway* Septimus is presented to experience a loss of self. He feels that he is no longer the 'brave' Septimus that 'fought', ~~that he is no longer~~ instead 'now he was not longer Septimus'. The adverbial of time 'now' indicates



~~demonstrates a the shift between~~ indicates the shift  
shift from his previous to present self. Septimus evidently  
feels as if he has lost his previous identity completely.  
~~A sense of~~ A loss of one's 'self' was common after  
~~new World War 1~~ World War I. Veterans would suffer  
from 'shell shock' - ~~now~~ known as Post Traumatic  
Stress disorder in contemporary societies - in which  
men would experience a complete detachment from their  
previous, stable mental state before the war. ~~We see this~~  
~~sense of detachment~~ Woolf ~~to~~ clearly presents this  
detachment within Septimus's characters. Therefore,  
both ~~withing~~ ~~the~~ authors present a loss of  
~~to~~ self security and identity in their novels, to  
highlight the fragility ~~of one's mental state~~ of the mind.

Both authors present a loss of freedom amongst the  
female characters as they progress into adulthood. Woolf  
~~to~~ contrasts the thoughts and feelings of Clarissa  
and her ~~to~~ daughter, Elizabeth to present this in  
her novel. ~~The opening line of the novel~~ The novel opens  
with the line 'Mrs Dalloway said she would buy  
the flowers herself' indicating Clarissa's determination  
to be independent. ~~such~~ Buying flowers <sup>is presumably</sup> seems to  
~~be such~~ a simple activity, yet this action evidently  
is important to Clarissa. ~~she also mentions~~ She mentions  
~~this being~~ 'this being Mrs Dalloway', referring to



her name as no longer simply Clarissa. The title 'Mrs Dalloway' ~~demonstrates~~ alludes to the idea of her no longer being her independent self, but now in the possession of her husband. In contrast, Elizabeth ~~expresses~~ ~~it does express that Woolf describes how Elizabeth~~ "loved to" Elizabeth thinks how it is 'so good to be free', and 'the air was so delicious' when walking through London. She also aspires to have a ~~professional~~ 'career'. Perhaps the loss of freedom that Clarissa experiences, in contrast to Elizabeth ~~to~~ mirrors the progression of women's liberation movements in parliament. In 1924, the Labour Party gained the parliamentary vote, leading to a new era of ~~more~~ a more democratic society than the approach of the previous conservative government. ~~This power~~ - particularly ~~for~~ in the case of women. Therefore ~~Elizabeth~~ Elizabeth ~~may feel~~ ~~now~~ is able to have ambitions for a 'career', which women <sup>and</sup> ~~possibly~~ even her mother would not have had the opportunity to reach for. Similarly, in Brontë's novel, Catherine ~~extremely~~ yearns to 'be a girl again - half savage, hardy and free'. The succession of adjectives: 'savage', 'hardy' and 'free' ~~adjectives~~ refer to her previous self as a child, indicating that she no longer has this sense of freedom. This may be again, due to marital laws that she becomes under the control of. It was not until 1870 that



attitudes towards married women's freedom began to change with the Married Women's Property Act. Therefore, both authors present a loss in freedom amongst the female characters as they reach adulthood, to show how <sup>greatly</sup> laws influence their lives.

While ~~Bronte~~ <sup>Brontë</sup> uses a ~~first person narrative structure~~ <sup>dialogical</sup> ~~statistical~~ narrative structure to indicate characters' sense of loss in her novel, Woolf uses a stream of consciousness narrative structure to do the same. Heathcliff exclaims "Come in! come in!", "Oh Cathy do come once more!", "Haunt me!". Heathcliff's speech indicates his suffering due to the loss of Catherine, as exemplified by Brontë's use of exclamatives. Heathcliff's sense of loss perhaps mirrors Brontë's own loss of her mother, ~~the~~ and siblings <sup>which</sup> ~~also~~ inevitably caused her own suffering. Alternatively, Woolf ~~also~~ employs a ~~free indirect to discourse~~ discourse to present a stream of consciousness amongst the characters, to ~~fully~~ reveal their thoughts and feelings of loss. For example, ~~Clara's~~ ~~loss of~~ Peter's loss of control over his emotions is showcased in his emotions - 'having been a fool; wept; been emotional; told her everything, as usual, as usual.' Here the disjointed syntax mirrors the nature of human thought processes, and reveals ~~the~~ a sense of



loss within Peter that Chernobyl would not have been known (his ~~sense~~ loss of control over his shame at his loss of control over his emotions). Therefore, the authors present loss through different narrative structures. - ~~while Brontë uses a dialogical~~

To conclude, the authors present loss in several similar ways, yet also explore different aspects of human responses to loss in through different narrative structures.

