

**Paper Reference(s) 4ET1/01**

**Pearson Edexcel International GCSE**

**English Literature**

**Paper 1: Poetry and Modern Prose**

**Time: 1 hour 20 minutes plus your additional time allowance**

**Question Booklet**

**DO NOT RETURN THIS  
QUESTION BOOKLET WITH YOUR  
ANSWER BOOKLET.**

**Answer TWO questions:**

**Answer the question in Section A  
and ONE question from Section B.**

**Page**

**SECTION A: Unseen Poetry 3**

**SECTION B: Modern Prose**

**To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee 6**

**Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck 7**

**The Whale Rider, Witi Ihimaera 8**

**The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan 9**

**Things Fall Apart, Chinua Achebe 10**

## SECTION A: Unseen Poetry

Answer the question in this section.

You should spend 35 minutes plus some of your additional time allowance on this question.

Read the following poem.

### Poem For My Sister

My little sister likes to try my shoes,  
to strut in them,  
admire her spindle-thin\* twelve-year-old legs  
in this season's styles.

She says they fit her perfectly,  
but wobbles  
on their high heels, they're  
hard to balance.

5

I like to watch my little sister  
playing hopscotch\*, admire the neat hops-and-skips  
of her,  
their quick peck,  
never-missing their mark, not  
over-stepping the line.  
She is competent at peever\*.

10

(continued on the next page)

I try to warn my little sister 15  
 about unsuitable shoes,  
 point out my own distorted feet, the callouses\*,  
 odd patches of hard skin.  
 I should not like to see her  
 in my shoes. 20  
 I wish she should stay  
 sure footed,  
     sensibly shod.

**Liz Lochhead (1981)**

### **Glossary**

**\*spindle-thin** – a spindle is a very thin piece of wood or metal, often used for holding and twisting thread

**\*hopscotch** – a playground game where children hop on numbered squares drawn on the ground

**\*peever** – another word for hopscotch. The word derives from the stone or marker used in the game

**\*callouses** – hard, thickened skin

(continued on the next page)

- 1 Explore how the writer presents the narrator and her sister in this poem.

In your answer, you should consider the writer's:

- descriptive skills
- choice of language
- use of form and structure.

Support your answer with examples from the poem.

(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 1 = 20 MARKS)

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TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS

## **SECTION B: Modern Prose**

**Answer ONE question on ONE text from this section.**

**You should spend 45 minutes plus some of your additional time allowance on this section.**

**To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee**

**EITHER**

- 2 Explore the theme of social inequality in *To Kill a Mockingbird*.**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 2 = 40 MARKS)**

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**OR**

- 3 Discuss the relationship between Calpurnia and the Finch family in this novel.**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 3 = 40 MARKS)**

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## **Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck**

### **EITHER**

- 4 In what ways is cruelty an important theme in Of Mice and Men?**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 4 = 40 MARKS)**

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### **OR**

- 5 Which ONE character do you consider to be the most unhappy in the novel?**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 5 = 40 MARKS)**

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## **The Whale Rider, Witi Ihimaera**

### **EITHER**

**6 Discuss the importance of fear in *The Whale Rider*.**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 6 = 40 MARKS)**

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### **OR**

**7 ‘Kahu seemed to say, “Down here?” and the dolphins made a nodding motion.’**

**Explore Kahu’s relationship with the natural world in the novel.**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 7 = 40 MARKS)**

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## **The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan**

### **EITHER**

- 8 In what ways is Ying-ying St. Clair significant in the novel?**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 8 = 40 MARKS)**

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### **OR**

- 9 ‘The characters experience both physical and emotional journeys.’**

**Discuss the theme of journeys in *The Joy Luck Club*.**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 9 = 40 MARKS)**

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## **Things Fall Apart, Chinua Achebe**

### **EITHER**

**10 Explore Okonkwo's weaknesses in *Things Fall Apart*.**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 10 = 40 MARKS)**

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### **OR**

**11 In what ways is loss significant in the novel?**

**You must consider the context of the novel in your answer.**

**(TOTAL FOR QUESTION 11 = 40 MARKS)**

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**TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 40 MARKS**

**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS**

**END**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

**Poem For My Sister by Liz Lochhead © Birlinn Limited**