

Paper Reference(s) 4ET1/01
Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1)

English Literature
PAPER 1: Poetry and Modern Prose

Time: 1 hour 20 minutes

Question Booklet

**DO NOT RETURN THIS 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	3–5
SECTION B: Modern Prose	
To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee	8
Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck	9
The Whale Rider, Witi Ihimaera	10
The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan	11
Things Fall Apart, Chinua Achebe	12–13

SECTION A

Unseen Poetry

Answer the question in this section.

You should spend 35 minutes on this question.

Read the following poem.

Power Failure

Somewhere the storm has severed* a
cable, and we
are in darkness. Emergency lines
are busy
and the night screams This will last 5
some time

so we scabble in the cupboards
for candles,
woollen jumpers, settle down to weather
it out. 10
I try to read by soft flame but it's no use:

(continued on the next page)

Turn over

words flicker in and out of shadows
at random
and, in any case, the mounting screech
of wind 15
delivering echoes of distant crashes,
shatters

my concentration, crams my head with
disasters.
I prowl the floor, snatch aside 20
the curtain,
peer into shifting blackness to check
the car

is still there. You smile at my agitation
and cross to the kitchen for a glass 25
of water.

The sultry* dance of the candle's flame
abandons your face, but as you bend
once more
into the spill of light, you are revealed 30
again
in fragments, with a fresh perspective:

(continued on the next page)

**a new angle to your jaw, golden sheen
on your cheek, the red in the brown of
your hair.**

35

**These things about you I haven't
seen before.**

**Ten years are built around us, but each
ordeal we face you surprise me, as
new facets**

40

of you, new depths, rise to the light.

Andrew Forster (2007)

***has severed – has cut or has broken**

***sultry – passionate, sensual or attractive**

- 1 Explore how the writer presents the experience of a power failure 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)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS

SECTION B

Modern Prose

Answer ONE question on ONE text from this section.

You should spend 45 minutes on this section.

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee

EITHER

- 2 Explore the character of Mrs Dubose in To Kill a Mockingbird.**

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

(Total for Question 2 = 40 marks)

OR

- 3 ‘I said I would like it very much, which was a lie, but one must lie in certain circumstances...’ (Scout)**

In what ways are lies significant in the novel?

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

(Total for Question 3 = 40 marks)

Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck

EITHER

- 4 Explore the theme of love in Of Mice and Men.**

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

(Total for Question 4 = 40 marks)

OR

- 5 ‘Curley’s like a lot of little guys. He hates big guys.’**

Discuss the character of Curley in the novel.

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

(Total for Question 5 = 40 marks)

The Whale Rider, Witi Ihimaera

EITHER

- 6 In what ways are hopes and fears for the future significant in the novel?**

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

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

OR

- 7 Discuss the relationship between Kahu and Nanny (Nani) Flowers in The Whale Rider.**

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

(Total for Question 7 = 40 marks)

The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan

EITHER

- 8 Explore the significance of Suyuan Woo in The Joy Luck Club.**

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

(Total for Question 8 = 40 marks)

OR

- 9 In an interview, Amy Tan said: ‘There was something about this country [China] that I belonged to’.**

How is the theme of belonging to places or people important in the novel?

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

(Total for Question 9 = 40 marks)

Things Fall Apart, Chinua Achebe

EITHER

10 Explore the relationship between Okonkwo and Obierika in Things Fall Apart.

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

(Total for Question 10 = 40 marks)

(continued on the next page)

OR

**11 ‘You sound as if you question
the authority and decision of the
Oracle...’ (Okonkwo)**

**Examine the importance of authority in
the novel.**

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

(Total for Question 11 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 40 MARKS

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS

END OF PAPER

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

**Source: 'Power Failure', Andrew Forster,
Flambard Press 2007**