



Comparative – Literary Genre
English past Exam Questions
Higher Level

2012

Section 2

B LITERARY GENRE

1. “Authors make use of a variety of techniques to shape memorable characters.”

Identify and compare the techniques used to shape one or more memorable characters in **at least two texts** you have encountered on your comparative course. (70)

OR

2. (a) With reference to **one** text on your comparative course, discuss the author’s use of setting (or settings) as an effective feature of good story telling. (30)
- (b) With reference to **two other texts** on your comparative course, compare how the authors use settings as an effective feature of good story telling. (40)

Section 2

B LITERARY GENRE

1. “The unexpected is essential to the craft of story-telling.”

Compare how the authors of the comparative texts you have studied used the unexpected in their texts. You may confine your answer to key moments in the texts.

(70)

OR

2. “Aspects of narrative contribute to your response to a text.”

(a) With reference to **one** of your chosen texts, identify at least two aspects of narrative and discuss how those aspects contributed to your response to that text.

(30)

(b) With reference to **two other texts** compare how aspects of narrative contributed to your response to these texts.
In answer to question (b) you may use the aspects of narrative discussed in (a) above or any other aspects of narrative.

(40)

Section 2

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1. “A good text will have moments of great emotional power.”
- (a) With reference to a key moment in **one** of your texts show how this emotional power was created. (30)
- (b) Take key moments from the **other two texts** from your comparative course and compare the way in which the emotional power of these scenes was created. (40)

OR

2. “The creation of memorable characters is part of the art of good story-telling.”

Write an essay comparing the ways in which memorable characters were created and contributed to your enjoyment of the stories in the texts you have studied for your comparative course. It will be sufficient to refer to the creation of **one** character from each of your chosen texts. (70)

Section 2

B LITERARY GENRE

1. Write a talk to be given to Leaving Certificate students in which you explain the term *Literary Genre* and show them how to compare the telling of stories in **at least two texts** from the comparative course. (70)

OR

2. “Powerful images and incidents are features of all good story-telling.”
- (a) Show how this statement applies to **one** of the texts on your comparative course. (30)
- (b) Compare the way in which powerful images and incidents are features of the story-telling in **two other texts** on your comparative course. Support the comparisons you make by reference to the texts. (40)