



Comparative – Theme or Issue
English past Exam Questions
Higher Level

Section 2

A THEME OR ISSUE

1. “A reader’s view of a theme or issue can be either changed or reinforced through interaction with texts.”

Compare the extent to which your understanding of a theme or issue was changed or reinforced through your interaction with **at least two texts** on your comparative course. (70)

OR

2. “The study of a theme or issue can offer a reader valuable lessons and insights.”

(a) Identify and discuss at least one valuable lesson or insight that you gained through the study of a theme or issue in **one** text on your comparative course. (30)

(b) Compare at least one valuable lesson or insight that you gained, from studying the **same theme or issue** (as discussed in (a) above), in **two other texts** on your comparative course.
The valuable lesson or insight may be the same, or different, to the one discussed in (a) above. (40)

Section 2

A THEME OR ISSUE

1. “Important themes are often expressed in key moments in texts.”

Compare how the authors of the comparative texts studied by you used key moments to heighten your awareness of an important theme. (70)

OR

2. (a) Choose a theme from **one** text you have studied as part of your comparative course and say how it helped maintain your interest in the text. (30)

(b) Compare how the theme you have dealt with in part (a) is treated by the authors of **two other texts** from your comparative course to maintain the reader’s interest. (40)

Section 2

A **THEME OR ISSUE**

1. “The comparative study of a theme or issue allows the reader/viewer to gain a variety of viewpoints on that theme or issue.”
 - (a) Describe the viewpoint on your chosen theme or issue that emerges from **one** of your comparative texts. (30)
 - (b) Compare the viewpoints on the same theme in the **other two texts** that you have studied. (40)

OR

2. “There are key moments in a text when a theme comes sharply into focus.”

Compare how key moments from the texts you have studied brought a theme or issue into sharp focus. (70)

