



**English
Junior Certificate
Higher Level**

**Past Exam Questions on
A studied Novel or Short Story**

Q2 Section 3 2013 P2

1. Choose a novel or short story you have studied.
 - (a) In your view, is the world portrayed in the novel or short story that you have chosen, a fair world? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
 - (b) Using an important incident from the story, explain how the actions of any **one** character help to make the world more fair or less fair in your chosen text. Support your answer with reference to your chosen text. (15)

OR

2. You wish to nominate a novel or short story that you have studied for an award. The rules state that **both** of the following comments must apply to the winning entry:
 - *The story stayed in my mind long after I had finished reading it*
 - *The story was skilfully written.*Using these two comments, write the letter you would submit to the judges in support of your chosen novel or short story. Support your answer with reference to your chosen story. (30)

Q2 Section 3 2012 P2

1. From the short stories and novels you have studied, choose either a character you like **OR** a character you dislike. Identify one or more incidents from the text that particularly influenced your feelings towards this character and explain why your chosen incident(s) influenced you to either like or dislike him or her.

OR

2. Write the text of a talk that you would give to your class, in which you explore the relevance of a novel or a short story that you have studied to the lives of young people today. Support your answer with detailed reference to your studied text.

Q2 Section 3 2011 Paper 2

1. (a) Identify a brief episode or moment from a short story or novel you have studied that you found particularly moving. Describe the effect this episode or moment had on you. (15)
- (b) Explain how the author made the episode or moment so moving. In your answer you may wish to refer to some of the following: the action in the story or novel, the characters, the author's use of language, imagery, symbolism etc. (15)

OR

2. From the short stories or novels you have studied, choose one in which the setting (time and place) is either similar to or different from the time and place in which you live.
 - (a) Give a detailed description of the setting of the short story or novel. (15)
 - (b) How is the setting of the short story or novel similar to or different from the time and place in which you live? In your answer refer closely to your studied text. (15)

Q2 (1) Section 3 2010 Paper 2

1. Novels and short stories often surprise the reader with an unexpected development.
 - (a) Briefly describe such a development in a novel or short story you have studied. (15)
 - (b) Did this development add to your enjoyment of the book? Explain your answer with reference to the novel or short story. (15)

Q2 (2) Section 3 2010 Paper 2

2. You have been asked to rate a novel or short story that you have studied according to the following scale:

★★★★★ Will change your life!
★★★★★ Highly recommended
★★★ A good read
★★ Average
★ Disappointing

Choose the rating that you feel is appropriate. Explain your choice with reference to the novel or short story. In your answer you may wish to consider some of the following: plot, character, atmosphere, relevance to your age group, insights gained, language or any other aspect you feel is relevant. (30)

Q2 Section 3 2009 Paper 2

1. Select a novel or short story you have studied which has an interesting theme.
 - (i) Outline the theme of the text you have chosen. (15)
 - (ii) As the theme develops why does it interest you? (15)

Support your answer with reference to your chosen novel or short story.

OR

2. Choose a favourite section from a novel or short story you have studied.
 - (i) Describe what happens in this section of your chosen text. (15)
 - (ii) Why is this your favourite section? Explain your answer with reference to the novel or short story you have chosen. (15)

Q2 Section 3 2008 Paper 2

1. Select a novel **OR** short story you have studied which deals with a loving relationship or an unloving relationship.
 - (a) Describe how this relationship develops. (15)
 - (b) Choose one of the characters in this relationship and imagine yourself in his/her situation. How do you see the other character in the relationship? Write your ideas based on evidence from the text. (15)

OR

2. From a novel **OR** short story you have studied, choose some features of the writer's style which you found interesting. Explain your choices with reference to your chosen text. (30)

Q2 Section 3 2007 Paper 2

1. Select a novel or short story you have studied which you would recommend to your own age group and explain why you would recommend it.

OR

2. From a novel or short story you have read describe a character that impressed you, and explain why this character did so.

Q2 Section 3 2005 Paper 2

1. Choose either the opening or the ending of a novel or short story you have studied.
 - (a) Briefly describe what happens in the opening or the ending of your chosen text. (10)
 - (b) Did this opening or ending impress you? Explain your answer by reference to the novel or short story you have chosen. (20)

OR

2. From a novel or short story you have studied choose a character who experiences change.
 - (a) Describe this character at the beginning of the novel or short story. (10)
 - (b) How has this character changed by the end of the novel or short story? Support your answer by reference to the text. (20)