



**English  
Junior Certificate  
Higher Level**

**Past Exam Questions on  
A Studied Play**

## Q2 (1) Part 1 Section 1 2013 Paper 2

1. Choose a character from a play you have studied.
  - (a) What was your first impression of your chosen character? Support your answer with reference to the play. (10)
  - (b) To what extent does your impression of your chosen character change as the play progresses? Explain your answer with reference to your chosen play. (20)

## Q2 (2) Part 1 Section 1 2013 Paper 2

2. Choose a scene from a play you have studied that has a strong mood or atmosphere.
  - (a) Describe what takes place in your chosen scene and identify the mood or atmosphere created. Support your answer with reference to the play. (10)
  - (b) Imagine you are directing your chosen scene on stage. Explain some of the decisions that you would make in order to create the mood or atmosphere successfully. Support your answer with reference to the play. (20)

## Q2 Section 1 2012 Paper 2

Answer EITHER 1 OR 2 which follow.

**N.B.** You must give the name of the play that you choose. You may **NOT** choose either of the scenes quoted on this examination paper as the basis for your answer.

1.
  - (a) Identify an important character from a play you have studied and outline some of the obstacles or challenges faced by him or her in the course of the play. (15)
  - (b) What do you learn about this character from the way in which he or she deals with one or more of these obstacles or challenges? Explain your answer. (15)

**OR**

2.
  - (a) The opening scene or scenes of a play often convey information that is important to the audience. What important information is conveyed in the opening scene or scenes of the play that you have studied? (15)
  - (b) In your opinion, how successful is the playwright in capturing the attention of the audience in the opening scene or scenes of the play? Support your answer with reference to your studied play. (15)

## Q2 Section 1 2011 Paper 2

Answer EITHER 1 OR 2 which follow.

**N.B.** You must give the name of the play that you choose. You may NOT choose either of the scenes quoted on this examination paper as the basis for your answer.

1. Identify a hero, heroine or villain from a play you have studied. Explain why, in your opinion, this character deserves the title hero, heroine or villain. Support your answer with reference to the play. (30)

OR

2. Often plays combine both serious and light-hearted elements.
  - (a) Did you find the play that you studied to be mainly serious or mainly light-hearted? Explain your answer with reference to the play. (15)
  - (b) Which element of the play had the greater impact on you, the serious element or the light-hearted element? Clearly explain your choice with reference to the play you have studied. (15)

## Q2 Section 1 2010 Paper 2

Answer EITHER 1 OR 2 which follow.

**N.B.** You must give the name of the play that you choose. You may NOT choose either of the scenes quoted on this examination paper as the basis for your answer.

1. Tension between characters is a common feature in drama. From a play you have studied choose two characters who have a tense relationship.
  - (a) Explain the reason(s) for the tension that exists between these two characters. (15)
  - (b) Imagine you are directing a stage production of this play. Select a scene where this tension is evident and explain what you, as director, would do to convey the tension between these two characters on stage. (15)

OR

2. Often the closing scenes of a play have a powerful impact on an audience. Name a play you have studied and explain what impact the closing scenes had on you. Support your answer by reference to the play.  
In your answer you might wish to consider some of the following; the feelings you were left with at the end of the play, the outcome of the issues raised during the play, how you were affected by what happened to the characters, if the ending was shocking or unexpected, etc. (30)

## Q2 Section 1 2009 Paper 2

**N.B.** You must give the name of the play that you choose. You may **NOT** choose either of the scenes quoted on this examination paper as the basis for your answer.

1. Choose a scene from a play you have studied where a particular mood or atmosphere is created.
  - (i) Describe the mood or atmosphere in this scene. Support your answer with reference to the text. (15)
  - (ii) How does the playwright create this mood or atmosphere? Aspects you may wish to consider could include: setting, lighting, stage directions, music, sound or dialogue. (15)

**OR**

2. From a play you have studied choose **one** important relationship.
  - (i) Describe the main characteristics of this relationship throughout the play. (15)
  - (ii) How does **either** the setting (time or place) or another character have an influence on this relationship? Support your answer with reference to the text. (15)

## Q2 Section 1 2008 Paper 2

N.B. You must give the name of the play that you choose. You may **NOT** choose either of the scenes quoted on this examination paper as the basis for your answer.

1. Many dramas feature characters that are either winners or losers.  
Choose a character from a play that you have studied who falls into one of these categories.
  - (a) Describe how your chosen character is either a winner or a loser. (10)
  - (b) Choose another character who has a relationship with your chosen character, and explain the importance of this relationship.  
Support your answer with reference to your studied text. (20)

OR

2. Imagine you are preparing a programme for a class production of a play you have studied. The production team, of which you are a part, has asked you to contribute to the programme.
  - (a) Write character profiles for two characters who have a significant role in the play. (15)
  - (b) Write an introduction to the play focusing especially on its theme(s) (15)

To keep the programme to an appropriate length you will need to write approximately 200 words for task (a) and approximately 200 words for task (b).

## Q2 Section 1 2007 Paper 2

Answer EITHER 1 OR 2 which follow.

N.B. You must give the name of the play that you choose. You may NOT choose either of the scenes quoted on this examination paper as the basis for your answer.

1. Name a play you have studied and state what you think is its main idea and/or message. Explain how this main idea and/or message is communicated in the play.

OR

2. You have been asked to recommend a play for students studying for the Junior Certificate. Would you recommend the play you have studied for this examination? Give reasons based on close reference to your chosen text.

## Q2 Section 1 2005 Paper 2

Answer EITHER 1 OR 2 which follow.

N.B. You must give the name of the play that you choose. You may NOT choose either of the scenes quoted on this examination paper as the basis for your answer.

1. Select a play you have studied and choose from it a scene where conflict occurs.
  - (a) Outline what happens in this scene. (10)
  - (b) What are the underlying causes of the conflict in this scene? Support your answer by reference to the play as a whole. (20)

OR

2. Choose your favourite character from a play you have studied.
  - (a) Why do you find this character interesting? Support your answer by reference to the text. (10)
  - (b) Discuss the relationship between your chosen character and ONE other character in the play. Refer to the text in support of your answer. (20)