GCSE
ENGLISH LITERATURE
8702/2

Paper 2 Shakespeare and unseen poetry

Mark scheme

June 2022

Version: 1.0 Final

Mark schemes are prepared by the Lead Assessment Writer and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation events which all associates participate in and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation process ensures that the mark scheme covers the students' responses to questions and that every associate understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for standardisation each associate analyses a number of students' scripts. Alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed and legislated for. If, after the standardisation process, associates encounter unusual answers which have not been raised they are required to refer these to the Lead Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of students' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

Further copies of this mark scheme are available from aqa.org.uk

Statement of importance

GCSE English Literature is the study of how writers communicate their ideas about the world, and how readers might respond to these ideas. It aims to develop a critical understanding of the ways in which literary texts are a reflection of, and exploration of, the human condition, the study of which develops empathic understanding of human nature. High-quality English literature is writing which displays recognisable literary qualities and, although shaped by particular contexts, transcends them and speaks about the universality of the human condition. GCSE English Literature aims to enable students to appreciate these qualities, developing and presenting informed, critical responses to the ideas in literary texts and the ways writers present these ideas. It aims to enable students to make links between a variety of written texts and between the text and the context within which it was shaped.

Principles of mark scheme construction

Each mark scheme is driven by the task and by the statement of importance about GCSE English Literature. It aims to do two things:

- to describe typical features of response in order to decide on a mark
- to identify typical features of proficiency in order to aid discrimination between levels of performance.

Each long form answer mark scheme is constructed using six levels. This is to reflect the ability level of the whole cohort. There are four or five marks within each level to allow for levels of proficiency and to allow for discrimination between levels of cognitive ability across the whole cohort.

Each mark scheme places assessment objectives AO1 and AO2 as the key skills. This is driven by the statement of importance of the subject, in that the study of great literary texts is the study of the interrelationship between the reader and the writer of the text and that the communication and reception of these ideas is an inherent feature of English literature. It is also driven by the acknowledgement that GCSE English Literature assesses cognitive levels of ability; the level of response to ideas will have parity with the level of response to the methods of communicating those ideas.

How to apply the mark scheme

The mark scheme is constructed using six levels of attainment that span the whole range of ability at GCSE. The descriptors of attainment reference the assessment objectives for that particular question. Examiners are required to use the mark scheme to consider the whole response and decide upon the most appropriate level. The mark scheme provides two descriptors: a description of typical features of a response in each level, and a description of the kinds of skills candidates in that level will be proficient in. This is in order to support examiners in making their judgement of the extent to which the qualities and skills being demonstrated merit a particular level of attainment. As each response being marked is a response to a particular task, examiners are assessing the extent to which the candidate has responded to the task, and also the level of skill that the candidate has demonstrated.

Each level has four or five marks available and four or five skills descriptors. Fair application of the mark scheme to all candidates is driven by the descriptors in the mark scheme, and therefore examiners are required to make a judgement about the extent to which a candidate achieves every descriptor in that particular level in order to warrant a mark at the top of that level. If a candidate achieves everything in a level, they should be awarded the mark at the top of that level.

Since answers will rarely match a descriptor in all respects, examiners must allow good performance in some aspects to compensate for shortcomings in other respects. Consequently, the level is determined by the 'best fit' rather than requiring every element of the descriptor to be matched. Examiners should aim to use the full range of levels and marks, taking into account the standard that can reasonably be expected of candidates after one or two years of study on the GCSE course and in the time available in the examination.

If a candidate does not address a particular defining feature of a task, examiners are required to make a judgement about the extent to which other skills can place the response in a particular level, and where the response should be placed.

Step 1 Determine a level

Start at the lowest level of the mark scheme and use it as a ladder to see whether the answer meets the descriptor for that level. The descriptor for the level indicates the different qualities that might be seen in the student's answer for that level. If it meets the lowest level then go to the next one and decide if it meets this level, and so on, until you have a match between the level descriptor and the answer. With practice and familiarity you will find that for better answers you will be able to quickly skip through the lower levels of the mark scheme.

When assigning a level you should look at the overall quality of the answer and not look to pick holes in small and specific parts of the answer where the student has not performed quite as well as the rest. If the answer covers different aspects of different levels of the mark scheme you should use a best fit approach for defining the level and then use the variability of the response to help decide the mark within the level; ie if the response is predominantly Level 3 with a small amount of Level 4 material it would be placed in Level 3 but be awarded a mark near the top of the level because of the Level 4 content.

Step 2 Determine a mark

Once you have assigned a level you need to decide on the mark. The descriptors on how to allocate marks can help with this. The exemplar materials used during standardisation will also help. There will be an answer in the standardising materials which will correspond with each level of the mark scheme. This answer will have been awarded a mark by the Lead Examiner. You can compare the student's answer with the example to determine if it is of the same standard, better or worse than the example.

You can then use this to allocate a mark for the answer based on the Lead Examiner's mark on the example.

You may well need to read back through the answer as you apply the mark scheme to clarify points and assure yourself that the level and the mark are appropriate.

Indicative content in the mark scheme is provided as a guide for examiners. It is not intended to be exhaustive and you must credit other valid points. Students do not have to cover all of the points mentioned in the indicative content to reach the highest level of the mark scheme.

An answer which contains nothing of relevance to the question must be awarded no marks.

Rubric infringements

GCSE English Literature is a skills-based subject and, as such, best-fit is the most appropriate means by which the candidature can be fairly and equitably rewarded for their achievements at the end of their course of study. However, a mark scheme also has the function of assessing the extent to which each response meets the requirements of the relevant elements of the particular specification.

Therefore, where a response is judged *not* to have addressed a defining feature of a particular task, such as:

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then this would be classed as a rubric infringement and could, as referenced in the mark scheme, be 'capped' at the top of Level 2. Cases of rubric infringement will always be referred to a senior associate who will review the response in order to make a judgement about the totality of the response and therefore the validity of cap application.

Supporting documentation

Standardising scripts would provide exemplification of attainment in order to guide examiners towards the process of discerning between levels of attainment and to aid judgement about the positioning of each response in terms of a final mark.

Exemplification documents, including indicative content, definitions of key descriptors in the mark scheme and exemplification of these descriptors, provide more detailed guidance to examiners on how to judge the relative qualities and skills being demonstrated by each candidate.

Defining context (AO3)
AO3 is the understanding of the relationship between the ideas in the text and the contexts of the text. The range of contexts and relationships that is most relevant as part of AO3 will depend on the text, the author and the task. In teaching and assessing AO3, teachers and students can consider context in a flexible way, depending on the text itself and whichever contexts are the most relevant for that particular text. These contexts may relate to the relationship between the text and the context in which it was written. However, the contexts may also relate to the context within which the text is set: location, social structures and features, cultural contexts, and periods in time. Context, where relevant, may also apply to literary contexts such as genres, and also the contexts in which texts are engaged with by different audiences, taking the reader outside the text in order to inform understanding of the meanings being conveyed. Acknowledgement of the universality of a literary text is an integral part of relating to it contextually.

Context is assessed throughout the paper. The strand in the mark scheme related to AO3 references 'ideas/perspectives/contextual factors'. However, if a question requires a student to think about the text in its context, this is also reflected inherently through the response to task.

Assessment objectives (AOs)

AO1	Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to: • maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response • use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.
AO2	Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.
AO3	Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.
AO4	Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

Assessment of AO4

AO4 will be assessed on **Section A** and **Section B (question 07.1 only)**. The performance descriptors are provided below.

Performance descriptor	Marks awarded
High performance: In the context of the level of demand of the question, learners spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy, and consistently use vocabulary and sentence structures to achieve effective control of meaning.	4 marks
Intermediate performance: In the context of the level of demand of the question, learners spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy, and use a considerable range of vocabulary and sentence structures to achieve general control of meaning.	2–3 marks
Threshold performance: In the context of the level of demand of the question, learners spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy, and use a reasonable range of vocabulary and sentence structures; any errors do not hinder meaning in the response.	1 mark

Where a candidate writes nothing or fails to meet threshold performance they should receive 0 marks.

Section A: Shakespeare – Questions 01–06 (30 marks – AO1=12, AO2=12, AO3=6)

Mark	AO	Typical features	How to arrive at a mark
Level 6 *Convincing, critical analysis and exploration* **26–30 marks**	AO1	• Critical, exploratory, conceptualised response to task and whole text. • Judicious use of precise references to support interpretation(s).	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be a critical, exploratory, well-structured argument. It takes a conceptualised approach to the full task supported by a range of judicious references. There will be a fine-grained and insightful analysis of methods supported by judicious use of subject terminology. Convincing exploration of one or more ideas/perspectives/contextual factors/interpretations.
	AO2	• Analysis of writer's methods with subject terminology used judiciously. • Exploration of effects of writer's methods to create meanings.	
	AO3	• Exploration of ideas/perspectives/contextual factors shown by specific, detailed links between context/text/task.	**At the bottom of the level**, a candidate will have Level 5 and be starting to demonstrate elements of exploratory thought and/or analysis of writer's methods and /or contexts.
Level 5 *Thoughtful, developed consideration* **21–25 marks**	AO1	• Thoughtful, developed response to task and whole text. • Apt references integrated into interpretation(s).	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be thoughtful, detailed and developed. It takes a considered approach to the full task with references integrated into interpretation; there will be a detailed examination of the effects of methods supported by apt use of subject terminology. Examination of ideas/perspectives/contextual factors, possibly including alternative interpretations/deeper meanings.
	AO2	• Examination of writer's methods with subject terminology used effectively to support consideration of methods. • Examination of effects of writer's methods to create meanings.	
	AO3	• Thoughtful consideration of ideas/perspectives/contextual factors shown by examination of detailed links between context/text/task.	**At the bottom of the level**, a candidate will have Level 4 and be starting to demonstrate elements of thoughtful consideration and/or examination of writer's methods and/or contexts.

Level 4 *Clear understanding* **16–20 marks**	AO1	• Clear, explained response to task and whole text. • Effective use of references to support explanation.	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be clear, sustained and consistent. It takes a focused response to the full task which demonstrates clear understanding. It uses a range of references effectively to illustrate and justify explanation; there will be clear explanation of the effects of a range of writer's methods supported by appropriate use of subject terminology. Clear understanding of ideas/perspectives/contextual factors.
	AO2	• Clear explanation of writer's methods with appropriate use of relevant subject terminology. • Understanding of effects of writer's methods to create meanings.	
	AO3	• Clear understanding of ideas/perspectives/ contextual factors shown by specific links between context/text/task.	**At the bottom of the level**, a candidate will have Level 3 and be starting to demonstrate elements of understanding and/or explanation of writer's methods and/or contexts.
Level 3 *Explained, structured comments* **11–15 marks**	AO1	• Some explained response to task and whole text. • References used to support a range of relevant comments.	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be explanatory in parts. It focuses on the full task with a range of points exemplified by relevant references from the text; there will be identification of effects of a range of writer's methods supported by some relevant terminology. Explanation of some relevant contextual factors.
	AO2	• Explained/relevant comments on writer's methods with some relevant use of subject terminology. • Identification of effects of writer's methods to create meanings.	
	AO3	• Some understanding of implicit ideas/ perspectives/contextual factors shown by links between context/text/task.	**At the bottom of the level**, a candidate will have Level 2 and be starting to explain and/or make relevant comments on writer's methods and/or contexts.

Level 2 *Supported, relevant comments* **6–10 marks**	AO1	• Supported response to task and text. • Comments on references.	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be relevant and supported by some explanation. It will include some focus on the task with relevant comments and some supporting references from the text. There will be identification of deliberate choices made by writer with some reference to subject terminology. Awareness of some contextual factors.
	AO2	• Identification of writers' methods. • Some reference to subject terminology.	
	AO3	• Some awareness of implicit ideas/contextual factors.	**At the bottom of the level**, a candidate's response will have Level 1 and be starting to focus on the task and/or starting to show awareness of the writer making deliberate choices and/or awareness of contexts.
Level 1 *Simple, explicit comments* **1–5 marks**	AO1	• Simple comments relevant to task and text. • Reference to relevant details.	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be narrative and/or descriptive in approach. It may include awareness of the task and provide appropriate reference to text; there will be simple identification of method with possible reference to subject terminology. Simple comments/responses to context, usually explicit.
	AO2	• Awareness of writer making choices. • Possible reference to subject terminology.	
	AO3	• Simple comment on explicit ideas/contextual factors.	**At the bottom of the level**, a candidate's response will show some familiarity with the text.
0 marks	Nothing worthy of credit/nothing written.		

Macbeth

Question 01

Starting with this speech, explore how Shakespeare presents Macbeth's fears.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth's fears in this speech
- how Shakespeare presents Macbeth's fears in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Indicative content

Examiners are encouraged to reward any valid interpretations. Answers might, however, include some of the following:

AO1

- comments on Macbeth's fear of Banquo as someone who will stand in his way
- details of Macbeth's fear of killing Duncan and its repercussions
- details of Macbeth's fear of the afterlife/the future
- details of Macbeth's fears in the banquet scene
- possibly Macbeth's fear of his wife or his lack of fear later in the play

AO2

- language used to show his admiration for and his fear of Banquo
- changes in Macbeth's fear as the play progresses
- rapid interchange of dialogue between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth after he has murdered Duncan – to reflect their fear
- Macbeth's exaggerated response to the announcement of Duncan's death
- use of soliloquies to show Macbeth's fear

AO3

- ideas about the afterlife/divine right of kings
- ideas about masculinity/being a man
- Macbeth's belief in the witches causing his fear
- ideas about conscience/self-doubt.

Romeo and Juliet

Question 02

Starting with this speech, explore how Shakespeare presents Romeo's feelings towards Juliet.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Romeo's feelings towards Juliet in this speech
- how Shakespeare presents Romeo's feelings towards Juliet in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Indicative content

Examiners are encouraged to reward any valid interpretations. Answers might, however, include some of the following:

AO1

- comments on the nature of Romeo's love for Juliet in the balcony scene
- comments on Romeo's love transcending family conflict
- details of Romeo's reaction on first sighting of Juliet
- details of Romeo's feelings in the Capulets' tomb at the end

AO2

- romantic language used in the balcony scene
- use of a shared sonnet when Romeo and Juliet meet
- Romeo reluctant to leave Juliet in 3.5 – tension created
- use of passionate language as Romeo addresses Juliet in the tomb
- drama created by Romeo's taking poison

AO3

- ideas about romantic love/young love
- ideas about family relationships and their influence
- ideas about relationships between young and older people
- ideas about 'star-cross'd lovers'/fate.

The Tempest

Question 03

Starting with this speech, explore how far Shakespeare presents Prospero as a fair man in *The Tempest*.

Write about:

- how far Shakespeare presents Prospero as a fair man in this speech
- how far Shakespeare presents Prospero as a fair man in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Indicative content

Examiners are encouraged to reward any valid interpretations. Answers might, however, include some of the following:

AO1

- comments on how fair Prospero is in this speech
- details of Prospero as a master to Ariel/Caliban
- details of whether Prospero treats Miranda fairly
- comments on how Prospero uses his absolute power/magical powers on the island
- comments on how Prospero makes others suffer

AO2

- language used by Prospero to show his forgiveness to those under his spell
- Prospero is central to the narrative and generates the plot
- his abusive language towards Caliban, eg 'poisonous slave', 'hag-seed'
- changes in the audience's perception of him, eg vindictive/autocratic/sympathetic

AO3

- ideas about what constitutes fairness/honour
- ideas about master/slave relationships
- ideas about magic powers/autocracy.

The Merchant of Venice

Question 04

Starting with this conversation, explore how Shakespeare presents the relationship between Shylock and Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice*.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents the relationship between Shylock and Antonio in this conversation

- how Shakespeare presents the relationship between Shylock and Antonio in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Indicative content

Examiners are encouraged to reward any valid interpretations. Answers might, however, include some of the following:

AO1

- comments on what this conversation reveals about their relationship
- details of their bond/rivalry in moneylending
- details of how Shylock and Antonio speak about each other
- comments on how they relate to each other in the court scene

AO2

- language used to show their feelings towards each other, eg 'since I am a dog, beware my fangs'
- the relationship is central to the plot and there is a resolution in Shylock's punishment
- Shylock's use of powerful/extreme language as he accuses Antonio of abusive treatment, eg 'spit upon my Jewish gaberdine'
- how a contrast between their attitudes is shown in the court scene

AO3

- ideas about their relationship in terms of religion
- ideas about money lending and wealth in Venice/the Rialto
- ideas about mercy/revenge.

Much Ado About Nothing

Question 05

Starting with this conversation, explore how Shakespeare presents Claudio's feelings for Hero in *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Claudio's feelings for Hero in this conversation
- how Shakespeare presents Claudio's feelings for Hero in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Indicative content

Examiners are encouraged to reward any valid interpretations. Answers might, however, include some of the following:

AO1

- comments on Claudio's comments about Hero in this conversation
- comments on Claudio's allowing someone else to woo on his behalf
- details of his vicious humiliation of Hero
- details of his lack of self-awareness about the damage he has done
- comment on his ready acceptance of Hero's supposed cousin

AO2

- Claudio's use of language of the market place, 'buy such a jewel', 'negotiate', 'agent'
- alienates the audience by his behaviour in church
- dramatic irony: the audience knows that Claudio has been duped
- use of vitriolic language about Hero, eg 'rotten orange', 'an approved wanton'
- changes in Claudio's feelings as the play progresses

AO3

- details of gender issues/men's attitudes to women
- ideas about female honour/purity
- comments on Claudio's lack of moral stature/Hero as a victim of it.

Julius Caesar

Question 06

Starting with this speech, explore how far Shakespeare presents Antony as a loyal friend to Caesar.

Write about:

- how far Shakespeare presents Antony as a loyal friend to Caesar in this speech

- how far Shakespeare presents Antony as a loyal friend to Caesar in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Indicative content

Examiners are encouraged to reward any valid interpretations. Answers might, however, include some of the following:

AO1

- comments on Antony's possible conflicted sense of loyalty in the speech
- details of what Antony says to the crowd at Caesar's funeral
- details of how Caesar's death brings out his loyalty/becomes a calculating avenger
- comments on Antony as a character driven by emotion/loyalty to Caesar

AO2

- drama/tension created by Antony's shaking hand with the conspirators
- use of 'coward' and 'flatterer' by Antony about himself/effects of this
- use of rhetoric by Antony to stir the crowd at Caesar's funeral
- how drama is created by 'If you have tears…' speech/his revealing of Caesar's body – 'unkindest cut of all'
- how Antony is presented as disingenuous when referring to the conspirators as 'honourable'

AO3

- ideas about loyalty/friendship
- ideas about revenge
- ideas about loyalty to Rome
- comments on public v private motives.

Section B: Unseen poetry – Question 07 (24 marks – AO1=12, AO2=12)

Mark	AO	Typical features	How to arrive at a mark
Level 6 *Convincing, critical analysis and exploration* **21–24 marks**	AO1	• Critical, exploratory conceptualised response to task and text. • Judicious use of precise references to support interpretation(s).	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be a critical, exploratory, well-structured argument. It takes a conceptualised approach to the task supported by a range of judicious references. There will be a fine-grained and insightful analysis of methods supported by judicious use of subject terminology.
	AO2	• Analysis of writer's methods with subject terminology used judiciously. • Exploration of effects of writer's methods to create meanings.	**At the bottom of the level**, a candidate will have Level 5 and be starting to demonstrate elements of exploratory thought and/or analysis of writers' methods.
Level 5 *Thoughtful, developed consideration* **17–20 marks**	AO1	• Thoughtful, developed response to task and text. • Apt references integrated into interpretation(s).	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be thoughtful, detailed and developed. It takes a considered approach to the task with references integrated into interpretation; there will be a detailed examination of the effects of methods supported by apt use of subject terminology.
	AO2	• Examination of writer's methods with subject terminology used effectively to support consideration of methods. • Examination of effects of writer's methods to create meanings.	**At the bottom of the level**, a candidate will have Level 4 and be starting to demonstrate elements of thoughtful consideration and/or examination of writers' methods.

Level 4 *Clear understanding* **13–16 marks**	AO1	• Clear, explained response to task and text. • Effective use of references to support explanation.	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be clear, sustained and consistent. It takes a focused response to the task which demonstrates clear understanding. It uses a range of references effectively to illustrate and justify explanation; there will be clear explanation of the effects of a range of writer's methods supported by appropriate use of subject terminology.
	AO2	• Clear explanation of writer's methods with appropriate use of relevant subject terminology. • Understanding of effects of writer's method to create meanings.	
			At the bottom of the level, a candidate will have Level 3 and be starting to demonstrate elements of understanding and/or explanation of writer's methods.
Level 3 *Explained, structured comments* **9–12 marks**	AO1	• Some explained response to task and text. • References used to support a range of relevant comments.	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be explanatory in parts. It focuses on the task with a range of points exemplified by relevant references from the text; there will be identification of effects of a range of writer's methods supported by relevant use of subject terminology.
	AO2	• Explained/relevant comments on writer's methods with some relevant use of subject terminology. • Identification of effects of writer's methods to create meanings.	
			At the bottom of the level, a candidate will have Level 2 and be starting to explain and/or make relevant comments on writer's methods.

Level 2 *Supported, relevant comments* **5–8 marks**	AO1	• Supported response to task and text. • Comments on references.	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be relevant and supported by some explanation. It will include some focus on the task with relevant comments and some supporting references from text. There will be identification of deliberate choices made by the writer with some reference to subject terminology.
	AO2	• Identification of writers' methods. • Some reference to subject terminology.	
			At the bottom of the level, a candidate will have Level 1 and be starting to focus on the task and/or show awareness of the writer making deliberate choices.
Level 1 *Simple, explicit comments* **1–4 marks**	AO1	• Simple comments relevant to task and text. • Reference to relevant details.	**At the top of the level**, a candidate's response is likely to be narrative and/or descriptive in approach. It may include awareness of the task and provide appropriate reference to text; there will be simple identification of method with possible reference to subject terminology.
	AO2	• Awareness of writer making choices. • Possible reference to subject terminology.	
			At the bottom of the level, a candidate's response will show some familiarity with the text.
0 marks	Nothing worthy of credit/nothing written.		

Section B: Unseen Poetry

Question 07.1

In 'Shoulders', how does the poet present ideas about the importance of protecting and taking care of each other?

[24 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Indicative content

Examiners are encouraged to reward any valid interpretations. Answers might, however, include some of the following:

AO1

- ideas about the role of a parent as protector
- ideas about the vulnerability of children/their need for protection/the potential of a young life
- any valid treatment of wider ideas about the importance of taking care of each other
- ideas about the potential threat of the wider world

AO2

- possible effects of use of instructions and directives to present ideas
- comments related to effects of repeated structures/phrases/grammatical features
- possible examination of particular word choices to present ideas, such as 'hum' or 'dream', or 'shadow'
- use of the micro incident to present wider ideas about care/protection towards humanity
- use of the weather/roads as metaphor for potential danger.

Question 07.2

In both 'Choices' and 'Shoulders' the poets present ideas about protecting and taking care of things around us.

What are the similarities **and/or** differences between the methods the poets use to present these ideas?

[8 marks]

Mark	AO	Typical features of response
Level 4 **7–8 marks**	AO2	• Critical, insightful comparison of poems. • Analytical comparison of the effects of writers' methods to create meanings.
Level 3 **5–6 marks**	AO2	• Thoughtful comparison of poems. • Clear comparison of the effects of writers' methods to create meanings.
Level 2 **3–4 marks**	AO2	• Clear comparison of poems. • Comments on the similarities/differences between the effects of methods used to create meanings.
Level 1 **1–2 marks**	AO2	• Simple comment on one or both poems and/or simple connection between poems. • Identification of method(s).
0 marks	Nothing worthy of credit/nothing written	

Indicative content

Examiners are encouraged to reward any valid interpretations. Answers might, however, include some of the following:

AO2

• possible contrast between use of first/third person to present ideas
• valid connections between methods used to present ideas about taking care of people/the natural world
• use of a young life in both poems (son/nest)
• any valid treatment of connection between use of micro incident to present wider ideas
• valid connection/contrast between use of nature as potential threat/something to be protected.