AQA Literature Paper 1 Overview

**Skills being Assessed**

**a) Reading comprehension and reading critically**

- **literal and inferential comprehension:** understanding a word, phrase or sentence in context; exploring aspects of plot, characterisation, events and settings; distinguishing between what is stated explicitly and what is implied; explaining motivation, sequence of events, and the relationship between actions or events
- **critical reading:** identifying the theme and distinguishing between themes; supporting a point of view by referring to evidence in the text; recognising the possibility of and evaluating different responses to a text; using understanding of writers’ social, historical and cultural contexts to inform evaluation; making an informed personal response that derives from analysis and evaluation of the text
- **evaluation of a writer’s choice of vocabulary, grammatical and structural features:** analysing and evaluating how language, structure, form and presentation contribute to quality and impact; using linguistic and literary terminology for such evaluation
- **comparing texts:** comparing and contrasting texts studied, referring where relevant to theme, characterisation, context (where known), style and literary quality; comparing two texts critically with respect to the above

**b) Writing**

- **producing clear and coherent text:** writing effectively about literature for a range of purposes such as: to describe, explain, summarise, argue, analyse and evaluate; discussing and maintaining a point of view; selecting and emphasising key points; using relevant
Assessment Objectives

The exams will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives.

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.

Question Paper Section A: Shakespeare- Romeo and Juliet

Sample question:
Read the following extract (the extract in the exam will be provided) from Act 1 Scene 2 of Romeo and Juliet and then answer the question that follows.
At this point in the play Lord Capulet and Paris are discussing Juliet. Starting with this conversation, explain how far you think Shakespeare presents Lord Capulet as a good father.
Write about:
- how Shakespeare presents Lord Capulet in this extract
- how Shakespeare presents Lord Capulet in the play as a whole.

(30 marks + 4 AO4)

Question Paper Section B: 19th Century Novel- A Christmas Carol

Sample question
Read the following extract from Chapter 1 (the extract will be provided in the exam) and then answer the question that follows.
Starting with this extract, how does Dickens present Scrooge as an outsider to society? Write about:
- how Dickens presents Scrooge in this extract
- how Dickens presents Scrooge as an outsider to society in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]