



**Election 2019**

**English (C1)**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 0900 – 1030**

Leave this question paper behind at the end of the exam

Time allowed: 90 minutes

Answer both Part A and part B. Remembering to start **each part** on a new sheet of paper. You are advised to spend an equal amount of time on each part. Each part is worth 50 marks.

The mark-scheme should help you to organise your time in the first part. Credit will be given for intelligent and imaginative answers. Try to answer all the questions in the first part.

## Part A – Literary Criticism

Read this excerpt from George Eliot's *Daniel Deronda* and answer the questions that follow.

*This passage describes the first meeting of Gwendolen Harleth and Mr. Grandcourt following an archery competition.*

### CHAPTER XI.

*The beginning of an acquaintance whether with persons or things is to get a definite outline for our ignorance.*

Mr. Grandcourt's wish to be introduced had no suddenness for Gwendolen; but when Lord Brackenshaw moved aside a little for the **prefigured** stranger to come forward and she felt herself face to face with the real man, there was a little shock which flushed her cheeks and **vexatiously** deepened with her consciousness of it. The shock came from the reversal of her expectations: Grandcourt could hardly have been more unlike all her imaginary portraits of him. He was slightly taller than herself, and their eyes seemed to be on a level; there was not the faintest smile on his face as he looked at her, not a trace of self-consciousness or anxiety in his bearing: when he raised his hat he showed an extensive baldness surrounded with a mere fringe of reddish-blond hair, but he also showed a perfect hand; the line of feature from brow to chin undisguised by beard was decidedly handsome, with only moderate departures from the perpendicular, and the slight whisker too was perpendicular. It was not possible for a human aspect to be freer from grimace or **solicitous** wriggings: also it was perhaps not possible for a breathing man wide awake to look less animated. The correct Englishman, drawing himself up from his bow into rigidity, assenting severely, and seeming to be in a state of internal **drill**, suggests a suppressed vivacity, and may be suspected of letting go with some violence when he is released from parade; but Grandcourt's bearing had no rigidity, it inclined rather to the flaccid. His complexion had a faded fairness resembling that of an actress when bare of the artificial white and red; his long narrow gray eyes expressed nothing but indifference. Attempts at description are stupid: who can all at once describe a human being? Even when he is presented to us we only begin that knowledge of his appearance which must be completed by innumerable impressions under differing circumstances. We recognize the alphabet; we are not sure of the language. I am only mentioning the point that Gwendolen saw by the light of a prepared contrast in the first minutes of her meeting with Grandcourt: they were summed up in the words, "He is not ridiculous." But forthwith Lord Brackenshaw was gone, and what is called conversation had begun, the first and constant element in it being that Grandcourt looked at Gwendolen persistently with a slightly exploring gaze, but without change of expression, while she only occasionally looked at him with a flash of observation a little softened by coquetry. Also, after her answers there was a longer or shorter pause before he spoke again.

"I used to think archery was a great bore," Grandcourt began. He spoke with a fine accent, but with a certain broken drawl, as of a distinguished personage with a distinguished cold on his chest.

"Are you converted to-day?" said Gwendolen.

(Pause, during which she imagined various degrees and modes of opinion about herself that might be entertained by Grandcourt.)

“Yes, since I saw you shooting. In things of this sort one generally sees people missing and simpering.”

“I suppose you are a first-rate shot with a rifle.”

(Pause, during which Gwendolen, having taken a rapid observation of Grandcourt, made a brief graphic description of him to an indefinite hearer.)

“I have left off shooting.”

“Oh, then, you are a formidable person. People who have done things once and left them off make one feel very contemptible, as if one were using cast-off fashions. I hope you have not left off all follies, because I practice a great many.”

(Pause, during which Gwendolen made several interpretations of her own speech.)

“What do you call follies?”

“Well, in general, I think, whatever is agreeable is called a folly. But you have not left off hunting, I hear.”

(Pause, wherein Gwendolen recalled what she had heard about Grandcourt’s position, and decided that he was the most aristocratic-looking man she had ever seen.)

“One must do something.”

### Questions

1. Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the first paragraph (these are in bold; please write up to a line on each):

- a) ‘prefigured’
- b) ‘vexatiously’
- c) ‘solicitous’
- d) ‘drill’

(2 marks each)

2. What is your impression of Grandcourt? Make three points about the way he is presented. Please refer to the text in your answer.

(3 marks per example)

3. What is your impression of Gwendolen? Again, make three points about how her character, referring to examples from the text.

(3 marks per example)

4. What do you find interesting about the way the story is told in this passage?  
(10 marks)
5. Grandcourt and Gwendolen subsequently marry, but their marriage is not a success.  
What foreshadowing of this fate is there in their first meeting? (8 marks)

Total = 50 marks

## **Part B – Imaginative writing**

The title, borrowed from Poe's 'The Raven,' is, 'Nevermore.'

Please take this as a prompt for some narrative or non-fiction writing – the choice is yours.

Similarly, we expect most people to write in prose, but you do not have to.

50 marks