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**Pearson Edexcel**  
**Level 3 GCE**

Centre Number

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# English Literature

**Advanced Subsidiary**  
**Paper 2: Prose**

Thursday 26 May 2016 – Morning  
**Time: 1 hour**

Paper Reference  
**8ET0/02**

**You must have:**  
prescribed texts (clean copies)

Total Marks

**43**

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## Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **one** question.
- Answer the question in the space provided  
– *there may be more space than you need.*

## Information

- The total mark for this paper is 44.

## Advice

- Read the question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answer if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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**PEARSON**

Answer ONE question on your chosen texts, one of which must be pre-1900.

Begin your answer on page 8.

### Science and Society

#### Texts

Pre-1900: *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley; *The War of the Worlds*, H G Wells

Post-1900: *Never Let Me Go*, Kazuo Ishiguro; *The Handmaid's Tale*, Margaret Atwood

#### EITHER

7 Compare the ways in which the writers of your **two** chosen texts present characters responding to adversity.

In your answer you must consider the following:

- the writers' methods
- links between the texts
- relevant contextual factors.

historical notes - remain

(Total for Question 7 = 44 marks)

#### OR

8 Compare the ways in which the writers of your **two** chosen texts present anxieties about scientific development. - crossing medical & natural boundaries, oppression of women.

In your answer you must consider the following:

- the writers' methods
- links between the texts
- relevant contextual factors.

paths

- galvanism
- Benjamin Franklin.
- variables of selection.

(Total for Question 8 = 44 marks)

similar words - res vs .

- "Gilead is within you" - prophesy & parody of the christ words 'The Kingdom of God is within you' - internalised thoughts.
- scientific development leading to inequalities. →
- Aunts & Angels - connotations of love have been distorted becoming the emblematics of the instruments of oppression.
- Patriotic rally "compassless sky" Birth of monster - ominous tone - becomes simultaneous object of rebellion.
- enlightenment - advances in science nation.  
"I will pioneer a new way - explore unknown powers."
- monster cannot look at himself neither (or) offered.  
Pg 88. something "that drives ~~him~~ me so completely".



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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross . If you change your mind, put a line through the box  and then indicate your new question with a cross .

Chosen question number: Question 1  Question 2  Question 3   
Question 4  Question 5  Question 6   
Question 7  Question 8  Question 9   
Question 10  Question 11  Question 12

Please write the name of the texts you have answered the question on below:

Text 1: *Frankenstein by Mary Shelley*

Text 2: *The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood.*

Both female dystopian novels portray a very similar outlook towards the anxieties about scientific development. Shelley and Atwood use the power of language in order to warn readers of the power science contains, mainly by creating familiarising them to the distant and corrupt society in their Gothic works of art.

Atwood uses the power of language in order to portray the oppressive and patriarchal regime and how this is affected by social order. Atwood's journey to Iran has allowed her to experience first hand abuse of power as a result of scientific development by deciding "whom can do what to whom". Similarly Shelley was writing Frankenstein during the time of the enlightenment where scientific developments were and technology were advancing. Also, it was a time when Galvani had realised electricity can make the muscles of a dead spasm twitch, shortly after Benjamin Franklin's

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8 SecA04



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discoveries of electricity. Hence, this formed the foundation of Shelley's novel, which explains why she has given her male characters hubristic personalities. Walton remarks, "what can stop the determined heart and resolute will of man?" and Victor's eager to "explore unknown powers". However, both Shelley and Atwood illustrate the negative consequences as a result of such scientific advances by highlighting the struggles faced by society, in particular women during this time. Henceforward, Shelley and Atwood warn readers about the consequences of breaching natural and natural boundaries, which is shown through Victor's "misery" and "dismal" as a result of his "unhallowed" act. The adjective "unhallowed" signifies the fact that Victor was totally aware he was trespassing the concept of religion by tampering with God's creation, however, his hubris has resulted in him facing the <sup>negative</sup> consequences. Additionally, Atwood has also expressed the power of science and by criticizing society by turning constellations of what many of us expect to be loving and nurturing, like the 'Ants' and 'Arachnids' by distorting them <sup>by</sup> making them as a euphemism of oppression.

In the Handmaid's Tale, Atwood's fictive autobiography expresses the anxiety faced by women in the Gileadean regime. ~~Due to the~~ The oppressive regime had turned women as political instrument of 'baby making machines'. Try



transparent

Shari of personal integrity and was only useful as  
 a 'surrogate' mother. They were stripped from their identities  
 and made the properties of their commander, where offered  
 makes the comment that "I am his". However, she ~~does~~ <sup>notions</sup>  
~~feared~~ she has another name but it is "forbidden" as  
 it is "forbidden". The use of the adjective, "forbidden"  
 shows how the handmaid's were abused and forced to  
 submit to the regime out of their own will by completely  
 diminishing their personas. This is reinforced by Aunt  
 Lydia's cold remark "Gilead is within you". This blasphemy  
 is a parody of Christ's words, "The kingdom of God  
 is within you." This symbolises how the Gileadean  
 regime not only ~~dehumanise~~ <sup>objectifies</sup> the role of women, but also how  
 they make them internalised in following the rules of the regime.  
 This relates to Foucault's panoptical theory where he  
 says that when "certain people or groups of people control  
 knowledge, oppression is a possibility." Thus, the harsh words  
 by the Aunts can be a result of the fact they are in an  
 institution working for the Gileadean government, and therefore  
 they have 'power/knowledge' which the handmaid's clearly  
 don't have. As a result they feel they can exert their  
 rights onto the handmaid's. Also, the fact that Offred  
 does not reveal the name of her protagonist, as allows  
 readers to acknowledge that any woman can be in the  
 position of ~~Becky~~ a handmaid, this reaction as a  
 result of science and social order. ~~such~~ Therefore, the

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Added realism makes Gilman's story a challenge to our own world, conveying Atwood's message by saying how the dangers of science is continuing to exist even today.

Adding, the monster in Frankenstein also remains nameless stressing the impact of social injustice as a result of Victor's thirst for knowledge and enhancement of science. Instead, he is dehumanized and called a "demon" and "wretch." These abusive <sup>invented on the monster</sup> insults inform readers the negative power that is attached to knowledge. This is because, although Victor ~~felt~~ ~~felt~~ he has the ability to create life, <sup>it</sup> this is an unnatural process and hence deemed unacceptable ~~and~~ in society, hyperbolizing the reaction of horror in Victor's attempt to create the supernatural.

The Chinese box structure of Frankenstein also plays a vital role. This is because, it shows how ~~these~~ <sup>three</sup> different elements of science creating different <sup>aspects</sup> things. The creation is at ~~the~~ the heart of the structure which portrays the end result of <sup>an</sup> unnatural creation that is full of flaws. However, ironically it can be viewed as being protected, which makes readers question whether Shelley is in fact in favour of science. On the other hand, the traditional tale is offered to the main character. However,



upon further reading we realize this is adapted,  
constructed and 'framed' by a man. Therefore, Atwood is  
reinforcing the fact that  
possibly ~~was~~ showing how women were framed and  
controlled by men, creating anxiety which creates  
anxiety as a result of the oppressive regime.

In conclusion, both authors have similar views of  
the anxiety that is brought by the science and its  
advances, and therefore, their novels remain as a  
tool to warn readers about the consequences of science  
and how this can <sup>be</sup> ~~lead~~ in dehumanizing ~~ways~~.



Blank lined area for writing.

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 44 MARKS **43**



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