



22110089



**ENGLISH A1 – HIGHER LEVEL – PAPER 1**  
**ANGLAIS A1 – NIVEAU SUPÉRIEUR – ÉPREUVE 1**  
**INGLÉS A1 – NIVEL SUPERIOR – PRUEBA 1**

Tuesday 3 May 2011 (morning)

Mardi 3 mai 2011 (matin)

Martes 3 de mayo de 2011 (mañana)

2 hours / 2 heures / 2 horas

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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Write a commentary on one passage only.

INSTRUCTIONS DESTINÉES AUX CANDIDATS

- N'ouvrez pas cette épreuve avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Rédigez un commentaire sur un seul des passages.

INSTRUCCIONES PARA LOS ALUMNOS

- No abra esta prueba hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Escriba un comentario sobre un solo fragmento.

Write a commentary on **one** of the following:

1.

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2.

### Snow

Snow, you create a country of ghosts.  
To you perhaps our souls might migrate,  
you are the land of the souls that confronts us,  
seeming eternal yet of course not so.

- 5 We rise in the morning to shrouded trees,  
to houses with fairy tale windows,  
to hills voluminous and novel,  
to a fresh country without signposts.  
This silence, where does it come from?  
10 This holy quietness.  
This blankness without the individual,  
this communal burial.

Magician, you have cast your handkerchief over us.  
We are lost in the folds.

- 15 We struggle to find the road again  
Where is our destination?

- Or shall we holiday in childhood  
with our red gloves and jumpers  
plunging up to our waists  
20 in the gravity of the adult.

Or as in a mirror do we see our souls  
so whitely staring back at us  
with a conspicuous sparkle,  
the doubleness of death.

- 25 Yet it is not so, it is not eternal.  
Suddenly the hills become water,  
the fragile windows are cracked  
and the green land appears  
somehow stagy and distant:  
30 after that soul-knowledge  
the body with its smells and veins,  
our undisguisable home.

Iain Crichton Smith, *The Poetry Book Society Anthology 1987–88* (1987)

(c) 'Snow', in: *The Poetry Book Society Anthology 1987–88* (1987)  
by Iain Crichton Smith, Gillian Clarke, Carol Ann Duffy, Douglas Dunn, Kathleen Jamie,  
Norman MacCaig, Medbh McGuckian, and Edwin Morgan. Edited by Gillian Clarke. Published by Carcanet Press 2011.