

**English A: literature – Standard level – Paper 1**  
**Anglais A : littérature – Niveau moyen – Épreuve 1**  
**Inglés A: literatura – Nivel medio – Prueba 1**

Wednesday 2 November 2016 (morning)  
Mercredi 2 novembre 2016 (matin)  
Miércoles 2 de noviembre de 2016 (mañana)

1 hour 30 minutes / 1 heure 30 minutes / 1 hora 30 minutos

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**Instructions to candidates**

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Write a guided literary analysis on one passage only. In your answer you must address both of the guiding questions provided.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[20 marks]**.

**Instructions destinées aux candidats**

- N'ouvrez pas cette épreuve avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Rédigez une analyse littéraire dirigée d'un seul des passages. Les deux questions d'orientation fournies doivent être traitées dans votre réponse.
- Le nombre maximum de points pour cette épreuve d'examen est de **[20 points]**.

**Instrucciones para los alumnos**

- No abra esta prueba hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Escriba un análisis literario guiado sobre un solo pasaje. Debe abordar las dos preguntas de orientación en su respuesta.
- La puntuación máxima para esta prueba de examen es **[20 puntos]**.

Write a guided literary analysis on **one** passage only. In your answer you must address both of the guiding questions provided.

1.

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2.

### The Water Carrier

Twice daily I carried water from the spring,  
Morning before leaving for school, and evening;  
Balanced as a fulcrum between two buckets.

A bramble-rough path ran to the river  
5 Where you stepped carefully across slime-topped stones,  
With corners abraded as bleakly white as bones.

At the widening pool (for washing and cattle)  
Minute fish flickered as you dipped,  
Circling to fill, with rust-tinged water.

10 The second or enamel bucket was for spring water  
Which, after racing through a rushy meadow,  
Came bubbling in a broken drain-pipe,

Corroded wafer thin with rust.  
It ran so pure and cold, it fell  
15 Like manacles of ice on the wrists.

You stood until the bucket brimmed  
Inhaling the musty smell of unpicked berries,  
That heavy greenness fostered by water.

Recovering the scene, I had hoped to stylise it,  
20 Like the portrait of an Egyptian water carrier:  
But pause, entranced by slight but memoried life.

I sometimes come to take the water there,  
Not as return or refuge, but some pure thing,  
Some living source, half-imagined and half-real,

25 Pulses in the fictive water that I feel.

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Oldcastle, County Meath, Ireland from *New Collected Poems* (2012);  
US edition by Wake Forest University Press (published in 1995)

- (a) Comment on the significance of the water motif throughout the poem.
- (b) How does the poet's use of structure and word choice take us from a remembered situation to a reflection?
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