

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

Monday 7 May 2018 (afternoon)  
Lundi 7 mai 2018 (après-midi)  
Lunes 7 de mayo de 2018 (tarde)

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.

### Elephant Riding

Climbing up  
the back of an elephant  
you spring into  
the toehold of its tail  
5 held in place by the mahout<sup>1</sup>  
grab the ropes  
strapped round its belly  
& haul yourself up.  
She rises  
10 from buckled knees under you  
moves like a ship  
you're high  
under the hanging ashoka leaves  
as you flow forward  
15 her fly-bitten ears grey sails flap.  
She flings the odd young-leaved branch  
into her mouth  
with her triumphant trunk.  
You want to scratch  
20 the top of her stubbled head  
tell her it's like riding a whale  
they're both your favourite creatures  
you'd like to know their languages  
couldn't she speak  
25 just a little of hers?  
But the mahout down on the road  
rubs thumb & fingers together  
furiously you nod  
*yes pay, of course we'll pay*  
30 thinking, if he doesn't  
accept our offer, let me down  
I'll be stuck up here forever  
riding New Delhi streets  
with the mahout's boy  
35 or it'll suddenly have had enough  
trumpet & fling me off or bolt.  
*I'd never have paid*  
*till he let you down*  
you said, as we watched her  
40 join the diesel-belching traffic circle  
my ship of the jungle  
dirty & grey  
non-comparisond<sup>2</sup>, gentle, knowing, female  
working animal.

45 In India, they say  
a woman is beautiful  
when she walks  
like an elephant.

From: *Only One Angel* by Jan Kemp, University of Otago Press, Dunedin , N.Z. (2001)

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<sup>1</sup> mahout: an elephant rider, trainer or keeper

<sup>2</sup> non-caparisoned: unadorned

- (a) What do we learn about the nature of the relationship between the speaker, the mahout and the elephant in this poem?
- (b) In what ways is the speaker's perception of the elephant and the experience developed during the course of the poem?
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