TEACHER GUIDANCE

Eduqas-style Component 1 - Rosabel

GCSE English Language | C700U10 · 20th-century fiction and creative prose

Standard time: 1h 45m | With approved 25% extra time: 2h 11m 15s

Total: 80 marks. Indicative marking notes.

Original Exam Stash practice, independently written. Not an official paper and not endorsed by AQA, Eduqas or OCR. Read the linked original source booklet alongside these questions. The source text is not reproduced here. Use the printed source line numbers, not the PDF viewer line count.

Shorter-source practice: this uses a shorter reading selection than a full examination would normally use. Question skills, marks and suggested timing follow the named board, but this is not a full specification-equivalent mock. Do not apply past grade boundaries to this practice paper. The linked AQA extract is 45 printed lines; Eduqas normally supplies around 60–100. Suggested timing: 10 minutes reading, 50 minutes Section A, 45 minutes Section B.

Source booklet - open before starting

Source A: The Tiredness of Rosabel — Katherine Mansfield (1908)

AQA June 2017 8700/1 Insert, PDF pages 2–3, printed lines 1–45.

Open the original source booklet

Freely accessible source booklet on the existing PMT archive, downloaded and checked 15 November 2026. AQA source layout is linked rather than reproduced.

Using this guidance

Indicative guidance is flexible: credit accurate alternative readings supported by the specified source. Do not require the ideas listed here.

For extended reading, select the best-fitting band first, then decide a mark within it. Consider evidence, explanation and precision across the whole response.

These practice materials have not been standardised by an awarding body. Report marks and feedback, not GCSE grades.

Question A1 | 5 marks | AO1

Read lines 1–14. Give five details showing Rosabel's situation or physical discomfort during her journey home.

Award 1 mark per distinct, accurate detail, up to 5. Accept paraphrase or concise quotation: inadequate food after work; hunger; wet feet; muddy clothing; unpleasant atmosphere or smell; feeling overheated or unable to breathe. Do not award separate marks for repeated versions of the same detail.

Question A2 | 5 marks | AO2

Read lines 15–18. How does Mansfield convey Rosabel's irritation with her customers?

Consider the rhetorical question, her dismissive judgement of the woman and recognition of a familiar excuse. Explain how her smile can communicate weary knowingness rather than simple happiness.

1: limited relevant response; 2–3: some explanation with evidence; 4–5: clear, detailed explanation of how the writing creates the impression.

Question A3 | 10 marks | AO2

Read lines 19–35. How does Mansfield present the contrast between the customers' ease and Rosabel's effort?

Analyse the presentation of wealth, playful conversation and expectation alongside Rosabel's emotional and physical labour. Track how the passage moves from initial admiration towards a hurried search and the customers' satisfaction.

1–2: limited; 3–4: some relevant explanation; 5–6: clear explanation; 7–8: developed, detailed analysis; 9–10: perceptive, sustained analysis. Reward language and structural observations that explain the requested contrast.

Question A4 | 10 marks | AO2

Read lines 36–45. How does Mansfield make the change in Rosabel's feelings striking?

Analyse the movement from modelling the hat and receiving apparent praise to sudden private anger, bodily embarrassment and controlled professional speech. Explain the contrast between what she feels and what she says.

Use the five 2-mark bands in A3, judged holistically. Credit precise explanation of a few well-selected details rather than device counting.

Question A5 | 10 marks | AO4

Consider the whole extract. “Rosabel’s anger is understandable because the world of the shop gives her a glimpse of a life she cannot share.” How far do you agree? Support and develop your judgement using the writing.

Evaluate the relation between material deprivation, attractive luxury, her work and the final response. A nuanced answer may recognise the customer’s friendliness while judging that it cannot overcome the social divide.

Use five 2-mark bands from limited to perceptive evaluation. Reward a sustained judgement supported by the text; disagreement and qualified agreement are equally valid.

Question B1 | 40 marks | AO5:24 / AO6:16

Section B — allow about 45 minutes. Write a narrative or recount based on ONE of these four prompts: (a) The last customer. (b) Write about a time when something small changed a person’s day. (c) The journey back. (d) Write a story in which somebody hides their true feelings. Write a developed narrative or recount, rather than a description alone. Plan and check your work.

Award AO5 (24 marks) for a coherent, engaging narrative or recount, a controlled viewpoint, convincing character or setting, developed events and a purposeful ending. Pure description cannot fulfil this narrative task.

Award AO6 (16 marks) separately for accurate and varied sentences, punctuation, spelling and grammar. Use the official board criteria when moderating marks.

Assessment format references

Official Eduqas assessment guidance