
REVISION QUESTIONS

1. 'He had to be revolutionary, but only in order to effect a restoration.' What appear to you to be the most revolutionary and conservative tendencies in Eliot's poetry?
2. Write about three of Eliot's poems to show in them a range of personal feeling.
3. How does Eliot achieve vivid images in his poems, and to what symbolic effects does he put them?
4. What does Eliot achieve by his use of personae in his poems?
5. 'It is not poetry, but prose run mad.' To what extent do you find this true of Eliot's poems?
6. Examine the use of allusion in Eliot's poetry.
7. 'A sense of the timeless as well as the temporal': illustrate this comment in the light of Eliot's religious poems.
8. To what extent would you agree that Eliot's poems show a steady progression from despair to religious faith?
9. Examine Eliot's treatment of the theme of love in his poems.
10. 'Genuine poetry can communicate before it is understood.' Have you found this true of any of Eliot's poetry?

FURTHER READING

- Ackroyd, P., *T. S. Eliot* (Sphere Books, 1985).
Bergonzi, B., *T. S. Eliot* (Macmillan, 1972).
Edwards, M., *Eliot/Language* (Aquila, 1975).
Eliot, T. S., *Selected Essays* (Faber & Faber, 1951).
Gardner, H., *The Art of T. S. Eliot* (Faber & Faber, 1949).
Kenner, H., *The Invisible Poet: T. S. Eliot* (W. H. Allen, 1960).
Leavis, F. R., *New Bearings in English Poetry* (Chatto & Windus, 1950).
Matthiessen, F. O., *The Achievement of T. S. Eliot* (Oxford University Press, 1958).
Maxwell, D. E. S., *The Poetry of T. S. Eliot* (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1952).
Southam, B. C., *A Student's Guide to the Selected Poems of T. S. Eliot* (Faber & Faber, 1977).
Spender, S., *Eliot* (Fontana, 1975).
Stead, C. K., *The New Poetic* (Penguin, 1964).
Traversi, D., *T. S. Eliot: The Longer Poems* (Bodley Head, 1976).
Williamson, G., *A Reader's Guide to T. S. Eliot* (Thames & Hudson, 1967).
Wilson, E., *Axel's Castle* (Fontana, 1961).

Mastering English Literature

Richard Gill

Mastering English Literature will help readers both to enjoy English Literature and to be successful in 'O' levels, 'A' levels and other public exams. It is an introduction to the study of poetry, novels and drama which helps the reader in four ways - by providing ways of approaching literature, by giving examples and practice exercises, by offering hints on how to write about literature, and by the author's own evident enthusiasm for the subject. With extracts from more than 200 texts, this is an enjoyable account of how to get the maximum satisfaction out of reading, whether it be for formal examinations or simply for pleasure.

Work Out English Literature ('A' level)

S.H. Burton

This book familiarises 'A' level English Literature candidates with every kind of test which they are likely to encounter. Suggested answers are worked out step by step and accompanied by full author's commentary. The book helps students to clarify their aims and establish techniques and standards so that they can make appropriate responses to similar questions when the examination pressures are on. It opens up fresh ways of looking at the full range of set texts, authors and critical judgements and motivates students to know more of these matters.