

**AQA GCSE English Literature Paper 2: 'Blood Brothers'**  
**Sample Essay Questions**

1. How does Russell use the characters of Mrs Johnstone and Mrs Lyons in Blood Brothers to explore ideas about class?  
Write about:
  - how Russell presents Mrs Johnstone and Mrs Lyons
  - how Russell uses these characters to explore ideas about class. [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]
  
2. How does Willy Russell present childhood and growing up in Blood Brothers?  
Write about:
  - the ways particular characters change as they grow up
  - how Russell presents childhood and growing up by the ways he writes. [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]
  
3. How does Russell present some of the differences between social classes in Blood Brothers?  
Write about:
  - how Russell presents some of these differences
  - how Russell explores differences between social classes in the play. [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]
  
4. How does Russell present attitudes towards education and the police in Blood Brothers?  
Write about:
  - what some of the attitudes towards education are
  - how Russell presents some of these attitudes by the ways he writes. [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]
  
5. How does Russell use the characters of Mickey and Edward to explore ideas about class in Blood Brothers?  
Write about:
  - how Russell presents Mickey and Edward
  - how Russell uses these characters to present ideas about class. [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]
  
6. How does Russell present the impact of superstition on the character's lives?  
Write about:
  - how Russell presents the theme of superstition
  - how Russell explore the impacts of superstition in the play [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]
  
7. At the end of the play, the narrator says, 'And do we blame superstition for what came to pass?'  
How important do you think the theme of superstition is in affecting the outcome of the play?  
Write about:
  - how important you think the theme of superstition affects the play's outcome
  - what other factors affects the play's outcome [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]
  
8. How does Russell use the theme of nature vs nurture in 'Blood Brothers' to explore ideas about social class?  
Write about:
  - how Russell presents the theme of nature vs nurture
  - how Russell explore the impacts of nature vs nurture on social class [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]
  
9. How does Russell use the Narrator in Blood Brothers to explore the theme of superstition?  
Write about:
  - how Russell presents the Narrator
  - how Russell uses the Narrator to explore the theme of superstition [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]
  
10. How does Russell use Linda in Blood Brothers to explore ideas about class?  
Write about:
  - how Russell presents Linda
  - how Russell uses Linda to to explore ideas about class. [30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]