

C**SPRING**

Nothing is so beautiful as spring –
When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush;
Thrush's eggs look little low heavens, and thrush
Through the echoing timber does so rinse and wring
The ear, it strikes like lightnings to hear him sing;
The glassy peartree leaves and blooms, they brush
The descending blue; that blue is all in a rush
With richness; the racing lambs too have fair their fling.

What is all this juice and all this joy?
A strain of the earth's sweet being in the beginning
In Eden garden – Have, get, before it cloy,
Before it cloud, Christ, lord, and sour with sinning,
Innocent mind and Mayday in girl and boy,
Most, O maid's child, thy choice and worthy the winning.

Gerard Manley Hopkins

1. (a) Identify an image from the above poem that you like and explain why you like it. (10)
 - (b) Describe a feeling or emotion expressed by the poet in this poem. Support your answer with reference to the poem. (10)
 - (c) Explain what you think the poet means when he says, "What is all this juice and all this joy?" (10)
2. Answer **ONE** of the following: [Each part carries 20 marks]
- (i) Explain what you learn about Hopkins' relationship with nature from the above poem. Support your answer with reference to the poem.
OR
 - (ii) Does the language and imagery used by the poet add to your enjoyment of the above poem? Support your answer with reference to the language and imagery used in the poem.
OR
 - (iii) Imagine that you are the poet, Gerard Manley Hopkins. Write a letter to a friend in which you express your thoughts and feelings about spring and what it means to you spiritually. Your letter should demonstrate your knowledge of the poem.

