



English Literature

Examination Board: Edexcel

Examination Code: 9ETO

Outline of the Course

Topics studied in order (Year 12)

Teacher 1

Prose: *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*: Thomas Hardy; *A Thousand Splendid Suns*: Khaled Hosseini

Teacher 2

Poetry: *English Romantic Verse*: Poetry from the Romantic Period

Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry:
Post 2000 Contemporary Poetry

Topics studied in order (Year 13)

Teacher 1

Coursework: one comparative essay of up to 3000 words. Base text:
The Great Gatsby: F. Scott Fitzgerald

Drama: *A Streetcar Named Desire*: Tennessee Williams

Teacher 2

Drama: One Shakespeare play (*King Lear*) plus selection of related essays from the Shakespeare Critical Anthology

What will you learn?

Poetry – The Romantics / Post 2000 Contemporary Poetry

You will study:

- A selection of poems from *English Romantic Verse* to develop understanding of the contexts for Romantic poetry, its formal and ideological aspects, and how to compare poems independently
- A selection of poems from *Poems of the Decade, An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry 2002 – 2011* to develop understanding

of contemporary poetry in its formal and ideological aspects, and how to compare poems unseen at a high level.

Prose (Women in Society) – *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

You will study:

- Two texts from the 19th and 20 centuries respectively, from a comparative perspective, analysing formal and ideological aspects and comparing the various contexts for reading they present.

Drama (Tragedy)

You will study:

- *King Lear*: William Shakespeare
- *A Streetcar Named Desire*: Tennessee Williams

Essays and other critical commentary related to the form of tragedy and the history of Shakespeare studies in *Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology*.

Coursework

You will produce one extended comparative essay (up to 3000 words) referring to two texts and a range of secondary material and literary criticism. Base text: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald; students' choice of second text, as approved by EdExcel.

Mark Breakdown and Assessment

Paper 1 Poetry Assessment

- Written exam of 2 hours and 15 minutes
- Section A: Contemporary Poetry: one comparative essay from a choice of two on an unseen poem written after 2000 and a named poem from the studied collection
- Section B: Poetry Collections: one essay question from a choice of two on the Poetry from the Romantic Period

Paper 2 Prose Assessment

- Written exam of one hour and 15 minutes
- One comparative essay from a choice of two questions

Paper 3 Drama Assessment

- One written exam lasting 2 hours and 15 minutes

- Section A: Shakespeare – one essay question, on *King Lear* incorporating ideas from wider critical reading
- Section B: Other Drama – one essay question on *A Streetcar Named Desire*

Component 4 Coursework Assessment

- One 3000-word comparative text essay marked out of 60.

Website links

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/english-literature-2015.html>

Key Dates

Coursework completion: Autumn Term Year 13

Exams: May/June Year 13

Further Information

Dr. Quipp – Second in English
Dr. Nixon – Mrs. Baxter Deputy Headteacher
S. Howell – Curriculum Leader English

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What can I do after I have completed the course?

English Literature is a well-regarded, facilitating A Level enabling students to gain places at prestigious Russell Group Universities. It opens doors to a range of careers, including Teaching, Law, HR, Marketing, Media and Communication. It works well alongside other subjects as a complement to the Sciences, Maths and Humanities.