



English Literature

Qualification type: A Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

What will I learn about?

In English Literature you will:

- **engage critically and creatively** with a substantial body of texts and ways of responding to them
- develop and effectively apply your knowledge of **literary analysis and evaluation**
- **explore the contexts** of the texts you are reading **and others' interpretations** of them
- **undertake independent and sustained studies**

How is my work assessed?

80% Examination and 20% Coursework

There are three written examinations:

Component 1: Drama – 30% of the total qualification, 2 hrs 15 minutes - two sections.

Section A: Shakespeare – One essay question from a choice of two on their studied text

Section B: Other drama – One essay question from a choice of two on their studied text

Component 2: Prose – 20% of the total qualification, 1hr 15 minutes – one section.

one comparative essay question from a choice of two on your studied theme

Component 3: Poetry – 30% of the total qualification, 2 hrs 15 minutes – two sections.

Section A: Post-2000 Poetry – One comparative essay question from a choice of two on an unseen modern poem written post-2000 and one named poem from the studied contemporary text

Section B: Specified Poetry Pre- or Post-1900 – One essay question from a choice of two on your studied text

Non-Examination – 20% of the qualification

One extended comparative essay referring to two texts

What should I consider before starting this subject?

Before starting A level English literature, you should consider whether you enjoy reading, you will have to read a lot of texts, including 40 poems, at least two full novels and two full plays, including one by Shakespeare. Do you excel at writing essays? You will have to write long essays under exam conditions to do well in this subject. How much do you enjoy analysing texts and exploring the many ways that writers convey meaning, and how easy is it for you to convey ideas in your own writing? You will have to explore the historical context and literary traditions that link to the texts that you study: is this something you enjoy?

Why is this course useful and what might it lead to?

A level English literature leads to:

- higher education courses such as degrees in English, English literature, creative writing or in related subjects such as journalism, media, teaching, drama, history
- a wide range of careers directly related to English literature, such as teacher, editor, writer, or in areas such as publishing, journalism, the media, advertising, marketing, public relations, arts administration, record offices, libraries, national and local government and the civil service.

Where can I find out more information?

Speak to your English teacher or Mrs Miles in BE5

You can find further information on this qualification at

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