

Exam board / website: Eduqas (WJEC) English Literature A level

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-literature/a-level/>



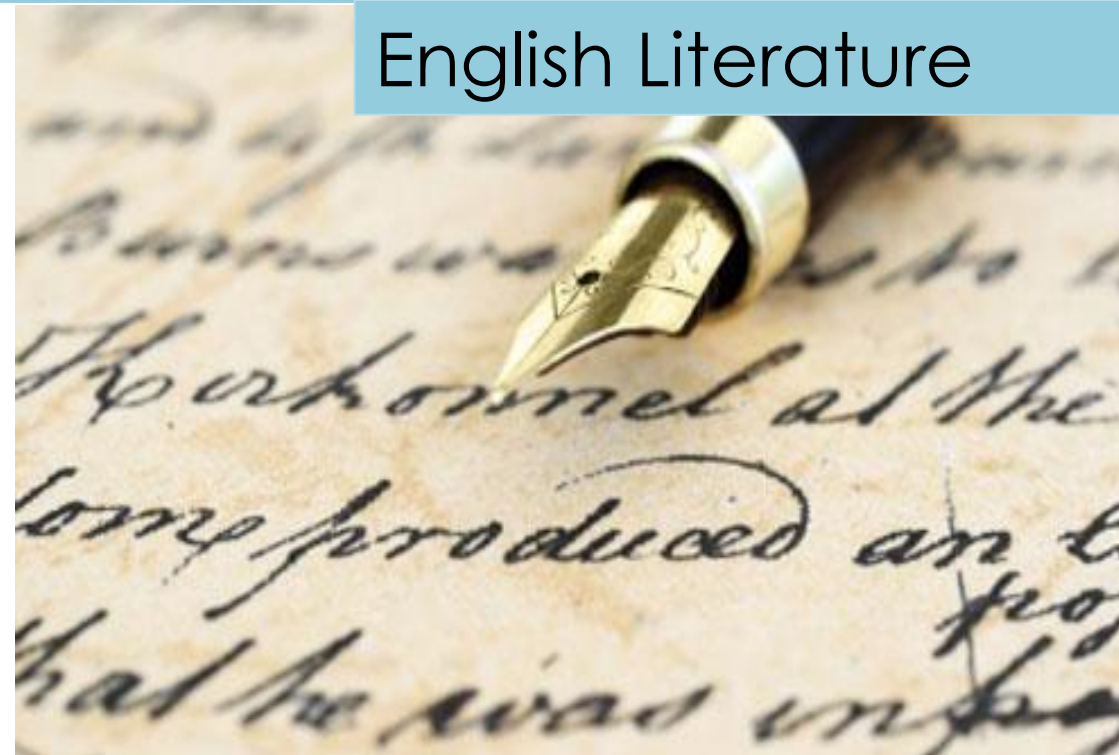
Hillcrest Sixth Form

English Literature

How is the course assessed?

This is a linear, two year course. All examination assessment takes place at the end of the course. 80% of the course is assessed via three examinations, with 20% for non-examination assessment via an extended essay, which is internally assessed and externally moderated (see table).

Quality of written communication: Students will be assessed on their ability to write legibly, with accurate use of spelling, grammar and punctuation, so a strong foundation in GCSE English Language, as well as in GCSE English Literature, is vital for success on this course.



What does studying English Literature involve?

The key difference between GCSE and A level is the depth of study. Far more time is devoted to each text, its genre, its place in the great tradition of English Literature and you'll be immersed in a genuine engagement with the texts. The subject matter is much more mature and sophisticated; you will encounter new playwrights, poets and novelists, expanding your horizons. Small, seminar-style classes mean that at times you forget you're in a classroom and not in a local coffee shop chatting with friends about your latest, exciting read. You'll love it!

What skills will I develop?

Key Skills are integral to the study of A level English Literature and are assessed through the course. The following key skills can be developed through the English Literature course:

- Communication, reflection and emotional intelligence
- Extended, formal essay writing skills essential for university study
- Critical analysis and research skills, including referencing
- Working with others and presentation skills essential to your future career

What subjects compliment English Literature?

English Literature is a Russell Group 'facilitating' subject for entry to **any** university course, as it is well respected in terms of the skills of analysis, critical enquiry and extended essay-writing it instills. To get to the best universities, you should ensure you take English Literature alongside at least one more facilitating subject as part of your 'A' level programme.

Where will the subject take me?

Those studying A Level in the past have gone on to study in such diverse fields as English Literature, Creative Writing, Law, Medicine, History, Journalism, Communication, Drama, and Medicine, The possibilities are endless as universities and HE providers look favourably on English Literature for entry to any degree course, so it can really open up your options.

Entry requirements:

Students are required to have gained a GCSE English Literature grade between a 9-6. Students must have at least grade 6 in GCSE English Language.

Course content and assessment:

Component 1: Poetry
Written examination: **2 hours**
30% of qualification

Section A: Pre-1900 Poetry (open-book, clean copy)
One two-part question based on the reading of one pre-1900 poetry text from a prescribed list
Section B: Post-1900 Poetry (open-book, clean copy)
One question from a choice of two based on the reading of two post-1900 poetry texts from a prescribed list

Component 2: Drama
Written examination: **2 hours**
30% of qualification

Section A: Shakespeare (closed-book)
One two-part question based on the reading of one Shakespeare play from a prescribed list
Section B: Drama (closed-book)
One question from a choice of two based on the reading of a pair of plays: one pre-1900 and one post-1900, from a prescribed list

Component 3: Unseen Texts
Written examination: **2 hours**
20% of qualification

Section A: Unseen prose
One question from a choice of two, analysing an unseen passage of prose, taken from one of two prescribed periods for study
Section B: Unseen poetry
One question from a choice of two, analysing an unseen poem or poetry extract

Component 4: Prose Study
Non-exam assessment: **2500-3500 words**
20% of qualification

Contact: Course Coordinator – Mrs J Price JPrice@hillcrest.bham.sch.uk