

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE SNAPSHOT

OVERVIEW

Whether you already teach our existing GCSE English Literature specification, or are considering offering the course for the first time, we aim to provide both teachers and students with the resources they need to achieve excellence in the study of English Literature.

Our revised specification, comprising of two externally assessed and one internally assessed unit, gives students the opportunity to study a range of writing from a mix of local and modern writers giving the variety to suit a range of readers. Students are encouraged to develop as discerning and critical readers and this specification provides a sound basis for progression to further study, higher education or employment.

SPECIFICATION SUMMARY

The GCSE English Literature specification has three units:

- Unit 1: The Study of Prose (one external examination);
- Unit 2: The Study of Drama and Poetry (one external examination); and
- Unit 3: The Study of Shakespeare (controlled assessment).

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

Our GCSE in English Literature helps to:

- develop creative, individual responses to problems;
- develop independent study skills that help students prepare for further study or employment; and
- nurture an interest in reading.

CROSS-CURRICULAR SKILLS, THINKING SKILLS AND PERSONAL CAPABILITIES THAT WILL BE DEVELOPED

Through this course, students will:

- enhance their oral and written communication skills by learning how to express viewpoints and present an argument;
- gain experience in using ICT to research and present information;
- develop their planning, time management and self-evaluation skills;
- learn from others through discussion, group work and shared tasks; and
- increase their ability to use critical analysis, propose ideas, opinions or decisions and be able to justify them.



UNIQUE FEATURES OF THIS QUALIFICATION/ IMPROVEMENTS MADE

We offer a range of texts, which includes a mix of local and modern writers, giving variety to suit a range of readers.

The amount of work for both students and teachers is manageable in research through the controlled assessment.

There is a carefully selected variety of poems across three themed poetry anthologies to appeal to different interests.

CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

CONTENT	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
Unit 1: The Study of Prose	External written examination 1 hour 45 mins Students answer two questions, one from Section A and the set question in Section B. Section A is closed book.	30%
Unit 2: The Study of Drama and Poetry	External written examination 2 hours Students answer two questions, one from Section A and one from Section B. Both Section A and B are open book.	50%
Unit 3: The Study of Shakespeare	Controlled assessment 2 hours Students complete an extended writing task based on a theme. Marked by teachers and moderated by us.	20%

SUPPORTING YOU

In person

As your local awarding organisation, we can provide personalised support and visits to you and your centre upon request. Contact the Specification Support Officer if you would like to arrange for us to visit you, your department or your students.

At teacher-focused events

We provide a comprehensive programme of events to support the revised specification, which includes:

- free launch events to introduce you to the specification; and
- free seminars to support its teaching and assessment and to assist you with subject-specific issues.

We will mail invitations to heads of department at least three weeks before each event. Alternatively, see our full list of support events online at www.ccea.org.uk

Online

Most of the support we provide will be available on our subject microsite. The site will contain:

- the latest version of the specification;
- planning frameworks;
- Chief Examiner's reports with top tips for improving examination performance (available after the first examination series);
- specimen assessment materials; and
- exemplification of standards (available after the first examination series).

SPECIFICATION SNAPSHOT

