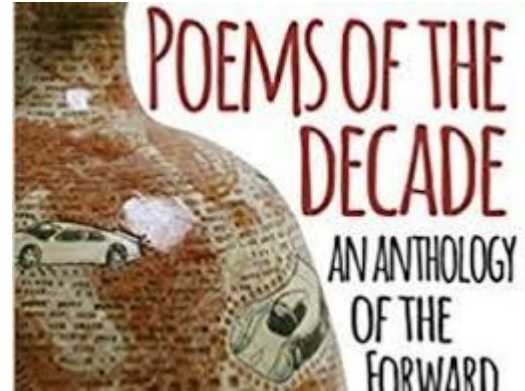
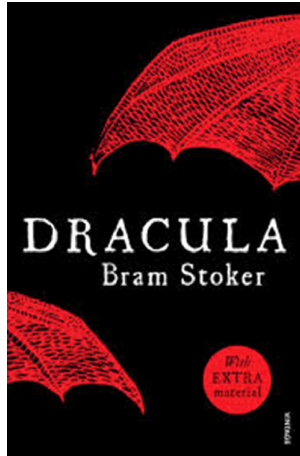


English Literature

Success



Course Overview

Component 1 - Drama

Written exam - 2 hours 15 mins

35%

Students study:

- one Shakespeare play ([Hamlet](#)) and one other drama ([A Streetcar Named Desire](#))
- critical essays related to their selected Shakespeare play. Students' preparation is supported by Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Tragedy

Component 2 - Prose

Written exam - 1 hour 15 mins

20%

Students study:

- two prose texts from a chosen theme. At least one of the prose texts must be pre-1900. ([Dorian Gray and Dracula](#))

Course Overview Cont.

Component 3 - Poetry

Written exam - 2 hours 15 mins

30%

Students study:

- poetic form, meaning and language
- a selection of post-2000 specified poetry
[Poems of the Decade](#) and
- a specified range of poetry from a named poet from within a literary period. [Philip Larkin](#)

Component 4 - NEA

20 %

Students have a free choice of two texts to study.

Chosen texts:

- must be different from those studied in Components 1, 2 and 3
- must be complete texts and may be linked by theme, movement, author or period
- may be selected from poetry, drama, prose or literary non-fiction.

Be Prepared

Get into the habit of using your time effectively, and organise yourself so you know when you have deadlines and when you're going to do your work, then A-levels will seem much easier and less of a jump than expected. Particularly during the pressure points when you have non-examined assessment or exams, being organised and motivated from the start will ensure that you're really prepared, and not too stressed.

Get your folder and subject dividers ready and keep your notes organised and easy to access.

Get a copy of all your set texts and be prepared to read and reread them

Advice - explore literature

Roughly speaking, for GCSE exams you can just learn the content. At A-level you actually need to understand it.

The internet is a great source for reading other people's interpretations of text – use these to formulate your own response. Remember the beauty of Literature is that there is never a right or wrong answer as long as you can justify your point of view!

Love Literature

It may seem obvious but it should be stated - if you don't enjoy reading, in fact if you don't love reading then you should consider why you are studying Literature.

Read around and explore your set texts:

- Read other texts by the same author
- Visit the settings
- Watch the plays live
- Watch a variety of film versions of text and explore how the themes/characters may have subtle differences...

NEA - get ready now...

In the Summer Term of Year 12 you will be asked to choose 2 texts to compare in a 3000 word essay. You will be expected to identify the theme for comparison and write your own question in relation to this.

For your NEA you will be expected to research and respond to critical reading of your chosen texts, and include this in your essay. In preparation for this, you want to be thinking about your choice of texts now.

Learn and use the terminology that will enhance your understanding and your responses:

Ambiguous

phonology

Intensifier

Euphemism

modal

neologism

etymology

semantics

Use social media to keep informed

@britishlibrary

@guardian

@MaragertAtwood

@PenguinUKBooks

@The_Globe

@GuardianBooks

@PoetrySociety

@PoetryFound

@ManBookerPrize

@Edexcel

@TheRSC

The Poetry Society

Kazuo Ishiguro

Margaret Atwood

William Shakespeare

Oscar Wilde

Tennessee Williams

Forward Prizes for Poetry

Philip Larkin



If you have any questions or require further support...

Contact your teachers:

Mrs C Bailey - cbailey@queenelizabeths.com

Mrs A Wright awright@queenelizabeths.com