

GCSE English Literature



Career Options

Teaching
Journalism
Publishing

Subject Content

Areas studied include:

In GCSE Literature students study a range of texts to help them to develop knowledge and skills in reading, writing and critical thinking. Through literature, students have a chance to develop culturally and acquire knowledge of the best that has been thought and written.

Students will study the following full texts. They will explore the plot, characters, themes and context:

- Shakespeare's play 'Macbeth'.
- Dickens' novel 'A Christmas Carol' (the 19th Century novel)
- JB Priestley's play 'An Inspector Calls' (modern drama text)

They will also study the Power and Conflict poetry anthology of 15 poems as well as a range of 'unseen' poetry texts.

Assessment Information

GCSE English Literature – 2 papers

What's assessed – Paper 1

- Shakespeare play 'Macbeth'
- The 19th Century novel – 'A Christmas Carol'

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 64 marks
- 40% of GCSE

What's assessed – Paper 2

- Modern prose or drama texts
- The poetry anthology (comparison)
- Unseen poetry (comparison)

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

Why Study...?

Studying English literature will develop your knowledge of a range of texts, exposing you to different cultures and intellectual traditions. It will also develop your critical thinking and analysis, skills that are transferable into a variety of professions.

Key Contact: Mrs Dunn

GCSE English Language



Career Options

Journalism
Publishing
Teaching
Legal work
Advertising

Subject Content

Paper 1:

- In preparation for section A, pupils will read a range of literature fiction texts to consider how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to capture the interest of readers.
- In section B, pupils will write their own creative text, inspired by the topic that they have responded to in section A to demonstrate their narrative and descriptive skills in response to a stimulus.

Paper 2:

- In preparation for section A, pupils will read linked sources from different time periods and genres and consider how each presents perspectives to influence the reader.
- In preparation for section B, pupils produce written texts to specified audience, purpose and form in which they give their own perspective.

Assessment Information

Paper 1:

Reading (40 marks) (25%) – one single fiction text

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Paper 2:

Reading (40 marks) (25%) – two linked texts

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Why Study...?

English language will increase your employability. Through the development of your reading, writing and spoken skills, you will become more creative thinkers and more confident speakers. Being able to express yourself clearly is a fundamental life skill.

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