

# English Literature A Level

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 in English Literature and Language

## Units Studied in Year 12

### Component 3: Coursework – Modern and Contemporary Fiction

For their coursework unit students are required to independently produce two tasks. Task one is a detailed close analysis of a short section of poetry (up to 45 lines) from a small selection of poems by a contemporary poet. Task two is an independently researched critical comparison of two thematically linked contemporary texts, one prose, one drama. In preparation for this unit, students are given detailed instruction on how to improve the quality of their own writing to A Level standard.

### Component 2: Chosen Topic Area (Year 12 & 13)

Students will study at least two texts, one set text and one free choice text, from a chosen topic area, including American Literature, Dystopian Fiction and Women in Literature. This unit will be assessed in a two part closed text written examination. Part one will test analysis skills on a short unseen passage from their chosen topic area, whilst part two will involve a comparative and contextual study of both texts informed by different critical interpretations. The majority of texts in this component are 20th Century.

## Units Studied in Year 13

### Component 1: Section A – Shakespeare

Students will study a single Shakespeare text in detail exploring a range of different interpretations, analysing the ways in which language shapes meaning and articulating their own personal and creative responses. This unit will be assessed in a closed text written examination.

### Skills gained and enrichment opportunities:

This course develops an interest in English Literature. You will be encouraged to read widely, critically and independently, across literary movements, genres and form, alongside developing detailed analytical, discursive and evaluative transferable skills. At least 50% of this course focuses on modern literature written after 1900, and includes scope for students to independently choose and research texts for individual study.

### Component 1: Section B – Drama & Poetry pre-1900

In this comparative study, students will explore connections between chosen set texts from the genres of drama and poetry written before 1900, as well as demonstrating their appreciation of the significance of cultural and contextual influences. This unit will be assessed in a closed text written examination.

## Assessments

**Component 1:** Two and a half hour exam - 40% of A Level – Assessed at the end of Year 13

**Component 2:** Two and a half hour exam - 40% of A Level - Assessed at the end of Year 13

**Component 3:** Non-examined Assessment - 20% of A Level – Submitted for moderation in Year 13



### Progression/career opportunities

The rigorously analytical and academic nature of this course, together with its strong focus on independent research skills, provides a solid foundation for careers in law, media and journalism, whilst also being a well-respected route into a whole range of consultancy based careers, including politics, the civil service and medicine.

### Further information:

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