



Department/subject: English Literature

English Literature

The English Literature GCSE is the study of how writers communicate their ideas about the world and how readers might respond to these ideas. This syllabus covers a wide range of texts including Shakespeare, nineteenth century novels, modern texts and a range of poetry. Learners develop a critical understanding of the ways in which literary texts are a reflection and exploration of the human condition, the study of which develops empathic understanding of human nature and the universality of the human condition. Learners analyse the language, form and structure and consider the effects of the writers' intentions. A deeper understanding of the social and historical context is explored of where and when it is written and set. Learners will develop skills in improving their vocabulary and sentence structure as well as their understanding of the plot, characterisation, events and settings of a text.

Exam board

AQA

Key Stage 4

Paper 1:

Section A: Shakespeare text.

Section B: Nineteenth century novel.

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

64 marks

40% of GCSE

Paper 2:

Section A: Modern texts.

Section B: Poetry: Poetry anthology.

Section C: Unseen poetry.

96 marks

60% of GCSE

Paper 1: 40% towards the final exam

Section A: Shakespeare text	Section B : Nineteenth century novel
Macbeth	A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Paper 2: 60 % towards the final exam

Section A: Modern Texts	Section B: Poetry Anthology	Section C: Unseen Poetry
An Inspector Calls by JB Priestley	Power and Conflict	Unseen Poetry

Curriculum Enrichment Opportunities

We will offer optional trips as part of the course each year including: visiting the local Exeter Northcott Theatre and enjoy learning experientially about the social and historical context of both the nineteenth century and Shakespeare texts. Ongoing virtual learnings include live performances at the National Theatre.

Careers

Many of our learners have opted for English Language, English Literature and Media Studies 'A' Level at post 16 level.

Careers can include: journalism, writing, media, marketing and a range of arts administration work.

Online resources

BBC Teach –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1rbtHchv1g&t=5s>

BBC Bitesize -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJKRumxgj-Y>

GCSE pod –

<https://www.youtube.com/user/GCSEPod>

Mr Bruff -

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=mr+bruff+english+literature+paper+1+