

AQA (Code: 8702)

English Literature

This course allows students to study how writers communicate their ideas about the world, and how readers might respond to these ideas. It gives students the opportunity to explore a range of literature which displays recognisable literary qualities and, although shaped by particular contexts, transcends them and speaks about the universality of the human condition.

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

External Examination – 1 hour 45 minutes (40% of the total GCSE marks)

Section A Shakespeare: Students will answer one question on a chosen play. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B The 19th-century novel: Students will answer one question on a chosen novel. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry

External Examination – 2 hours 15 minutes (60% of the total GCSE)

Section A Modern Texts: Students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B Poetry: Students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C Unseen Poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

Possible texts for study:

Macbeth

A Christmas Carol

The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

DNA

Pigeon English

