

English Literature A level

AS Subject content

Paper 1: Love through the ages: Shakespeare and poetry

Study of two texts: one Shakespeare play and one AQA anthology of love poetry through the ages (pre-1900 or post-1900)

Assessed

written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
closed book
50 marks
50% of AS level

Questions

Section A: Shakespeare. One passage-based question with linked essay (25 marks)

Section B: Poetry. One question on printed poem (25 marks)



Paper 2: Love through the ages: prose

Study of two prose texts. Examination will include an unseen prose extract

Assessed

written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes
open book
50 marks
50% of AS level

Questions

Section A: Unseen prose. One compulsory question on unseen prose extract (25 marks)

Section B: Comparing prose texts. One comparative question on two prose texts (25 marks)

English Literature A level

A2 Subject Content

Paper 1: Love through the ages

Study of three texts: one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play. Examination will include two unseen poems

Assessed

- written exam: 3 hours
- open book in Section C only
- 75 marks
- 40% of A-level

Questions

Section A: Shakespeare: one passage-based question with linked

essay (25 marks)

Section B: Unseen poetry: compulsory essay question on two unseen poems (25 marks)

Section C: Comparing texts: one essay question linking two texts (25 marks)

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts

Choice of two options:

Option 2A: WW1 and its aftermath

Option 2B: Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day

Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000

Examination will include an unseen extract

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- open book
- 75 marks
- 40% of A-level

Questions

Section A: Set texts. One essay question on set text (25 marks)

Section B: Contextual linking

- one compulsory question on an unseen extract (25 marks)
- one essay question linking two texts (25 marks)

Non-exam assessment: Independent critical study: texts across time

Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre-1900

One extended essay (2500 words) and a bibliography

Assessed

- 50 marks
- 20% of A-level
- assessed by teachers
- moderated by AQA