

A Level English Literature from 2015 onwards – compared by the National Association for the Teaching of English

	Exam Papers	Non-exam assessment	
AQA A	<p>1: Love through the Ages (40%) 3 hours, closed book/open book 3 set texts (1 drama, 1 poetry, 1 prose, 2 pre-1900) + unseen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: Shakespeare One of Othello/Shrew/Measure/Winter’s Tale (closed book) • B: Unseen poetry Comparative essay on 2 unseen poems • C: Comparative essay <p>2 set texts (open book) - 1 poetry, 1 prose, 1 pre-1900, from: Poetry anthology pre-1900/Poetry anthology post-1900/Persuasion/Jane Eyre/ Wuthering/The Awakening/Tess/Gatsby/Room With View/The Go-Between/Rebecca/Atonement</p>	<p>2: Texts in Shared Contexts (40%) 2.5 hours, open book 3 set texts (1 prose, 1 drama, 1 poetry, 1 post-2000) + unseen Choice of 1 topic from 2:</p> <p>(a) World War One and its aftermath (Prose: Regeneration/ Birdsong; Drama: Lovely War/ Journey’s End; Poetry: Up the Line to Death/Scars Upon My Heart) OR (b) Modern Times 1945-Present Day (Prose: Handmaid/Waterland; Drama: Top Girls/ Streetcar; Poetry: Feminine Gospels/Skirrid Hill)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: <i>Essay</i> – any set text from above • B: <i>Unseen prose extract</i> on chosen topic • C: <i>Comparative essay</i>, linked to unseen by theme, on remaining 2 set texts from above, or from an additional list of suggested texts 	<p>Texts Across Time (20%) 1 essay, 2500 words, 2 texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative essay – 2 texts – free choice, any genre, one must be pre-1900
AQA B	<p>1. Literary Genres: Tragedy OR Comedy (40%) 2 hours 30 mins, closed book - 3 set texts (2 drama, 1 other, 2 pre-1900)</p> <p>(a) Tragedy: Shakespeare: 1 of Othello/King Lear; Other drama: 1 of Salesman/Richard II; Other text: 1 of Gatsby/Tess/Keats/ AQA Poetry Anthology OR (b) Comedy: Shakespeare: 1 of Shrew/12th Night; Other drama: 1 of Stoops/Earnest; Other: 1 of Small Island/Emma/ Nun’s Priest’s Tale/AQA Poetry Anthology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A/B: <i>Shakespeare</i>: passage-based question <i>and</i> essay • C: <i>Other 2 texts</i> (1 pre-1900): comparative essay 	<p>Paper 2: Texts and Genres: Elements of Crime Writing OR Politics/Social Protest Writing (40%) 3 hours, open book - 3 set texts (1 prose, 1 poetry, 1 other any genre, 1 post-2000, 1 pre-1900) + unseen</p> <p>(a) Crime: 1 post-2000 prose, 1 pre-1900 poetry, 1 other text any genre. <i>Post-2000 prose:</i> When Will There Be Good News/Atonement; <i>Pre-1900 poetry:</i> Ancient Mariner/Peter Grimes <i>and</i> Browning monologues; <i>Others:</i> Oliver Twist/Brighton Rock/Hamlet/Murder of Roger Ackroyd OR (b) Politics: 1 post-2000 prose, 1 poetry, 1 other text any genre, 1 pre-1900. <i>Post-2000 prose:</i> Harvest/Kite Runner; <i>Poetry:</i> Innocence&Experience/Harrison ‘v’ etc; <i>Others:</i> Handmaid/Hard Times/Doll’s House/Henry IV:1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: <i>Unseen</i> on chosen topic (any genre) • B: <i>Essay:</i> any set text from above • C: <i>Comparative essay:</i> 2 remaining set texts from above 	<p>Theory and Independence (20%) 2 tasks, 2500-3000 words total 2 texts + critical anthology (1 prose, 1 poetry: free choice) Both tasks linked to critical anthology (theories: narratology, feminism, Marxism, eco-criticism, post-colonialism, literary value and the canon). Each task on a different theory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. <i>Essay on text 1</i> • 2. <i>Essay or re-creative writing on text 2</i>
Edexcel	<p>1. Drama (30%) 2 hours 15 mins, open book 2 set texts + critical anthology Choice of Tragedy or Comedy or both</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: <i>Shakespeare</i> 1 of Lear/Hamlet/A and C/Othello/ MND/ Measure/Taming/12th Night, with Edexcel critical anthology • B: <i>Other Drama</i> 1 of Malfi/Streetcar/Faustus/ Home Place/Earnest/Pitmen Painters/ The Rover/ Godot <p>2. Prose (20%) 1 hour, open book; 2 set texts, 1 pre-1900, 1 post-1900 Choice of 1 topic from 6: (a) Childhood – Maisie Knew/Hard Times/Atonement/ Color Purple; OR (b) Colonisation and its aftermath – Heart of Darkness/ Huck Finn/Passage to India/Lonely Londoners; OR (c) Crime and Detection – Study in Scarlet/Moonstone/In Cold Blood/Murder Room; OR (d) Science and Society – Frankenstein/War of Worlds/Never Let Me Go/ Handmaid; OR (e) Supernatural – Dorian Gray/ Dracula/Little Stranger/ Beloved; OR (f) Women & Society – Wuthering/Tess/Dalloway/Splendid Suns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>One section only: Comparative essay</i> 	<p>3. Poetry (30%) 2 hours 15 mins, open book, 2 set texts + unseen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: <i>Contemporary Poetry:</i> Comparative essay on unseen (post-2000) and 1 poem from set text (Poems of the Decade 2002-11) • B: <i>Poetry Collections:</i> Essay on 1 set text. Choice of periods; set text is either a selection or a single author collection from chosen period: Medieval – Miracle Plays/Wife of Bath; Metaphysical – Selection/Donne; Romantic – Selection/Keats; Victorian – Selection/Rossetti; Modernism – Selection/Eliot; The Movement – Selection/Larkin 	<p>Comparative essay (20%) 2500-3000 words 2 texts, free choice</p> <p>NB: 1 additional set text on any of papers 1-3 must be pre-1900 as well as the Shakespeare (Paper 1) and pre-1900 prose (Paper 2)</p>

OCR	<p>1. Literature (Drama and Poetry) pre-1900 (40%) 2.5 hours, closed book, 3 set texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: Shakespeare <p>1 of Coriolanus/Hamlet/Measure/Rich 3/Tempest/ 12th Night</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B: Drama and poetry pre-1900 <p>Comparative essay. 1 drama, 1 poetry from: <u>Drama</u>: Edward 2/Malfi/Stoops/Doll's House/Ideal Husband; <u>Poetry</u>: Chaucer/Milton/Coleridge/Tennyson/ Rossetti</p>	<p>2. Comparative and contextual study: Prose (40%) 2.5 hours, closed book, 2 set texts</p> <p>Choice of 1 topic from 5: (a) American Lit 1880-1940: Gatsby/Grapes of Wrath, OR (b) Gothic: Dracula/Bloody Chamber, OR (c) Dystopia: 1984/Handmaid's Tale, OR (d) Women in Literature: Sense and Sensibility/Mrs Dalloway, OR (e) Immigration: Call it Sleep/Reluctant Fundamentalist (<i>NB One text may be substituted by another from a longer text list.</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: <i>Unseen prose passage</i> relating to the topic • B: <i>Comparative essay</i> on 2 texts 	<p>Literature post-1900 (20%) 2 tasks, 2500-3000 words 3 post-1900 texts, 1 prose, 1 poetry, 1 drama, one must be post-2000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. Close reading OR re-creative writing with commentary (1 text) • 2. Comparative essay (2 texts) 	
WJEC Eduqas	<p>1. Poetry (30%) 2 hours, open book. 3 set texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: Pre-1900 • B: Post-1900 <p>1 of Chaucer/Donne/Milton/Keats/Rossetti</p> <p>Comparative essay. 1 pair from: Hardy and Eliot/Lawrence and Clarke/Hughes and Plath/Larkin and Duffy/Heaney and Sheers</p>	<p>2. Drama (30%) 2 hours, closed book, 3 set texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: Shakespeare <p>1 of: Lear/A and C/Hamlet/Henry 4:1/ Tempest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B: Drama <p>Comparative essay. 1 pre-1900, one post-1900: 1 pair from: Faustus and Enron/Malfi and Streetcar/ Revenger's Tragedy and Loot/ Lady Windermere's Fan and Betrayal/Measure for Measure and Murmuring Judges</p>	<p>3. Unseen Texts (20%) 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A: Unseen prose from either 1880-1910 or 1918-1939, with short extracts from criticism as stimulus. • B: Unseen poetry from any period 	<p>Prose Study (20%) One essay, 2500-3000 words, 2 texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative essay <p>2 prose texts from different periods, one pre-2000, one post-2000</p>