

# ENGLISH LITERATURE



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This evening we  
are going to  
tell you about:

- Course structure
- Assessment
- Extra resources
- Potential degree and apprenticeship routes from this A-Level
- Subjects that work well with this subject
- Potential career opportunities



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# What our students say:

Literature is a really interesting subject – it's so different to GCSE because we can actually express our opinions about the text and explore a wider range of topics.

We read texts from so many viewpoints of the human experience, helping you become a more rounded person.

I love the debates (sometimes arguments) we have about the different characters and their attributes in English A Level.

I really enjoy analysing existential themes and developing a deeper understanding of how we feel

It is a mix of everything, covering influences from everywhere English comes from

The essay practise and construction is very helpful and can be used in different subjects. The range and time period of novels, plays and poems are also diverse and interesting to read through and pick apart.

# Assessment

## Exam Board: Edexcel

3 External papers examined at the end of year 13. All exams are open book.

### Component 1 – Drama

**2 hours 15 mins**

- ❑ Shakespeare: Hamlet
- ❑ Dr Faustus

### Component 3 – Poetry

**2 hours 15 mins**

- ❑ Poems of the Decade
- ❑ Modernism poetry

### Component 2 – Prose

**1 hour 15 mins**

- ❑ Comparison: The Handmaid's Tale and Frankenstein

### Component 4 – Coursework

**1 x extended comparison between two texts of your choosing**

- ❑ 2500-3000 words
- ❑ No texts in translation



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# Course Structure

Exam Board: Edexcel

Year 12		Year 13	
Teacher 1	Teacher 2	Teacher 1	Teacher 2
The Handmaid's Tale	Poems of the Decade	Modernism Poetry	Dr Faustus
Frankenstein	Hamlet	Coursework	Revision



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# Literature vs Lit/Lang

- Both include coursework which makes up 20% of the grade
- Both require you to read and analyse set texts including Shakespeare and pre-21st Century
- Both have exams that are open book!
- Lit/Lang has non-fiction and includes creative writing as part of the coursework
- Literature involves critical reading of texts and poetry
- Literature is the big ideas and concepts, whereas Lit/Lang is more technical terminology and specificity.



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# What are English Literature lessons like

Multi-layered approach to teaching including:

- Debates
- Group Discussions
- Reading and performance
- Mini games and quizzes
- Exam question activities
- Creative tasks
- Research



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# How will a 100-minute lesson be used ?

- More opportunities to practice academic and literary skills such as debating and discussing to better prepare students for the rigours of university
- More time to read through and examine key scenes across texts in depth
- More opportunities to practice exam skills including extended writing, comparison, critical reception
- More opportunities for critical analysis using wider reading and research



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# Extra resources

Alongside the set texts that we study, you will also be given:

- Articles and critical pieces about the texts
- Access to podcasts and videos exploring texts and critical reception
- Worksheets and booklets to guide critical reception
- Revision guides and resources

- [The Bodleian Libraries \(BODcasts\) | University of Oxford Podcasts](#)
- [Series Listing Page | University of Oxford Podcasts](#)
- [Discovering Literature | The British Library \(bl.uk\)](#)
- [Literature - BBC Culture](#)
- [BBC Sounds - The Sins of Literature - Available Episodes](#)
- [BBC Sounds - In Our Time - Available Episodes](#)



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# Beyond A Level

- English is one of the highest valued A level subjects because it is so wide reaching and covers so many skills
- It is HIGHLY respected by all Higher Education Providers because it shows that you are a critical thinker, capable of producing developed responses and independently completing rigorous tasks

The key skills developed in English are:

- Critical thinking
- Interpretation
- Research
- Considering the impact of context on production
- Structuring an effective argument
- Linguistic manipulation
- Extended writing



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# English works well with every subject

- **The humanities** – how we think about, create, and see the world:

History, Geography, Psychology, Sociology, Economics, Politics, PE, MFL, Business studies

- **The arts** – extended writing, exploration of creativity:

Media, Art, Film, Drama, Graphics, Product Design, Textiles

- **STEM** – alternative ways of thinking, extended writing:

Maths, IT, Computing, Sciences

English Literature is the study of the human world and what it means to be human – this means each subject is reflected in literature!



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# Potential Career Opportunities

- Publishing
- Public Relations
- Journalism/any media role
- Commentator/critic
- Lawyer
- Researcher
- Librarian
- Teacher
- Technical Writer
- Political analyst
- Medicine
- Biochemical Engineering
- Financial advisor
- Accountant
- Veterinarian
- Designer
- Architect
- Criminology
- Forensics
- Business



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