

Course Level

A Level

Awarding Body

AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature.

Assessment

Continuous assessment will be undertaken through tasks designed to test and develop skills for the exam units and in preparation for the coursework folder. The exam units are worth 80% of the total A Level and the coursework is worth 20%.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

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A2 Unit 1: Literary Genres

The aim of this unit is to explore how texts are connected, contrasted and how they have evolved across a literary genre. Students will study aspects of comedy and will cover four texts from the chosen literary genre. The unit spans Shakespeare (Twelfth Night), drama (Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*), pre-1900 prose fiction (Jane Austen's, *Emma*) and a range of both contemporary and pre-1900 poetry). This unit of the course encourages students to develop analytical and academic writing skills, as well as the ability to debate and develop personal opinion.

Linear Exam - 2 hours 30 minutes - Closed Book - 40% of A Level

A2 Unit 2: Texts and Genres

The second unit introduces students to more modern genres; specifically, crime writing. Students will focus on how culture influences these evolving genres and will study three texts including pre-1900 poetry (Oscar Wilde, Robert Browning and George Crabbe), early 20th century crime prose (Agatha Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*) and post-2000 prose (Ian McEwan's *Atonement*). The unit also aims to prepare students for unseen texts, imbuing skills of independent analysis.

Linear Exam - 3 hours - Open Book - 40% of A Level

A2 Unit 3: Theory and Independence

The aim of this coursework-based unit is to allow students to read widely, to choose their own texts and study how different theoretical and critical methods can be applied to literature. From feminist to narrative theory, the students shape their own study, resulting in two pieces of writing (1500 words each), one based on a collection of poetry, and one based on a prose text. The coursework unit is worth 20% of the A Level.

Assessment

Continuous assessment will be undertaken through tasks designed to test and develop skills for the exam units and in preparation for the coursework. The exam units are worth 80% of the total A Level and the coursework is worth 20%.

Career and Progression Opportunities

English Literature offers a wide choice of career options as it is a subject that demands the ability to write well, to think critically and to have personal opinions. It is a subject that mixes easily with other subjects in both Sciences and Arts. Among others, it can form part of entry into Business and Management opportunities, Law, Accountancy and many other careers. English Literature is classified as a 'facilitating' subject; universities regard it as a course that supports and improves your other qualifications.

Link to specification: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-literature-b-7716-7717>