

OxfordAQA

International AS/A-level

English Literature (9675)

Switching guide

Switching from Pearson Edexcel or Cambridge International to OxfordAQA
International Qualifications

Switching to OxfordAQA International AS/A-level English Literature (9675)

This International AS and A-level English Literature specification promotes independent engagement with a wide range of texts studied within a shared context, giving coherence and purpose to how works are grouped.

The carefully curated text lists provide a balance of classic and contemporary prose and poetry, ensuring breadth and depth for both teachers and students. The optional non-exam assessment (NEA) element further allows teachers to adapt the course to reflect their students' individual strengths and interests.

Building directly on the foundations of International GCSE, this specification enables students to consolidate existing knowledge and develop new skills in preparation for their future academic or professional pathways.

A variety of assessment styles—including passage-based questions, analysis of unseen material, and both open- and closed-book formats—encourage students to demonstrate a broad range of abilities. These include critical reading, analysis, evaluation, and independent research, all of which are invaluable for higher education and future careers.

OxfordAQA International AS/A-level English Literature (9675)	Cambridge International AS/A-level English Literature (9695)	Pearson Edexcel International AS level English Literature (XET01)/ A-level English Literature (YET01)
Assessment structure		
This is a modular AS/A-level qualification: - Units 1 + 2 = AS-level - Units 3 + 4 = A2 AS + A2 = A-level AS UNITS Unit 1: Aspects of dramatic tragedy Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 50% of International AS-level 20% of International A-level Closed book <i>Section A: Elizabethan and Jacobean tragedy (25 marks)</i> One passage-based question	Students can take this qualification either as an AS-level or full A-level: - Papers 1 + 2 = AS-level - Papers 1, 2, 3 + 4 = A-level AS UNITS Paper 1: Drama and Poetry Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 50% of International AS-level 250% of International A-level Closed book <i>Section A: Drama (25 marks)</i> One essay question	This is a modular AS/A-level qualification: - Units 1 + 2 = AS-level - Units 3 + 4 = A2 AS + A2 = A-level AS UNITS Unit 1AS: Post-2000 Poetry and Prose Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 50% of International AS-level 25% of International A-level Open book <i>Section A: Post-2000 Poetry (25 marks)</i> Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on the prescribed poems. The essay questions will be comparative covering one named poem, plus a free choice of

<i>Section B: Later dramatic tragedies (25 marks)</i> One essay question. Unit 2: Place in literary texts Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 50% of International AS-level 20% of International A-level Open book <i>Section A: Prose (25 marks)</i> One essay question on prose set text. <i>Section B: Poetry (25 marks)</i> One essay question on poetry set text. A2 UNITS Unit 3: Elements of crime and mystery Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 30% of International A-level Closed book	<i>Section B: Poetry (25 marks)</i> One essay question Paper 2: Prose and Unseen Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 50% of International AS-level 25% of International A-level Closed book <i>Section A: Drama (25 marks)</i> One essay question <i>Section B: Poetry (25 marks)</i> One essay question Paper 3: Shakespeare and Drama Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 25% of International A-level Closed book	second poem from the prescribed list of poems. <i>Section B: Post-2000 Prose (25 marks)</i> Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen prose fiction text. Unit 2AS: Drama Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 50% of International AS-level 25% of International A-level Open book <i>Section A: Pre-1900 Drama (25 marks)</i> Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen text. <i>Section B: Post-1900 Drama (25 marks)</i> Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen text.
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Two essay questions. Unit 4 has two options Unit 4a: Literary representations (exam) Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes 50 marks 30% of International A-level Unseen texts <i>Section A: Prose (25 marks)</i> One essay question on extracts from one or more unseen literary prose texts (fiction or literary non-fiction). <i>Section B: Poetry (25 marks)</i> One essay question on one or more unseen poems. Unit 4b: Literary representations (non-exam assessment) Teacher assessed and OxfordAQA moderated 50 marks 30% of International A-level	<i>Section A: Shakespeare (25 marks)</i> One essay question <i>Section B: Drama (25 marks)</i> One essay question Paper 4: Pre- and Post-1900 Poetry and Prose Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 25% of International A-level Closed book <i>Section A: Pre-1900 Poetry and Prose (25 marks)</i> One essay question <i>Section B: Post-1900 Poetry and Prose (25 marks)</i> One essay question In Paper 4, candidates respond to both a poetry question and a prose question.	A2 UNITS Unit 1A2: Poetry and Prose Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 25% of International A-level Open book <i>Section A: Poetry (20 marks)</i> Students answer one essay question on a post-1900 unseen poem. <i>Section B: Post-1900 Prose (30 marks)</i> Students answer one comparative essay question, from a choice of two, on their two chosen texts from their chosen theme. Unit 2A2: Shakespeare and Pre-1900 Poetry Written exam: 2 hours 50 marks 25% of International A-level Open book
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Study of two texts: one poetry text and one prose text. Two essays of 1,250–1,500 words, each responding to a different text.		<i>Section A: Shakespeare (25 marks)</i> Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen text. <i>Section B: Pre-1900 Poetry (25 marks)</i> Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen movement.
Grading		
AS-level: A-E A-level: A*-E	AS-level: A-E A-level: A*-E	AS-level: A-E A-level: A*-E

Course content		
AS UNITS Unit 1: Aspects of dramatic tragedy <i>Section A: Elizabethan and Jacobean tragedy</i> One from: - William Shakespeare: <i>Othello</i> - William Shakespeare: <i>King Lear</i> - William Shakespeare: <i>Hamlet</i> - Christopher Marlowe: <i>Doctor Faustus</i> (B text) - John Webster: <i>The Duchess of Malf</i> <i>Section B: Later dramatic tragedies</i> One from: - Arthur Miller: <i>Death of a Salesman</i> - Tennessee Williams: <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> - Henrik Ibsen: <i>Hedda Gabler</i> - Samuel Beckett: <i>Waiting for Godot</i> - Brian Friel: <i>Translations</i> Unit 2: Place in literary texts <i>Section A: Prose</i>	Paper 1: Drama and Poetry <i>Section A: Drama</i> One from: - Edward Albee: <i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</i> - Aphra Behn: <i>The Rover</i> - Inua Ellams: <i>Barber Shop Chronicles</i> - William Shakespeare: <i>The Tempest</i> <i>Section B: Poetry</i> One from: - Zaffar Kunial: Selected Poems from <i>England's Green</i> - Sylvia Plath: Selected Poems from <i>Ariel</i> (1965) - Christina Rossetti: Selected Poems from <i>Selected Poems</i> <i>Songs of Ourselves, Volume 2</i>: Selected Poems Paper 2: Prose and Unseen <i>Section A: Prose</i> One from:	Unit 1AS: Post-2000 Poetry and Prose <i>Section A: Post-2000 Poetry</i> <i>Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry 2002-2011</i> <i>Section B: Post-2000 Prose</i> One from: <i>Brooklyn</i>, Colm Tóibín <i>The Kite Runner</i>, Khaled Hosseini <i>The Life of Pi</i>, Yann Martel <i>Purple Hibiscus</i>, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie <i>The White Tiger</i>, Aravind Adiga Unit 2AS: Drama <i>Section A: Pre-1900 Drama</i> One from: <i>Doctor Faustus</i>, Christopher Marlowe <i>Othello</i>, William Shakespeare <i>The Rover</i>, Aphra Behn <i>She Stoops to Conquer</i>, Oliver Goldsmith <i>Twelfth Night</i>, William Shakespeare

One from: • Joseph Conrad: <i>Heart of Darkness</i> • F. Scott Fitzgerald: <i>The Great Gatsby</i> • Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: <i>Americanah</i> • Andrea Levy: <i>Small Island</i> • Aravind Adiga: <i>Last Man in Tower</i> • Kazuo Ishiguro: <i>Remains of the Day</i> <i>Section B: Poetry</i> A selection of poems from the following poets (full list in OxfordAQA AS/A-level English Literature specification document): • William Wordsworth • Robert Frost • Thomas Hardy • Seamus Heaney A2 UNITS Unit 3: Elements of crime and mystery Any two from: • William Shakespeare: <i>Macbeth</i> • Samuel Taylor Coleridge: <i>The Rime of Ancient Mariner</i> • Robert Browning: <i>Selected Poems</i> (The Laboratory, My Last Duchess, Porphyria's	• <i>Stories of Ourselves, Volume 3: Selected Stories</i> • Evelyn Waugh: <i>A Handful of Dust</i> • Colson Whitehead: <i>The Underground Railroad</i> • Tara June Winch: <i>The Yield</i> <i>Section B: Unseen</i> Students will be presented with an unseen text in the exam. Paper 3: Shakespeare and Drama <i>Section A: Shakespeare</i> One from: • William Shakespeare: <i>Henry IV, Part 1</i> • William Shakespeare: <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> <i>Section B: Drama</i> • Lynn Nottage: <i>Sweat</i> • Wole Soyinka: <i>Kongi's Harvest</i> • Timberlake Wertenbaker: <i>Our Country's Good</i> Paper 4 Pre- and Post-1900 Poetry and Prose Learners study two set texts, one from Section A and one from Section B. They	<i>Section B: Post-1900 Drama</i> • <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>, Lorraine Hansberry • <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>, Tennessee Williams • <i>Death of a Salesman</i>, Arthur Miller • <i>Top Girls</i>, Caryl Churchill • <i>Waiting for Godot</i>, Samuel Beckett. A2 UNITS Unit 1A2: Poetry and Prose <i>Section A: Poetry</i> Unseen poem supplied in the exam. <i>Section B: Post-1900 Prose (30 marks)</i> Two prose fiction texts chosen from one of the following four themes <u>Theme 1: Growing Up</u> • <i>The Color Purple</i>, Alice Walker • <i>Great Expectations</i>, Charles Dickens • <i>What Maisie Knew</i>, Henry James <u>Theme 2: Colonisation and After</u> • <i>Heart of Darkness</i>, Joseph Conrad • <i>The Lonely Londoners</i>, Samuel Selvon • <i>A Passage to India</i>, E. M. Forster
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Lover, The Patriot, The Pied Piper of Hamelin, The Confessional, Time's Revenges, Count Gismond) - Charles Dickens: <i>Oliver Twist</i> - Edgar Allan Poe: <i>Collected Stories</i> (The Murders in the Rue Morgue, The Man of the Crowd, The Pit and the Pendulum, The Black Cat, The Tell-Tale Heart, The Purloined Letter, The Fall of the House of Usher) - Robert Louis Stevenson: <i>Collected Stories</i> (Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, The Body Snatcher, Markheim, A Lodging for the Night) - Agatha Christie: <i>The Murder of Roger Ackroyd</i> - Qiu Xiaolong: <i>Death of a Red Heroine</i> - Kate Atkinson: <i>When Will There be Good News?</i> Unit 4 In Unit 4, students will be asked to build upon their understanding of how literature works through looking further at literary representations. In order to give some framework for the possibilities in this unit, four broad areas are identified: - Representations of childhood - Representations of war	must study one poetry text and one prose text. <i>Section A: Pre-1900 Poetry and Prose</i> One from: - Jane Austen: <i>Mansfield Park</i> *George Gordon, Lord Byron: Selected Poems from <i>Selected Poetry</i> *Geoffrey Chaucer: <i>The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale</i> - George Eliot: <i>Middlemarch</i> - Thomas Hardy: <i>Jude the Obscure</i> *William Shakespeare: <i>Selected Sonnets</i> <i>Section B: Post-1900 Poetry and Prose</i> One from: *Elizabeth Bishop: Selected Poems from <i>Poems</i> - J M Coetzee: <i>Waiting for the Barbarians</i> - Katherine Mansfield: Selected Stories from <i>Selected Stories</i> *Gabriel Okara: Selected Poems from <i>Collected Poems (2016)</i> - Richard Powers: <i>The Overstory</i> *Ocean Vuong: Selected Poems from <i>Night Sky with Exit Wounds</i> * Poetry texts are denoted by an asterisk. Candidates must answer one poetry and	<u>Theme 3: Science and Society</u> <i>Frankenstein</i>, Mary Shelley <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>, Margaret Atwood <i>Never Let Me Go</i>, Kazuo Ishiguro. <u>Theme 4: Women and Society</u> <i>Beloved</i>, Toni Morrison <i>Mrs Dalloway</i>, Virginia Woolf <i>Wuthering Heights</i>, Emily Brontë. Unit 2A2: Shakespeare and Pre-1900 Poetry <i>Section A: Shakespeare</i> One Shakespeare drama chosen from: <i>Hamlet</i> <i>King Lear</i> <i>Measure for Measure</i> <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> <i>Section B: Pre-1900 Poetry</i> One specified collection of pre-1900 poems from one literary movement: <u>Metaphysical Poets</u>: prescribed poems from <i>Metaphysical Poetry</i>, Editor Colin Burrow, (Penguin, 2006)
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• Representations of women/men • Representations of race/class/culture Unit 4a: Literary representations (exam) This examination paper will require students to answer two separate questions on unseen texts. There will be one question on prose and one question on poetry. Both questions will be compulsory. The prose can include literary non-fiction. More than one unseen text may be offered in the question. Unit 4b: Literary representations (non-exam assessment) Students must write about one poetry text and one prose text in separate responses. The poetry text must be by a single author. The number of poems which constitute a text should be equivalent to those seen in Unit 2 and Unit 3. If short stories are used, they must be by a single author. The number of stories which constitute a text should be equivalent to those seen in Unit 3.	one prose question, each from a different section of the question paper.	• <u>The Victorians</u>: prescribed poems from <i>The Oxford Book of Victorian Verse</i>, Editor Christopher Ricks, (OUP, 2008) <u>The Romantics</u>: prescribed poems from <i>English Romantic Verse</i>, Editor David Wright, (Penguin Classics, 1973)
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Assessment Objectives		
AO1: Demonstrate understanding of the ways in which readers find meanings in texts, showing an understanding of genre, the significance of contexts, and the ways in which different interpretations can be found. AO2: Analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in literary texts with close attention to authorial methods. AO3: Express informed, personal and argued responses to literary texts, using appropriate concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate writing.	AO1: Knowledge and understanding Respond with understanding to literary texts in a variety of forms, from different cultures; with an appreciation of relevant contexts that illuminate readings of the texts. AO2: Analysis Analyse ways in which writers' choices of language, form and structure shape meanings and effects. AO3: Personal response Produce informed independent opinions and interpretations of literary texts. AO4: Communication Communicate a relevant, structured and supported response appropriate to literary study. AO5: Evaluation of opinion Discuss and evaluate varying opinions and interpretations of literary texts.	AO1: Articulate informed, personal and creative responses to literary texts, using associated concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate written expression. AO2: Analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in literary texts. AO3: Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received. AO4: Explore connections across literary texts. AO5: Explore literary texts informed by different interpretations.

Assessment Objective weightings		
International AS grade: AO1: 33.33% AO2: 33.33% AO3: 33.33% International A-level grade: AO1: 33.33% AO2: 33.33% AO3: 33.33%	International AS grade: AO1: 25% AO2: 25% AO3: 25% AO4: 25% International A-level grade: AO1: 20% AO2: 20% AO3: 20% AO4: 20% AO5: 20%	International AS grade: AO1: 25% AO2: 25% AO3: 25% AO4: 10% AO5: 15% International A-level grade: AO1: 27.5% AO2: 27.5% AO3: 22.5% AO4: 10% AO5: 12.5%