



INTERNATIONAL A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE XET01/YET01

Switching from Cambridge International or OxfordAQA to Pearson Edexcel

Cambridge International AS & A Level in Literature in English (9695) Available June and November	OxfordAQA International AS and A-level English Literature (9675) Available June and January	Pearson Edexcel International A Level English Literature (XET01/YET01) – Modular Available June and January	Notes
Overview			
<p>AS: Candidates take Papers 1 and 2 as examinations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drama and Poetry 2. Prose and Unseen <p>Units are equally weighted and can be either a whole AS or 50% of the A Level course.</p> <p>A Level: Candidates take the AS papers as well as two A Level only papers (3 and 4). All are equally weighted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drama and Poetry 2. Prose and Unseen 3. Shakespeare and Drama 4. Pre- and Post-1900 Poetry and Prose <p>All closed book</p>	<p>AS: Candidates take units 1 and 2 as examinations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aspects of Dramatic Tragedy 2. Place in Literary Texts <p>A Level: Candidates can take the AS units as well as two IA2 units (3 and 4). All are external examinations. Alternatively, students can take the AS units as well as unit 3 as an exam and the non-exam assessment (NEA) equivalent of unit 4.</p> <p>Compulsory</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aspects of Dramatic Tragedy 2. Place in Literary Texts 3. Elements of Crime and Mystery 	<p>AS: Candidates take units 1 and 2 as examinations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post-2000 Poetry and Prose 2. Drama (pre- and post-1900) <p>Units are equally weighted and can be either a whole AS or 50% of the A Level course.</p> <p>A Level: Candidates take the AS units as well as two IA2 units (3 and 4). All are equally weighted, external examinations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post-2000 Poetry and Prose 2. Drama 3. Poetry and Prose 4. Shakespeare and Pre-1900 Poetry <p>All open book</p>	<p>Equivalent four exam pathway available on all for A Level.</p> <p>AS pathway same structure for all three options.</p> <p>OAQA offers optional NEA component instead of fourth exam for A Level.</p> <p>Equally weighted assessments on Pearson and Cambridge; AS and IA2 units weighted differently on OAQA.</p>

	<p>Choice Between 4a. Literary Representations (Exam) Or 4b. Literary Representations (NEA)</p> <p>Weighting differs on AS and A Level:</p> <p><u>AS:</u> Unit 1: 50%, Unit 2: 50%</p> <p><u>A Level:</u> Unit 1: 20%, Unit 2: 20%, Unit 3: 30%, Unit 4a/b: 30%</p> <p>Raw mark of 50 for each unit with scaled UMS mark (20% is 80 and 30% is 120).</p> <p>Mix of open and closed book</p>		<p>Pearson and OAQA offer fully-flexible modularity as opposed to partial modularity.</p> <p>Pearson offers a choice on all questions.</p>
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Assessment Objectives			
<p>AO1: 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.</p> <p>AO2: Analyse ways in which writers' choices of language, form and structure shape meanings and effects.</p> <p>AO3: Produce informed independent opinions and interpretations of literary texts.</p> <p>AO4: Communicate a relevant, structured and supported response appropriate to literary study</p> <p>AO5: Discuss and evaluate varying opinions and interpretations of literary texts.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>AO2: Analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in literary texts with close attention to authorial methods.</p> <p>AO3: Express informed, personal and argued responses to literary texts, using appropriate concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate writing</p> <p>Every assessment assesses every AO.</p>	<p>AO1: Articulate informed, personal and creative responses to literary texts, using associated concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate written expression.</p> <p>AO2: Analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in literary texts.</p> <p>AO3: Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.</p> <p>AO4: Explore connections across literary texts.</p> <p>AO5: Explore literary texts informed by different interpretations.</p>	<p>Pearson includes assessment objective for comparison of literary texts.</p>

Assessments			
<p><u>Paper 1: Drama and Poetry</u> AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (closed book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Drama (25 marks)</u> Answer one question from a choice of two on your set text (extract or non-extract question) A01, A02, A03, A04</p> <p><u>Section B: Poetry (25 marks)</u> Answer one question from a choice of two on your set text (extract or non-extract question) A01, A02, A03, A04</p> <p><u>Paper 2: Prose and Unseen</u> AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (closed book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Prose (25 marks)</u> Answer one question from a choice of two on your set text (extract or non-extract question) A01, A02, A03, A04</p>	<p><u>Unit 1: Aspects of Dramatic Tragedy</u> AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (closed book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Elizabethan and Jacobean tragedy (25 marks)</u> Answer one passage-based question on your set text.</p> <p><u>Section B: Later dramatic tragedies (25 marks)</u> Answer one question on set text.</p> <p><u>Unit 2: Place in Literary Texts</u> AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (open book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Prose (25 marks)</u> Answer one question on your set text.</p> <p><u>Section B: Poetry (25 marks)</u> Answer one question on your set text.</p>	<p><u>Unit 1: Post-200 Poetry and Prose</u> AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (open book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Post-2000 Poetry (25 marks)</u> Students answer one question from a choice of two on the prescribed poems. Comparative essay with one named poem and free choice of second poem (from the prescribed list). A01, A02, A04</p> <p><u>Section B: Post-2000 Prose (25 marks)</u> Students answer one essay questions from a choice of two on their chosen text. A01, A02, A03</p>	<p>All Pearson exams are open book.</p> <p>Pearson AS pathway doesn't include unseen.</p> <p>Unseen element with Pearson not assessed on students' understanding of context and will always only be poetry.</p>

<p><u>Section B: Unseen (25 marks)</u> Answer one question from a choice of two on a piece of unseen literary material (passage provided). Questions will cover two from the following categories: prose, poetry and drama. A01, A02, A03, A04</p> <p><u>Paper 3: Shakespeare and Drama</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (closed book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Shakespeare (25 marks)</u> Answer one question from a choice of two on your set text (extract or non-extract question) A01, A02, A03, A04, A05</p> <p><u>Section B: Drama (25 marks)</u> Answer one question from a choice of two on your set text (extract or non-extract question) A01, A02, A03, A04, A05</p>	<p><u>Unit 3: Elements of Crime and Mystery</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks (closed book)</p> <p>Students answer two questions on texts of choice (25 marks each).</p> <p><u>Unit 4a: Literary Representations</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 30 minutes 50 marks across two sections</p> <p><u>Section A: Prose (25 marks)</u> Answer question on unseen prose (can be literary non-fiction).</p> <p><u>Section B: Poetry (25 marks)</u> Answer question on unseen poem.</p>	<p><u>Unit 2: Drama</u> AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (open book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Pre-1900 Drama (25 marks)</u> Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen drama text. A01, A02, A03, A05</p> <p><u>Section B: Post-1900 Drama (25 marks)</u> Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen drama text. A01, A02, A03, A05</p> <p><u>Unit 3: Poetry and Prose</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (open book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Poetry (20 marks)</u> Students answer one essay question on one unseen post-1900 poem (printed in source booklet) A01, A02</p>	
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<p><u>Paper 4: Pre- and Post-1900 Poetry and Prose</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (closed book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Pre-1900 Poetry and Prose (25 marks)</u> Answer one question from a choice of two on your set text (extract or non-extract question) A01, A02, A03, A04, A05</p> <p><u>Section B: Post-1900 Poetry and Prose (25 marks)</u> Answer one question from a choice of two on your set text (extract or non-extract question) A01, A02, A03, A04, A05</p>	<p><u>Unit 4b: Literary Representations</u> A Level Non-exam assessment 50 marks, two essays of 1,250-1,500 words.</p> <p>Students must write about one prose text and one poetry text (number of poems equivalent to those seen in Unit 2 and 3, must be from a single author).</p>	<p><u>Section B: Prose (30)</u> Students answer one question from a choice of two on their chosen prose texts from their chosen theme. Students will have to compare two prose texts in this response. A01, A02, A03, A04</p> <p><u>Unit 4: Shakespeare and pre-1900 Poetry</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections (open book)</p> <p><u>Section A: Shakespeare (25 marks)</u> Students answer one question from a choice of two on their chosen text. A01, A02, A03, A05</p> <p><u>Section B: Pre-1900 Poetry (25 marks)</u> Students answer one question from a choice of two on their chosen poetry movement. A01, A02, A03, A05</p>	
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Set Texts			
<p>Paper 1: <u>Section A Drama</u> Who's Afraid of Virigina Woolf?, Edward Albee The Rover, Aphra Behn* Barber Shop Chronicles, Inua Ellams The Tempest, William Shakespeare</p> <p><u>Section B: Poetry</u> England's Green, Zaffar Kunail Ariel, Sylvia Plath Selected Poems, Christina Rossetti Songs of Ourselves, Volume 2, Anthology</p> <p>Paper 2: <u>Section A: Prose</u> Stories of Ourselves, Volume 3, Anthology A Handful of Dust, Evelyn Waugh (2027) The Underground Railroad, Colson Whitehead (2027) The Yield, Tara June Winch Graceland, Chris Abani (2028) The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck (2028)</p>	<p>Unit 1: <u>Section A: Elizabethan and Jacobean tragedy</u> Othello, William Shakespeare* King Lear, William Shakespeare Hamlet, William Shakespeare Doctor Faustus (B text), Christopher Marlowe* The Duchess of Malfi, John Webster</p> <p><u>Section B: Later dramatic tragedies</u> Death of a Salesman, Arthur Miller* A Streetcar Named Desire, Tennessee Williams* Hedda Gabler, Henrik Ibsen Waiting for Godot, Samuel Beckett* Translations, Brian Friel</p> <p>Unit 2: <u>Section A: Prose</u> Heart of Darkness, Josphe Conrad* The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald Americanah, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie Small Island, Andrew Levy</p>	<p>Unit 1: <u>Section A: Post-2000 Poetry</u> Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry 2002–2011, Anthology</p> <p><u>Section B: Post-2000 Prose</u> Brooklyn, Colm Tóibín The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini The Life of Pi, Yann Martel Purple Hibiscus, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie The White Tiger, Aravind Adiga</p> <p>Unit 2: <u>Pre-1900 Drama</u> Doctor Faustus, Christopher Marlowe Othello, William Shakespeare The Rover, Aphra Behn She Stoops to Conquer, Oliver Goldsmith Twelfth Night, William Shakespeare</p> <p><u>Post-1900 Drama</u> A Raisin in the Sun, Lorraine Hansberry A Streetcar Named Desire, Tennessee Williams Death of a Salesman, Arthur Miller Top Girls, Caryl Churchill</p>	<p>Set texts studied on the Cambridge qualification vary for each year of the specification. The ones listed here are those studied across 2027–28.</p> <p>Pearson texts stay the same for the lifetime of the specification.</p> <p>Pearson prose texts are grouped by theme.</p>

<p>Paper 3: <u>Section A: Shakespeare</u> Henry IV, Part 1, William Shakespeare The Taming of the Shrew, William Shakespeare (2027) The Winter's Tale, William Shakespeare (2028)</p> <p><u>Section B: Drama</u> Our Country's Good, Timberlake Wertenbaker Sweat, Lynn Nottage (2027) Kongi's Harvest, Wole Soyinka (2027) Dunsinane, David Grieg (2028) August: Osage Country, Tracy Letts (2028)</p> <p>Paper 4: <u>Section A: Pre-1900 Poetry and Prose</u> Mansfield Park, Jane Austen Selected Poetry, George Gordon, Lord Byron The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale, Geoffrey Chaucer Jude the Obscure, Thomas Hardy Selected Sonnets, William Shakespeare Middlemarch, George Eliot (2027)</p>	<p>Last Man in Tower, Aravind Adiga Remains of the Day, Kazuo Ishiguro</p> <p><u>Section B: Poetry</u> Selected poetry of: William Wordsworth Robert Frost Thomas Hardy Seamus Heaney</p> <p>Unit 3: Macbeth, William Shakespeare The Rime of the Ancient Mariner, Samuel Taylor Coleridge Selected poetry of Robert Browning Oliver Twist, Charles Dickens Collected stories of Edgar Allan Poe Collected stories of Robert Louis Stevenson The Murder of Roger Ackroyd, Agatha Christie Death of a Red Heroine, Qiu Xiaolong When Will There be Good News?, Kate Atkinson</p>	<p>Waiting for Godot, Samuel Beckett</p> <p>Unit 3: <u>Section B: Prose</u> <u>Theme 1: Growing Up</u> The Colour Purple, Alice Walker Great Expectations, Charles Dickens What Maisie Knew, Henry James</p> <p><u>Theme 2: Colonisation and After</u> Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad The Lonely Londoners, Samuel Selvon A Passage to India, E. M. Forster</p> <p><u>Theme 3: Science and Society</u> Frankenstein, Mary Shelley The Handmaid's Tale, Margaret Atwood Never Let Me Go, Kazuo Ishiguro</p> <p><u>Theme 4: Women and Society</u> Beloved, Toni Morrison Mrs Dalloway, Virginia Woolf Wuthering Heights, Emily Brontë</p>	
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<p>A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens (2028)</p> <p><u>Section B: Post-1900 Poetry and Prose</u></p> <p>Poems, Elizabeth Bishop</p> <p>Waiting for the Barbarians, J M Coetzee</p> <p>Selected Stories, Katherine Mansfield</p> <p>The Overstory, Richard Powers</p> <p>Night Sky with Exist Wounds, Ocean Vuong</p> <p>Collected Poems, Gabriel Okara (2027)</p> <p>Collected Poems, Chinua Achebe (2028)</p>		<p>Unit 4:</p> <p><u>Section A: Shakespeare</u></p> <p>Hamlet, William Shakespeare</p> <p>King Lear, William Shakespeare</p> <p>Measure for Measure, William Shakespeare</p> <p>The Taming of the Shew, William Shakespeare</p> <p><u>Section B: Pre-1900 Poetry</u></p> <p>Metaphysical Poetry, editor Colin Burrow</p> <p>English Romantic Verse, editor David Wright</p> <p>The New Oxford Book of Victorian Verse, editor Christopher Ricks</p>	
*Also on the Pearson set text list			

SUMMARY OF KEY DIFFERENCES:

- No unseen prose on Pearson specification
- An array of different set texts
- No NEA option on Pearson or Cambridge
- No extract questions on Pearson exams
- No rotation of set texts with Pearson or OxfordAQA. Set texts are valid for the lifetime of the specification
- Assessment of comparison of literary texts on Pearson specification
- All Pearson exams are open book
- Students have a choice of question on every section of every paper with Pearson
- Pearson and OxfordAQA offer fully-flexible modularity as opposed to partial modularity

KEY SIMILARITIES THAT AID SWITCHOVER:

- Pathway available on each qualification for four externally examined units (covering poetry, prose and drama)
- Some set texts on Cambridge and OxfordAQA also on Pearson
- June availability for all with a second entry point (Pearson and OxfordAQA in January)