

Switching to OCR from Eduqas

Introduction

Whether taking on the AS or the full A Level, this innovative course is structured to underpin the knowledge and understanding needed for the next generation of thoughtful and passionate critical readers and writers. So why choose OCR's English Language and Literature?

- The specification is stimulating and varied to teach and learn, giving students the essentials for related higher education courses as well as many transferable, marketable skills for a range of possible career paths
- Developed in partnership with The English and Media Centre (EMC)
- The course supports the development of the key skills and concepts in the study of both language *and* literature in a clear, coherent way
- There are opportunities for personal, tailored choices of texts for study
- There are opportunities for genuine creative writing within both the non-examined assessment (NEA) and an examined component.

How do I find out more?

- Visit our [A/AS Level English Language and Literature \(EMC\) subject webpage](#) to access the specification, specimen assessment materials and a wide range of free support materials, from teacher guides to delivery guides, lesson elements, practical activities, candidate exemplars and more.
- Join our conversation on the [OCR Community](#) and [@ocr_english](#) to exchange ideas and information and share good practice.

Key differences

OCR English Language and Literature	Eduqas English Language and Literature
Our specification was developed in partnership with the EMC and incorporates their well respected approach to English pedagogy.	Genre-based grouping of texts across the three examined units and one NEA.
We provide a high quality anthology of non-fiction texts, from a wide range of sources and time periods. This collection is diverse and non-themed to allow real variety and aid with flexibility and differentiation in your teaching approach.	Learners prepare for unseen non-literary texts linked by theme, content or style.
We have a straightforward assessment structure that is easy for teachers and learners to understand with a clearly defined focus for each component.	Exam lengths are all two hours but not all units have the same percentage weighting.
There's an exciting list of set texts to choose from as well as free choice of non-fiction for the second text for the NEA.	Learners undertake a prose genre study for Section A of the NEA i.e. select one set text from a range of given literary/non-literary prose genres plus at least one related free choice text within the same genre.
There are genuine creative writing opportunities in both an examined component (H474/03) and the NEA.	Two pieces of 'related creative writing' produced for NEA, one of which must be of the same genre studied in Section A of the NEA.
Original writing a feature of both the AS and the A Level, allowing learners to demonstrate their understanding of non-fiction forms (AS Level) and narrative prose (A Level) implicitly and creatively, and support this with an analytical commentary.	Original writing in the examination only available at AS level. Understanding of prose narrative at A Level assessed by examination question on set-text alone.
We offer an exciting choice of poetry collections, including both contemporary and classic poetry.	Learners study a WJEC Pre-1914 Poetry Anthology.

Content

We've structured the AS to maximise opportunities for co-teaching with the A level, and you can [find out more about co-teachability](#) in our guide.

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<p>Set texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OCR/EMC anthology of non-fiction texts One poetry collection (from a choice of six) One prose text (from a choice of six) One drama text (from a choice of six) NEA - one non-fiction text (from a choice of 12) and one other free choice <p>Four texts are assessed in the exams, and two in the non-examined assessment</p>	<p>Set texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Shakespeare play (from a choice of five) WJEC Pre-1914 poetry anthology One prose text (from a choice of four) One post-1900 drama text (from a choice of five) One non-literary text (from a choice of five) for examination; one literary/non-literary (from a choice of between eleven and eighteen texts for each NEA prescribed non-literary genre) <p>Five texts are assessed for examination and two in the non-examined assessment</p>
<p>Poetry choices: – Blake – Dickinson – Heaney – Boland – Duffy – Sam-La Rose</p> <p>Prose choices: – Jane Eyre – The Great Gatsby – Things Fall Apart, God of Small Things – Atonement – The Namesake</p> <p>Drama choices: – Othello – The Importance of Being Earnest – A Streetcar Named Desire – Translations – Our Country's Good – Jerusalem</p>	<p>Poetry choices: WJEC Pre-1900 anthology of forty poems ranging from Christopher Marlowe's <i>The Passionate Shepherd</i> to WB Yeats' <i>He Wishes For The Cloths of Heaven</i></p> <p>Prose choices: - Jane Eyre - Great Expectations - Atonement - The Remains of the Day - The Color Purple</p> <p>Drama choices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post 1900 - Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? - The History Boys - Translations - Kindertransport - Cat on a Hot Tin Roof Shakespeare: - Antony and Cleopatra - King Lear - Much Ado About Nothing - Othello - The Tempest

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Non-fiction text choices: - Down and Out in Paris and London – Skating to Antarctica – Stuart: A Life Backwards – Hyperbole and a Half – The Lost Continent – I Am The Secret Footballer – Stasiland – Why Be Happy When You Could be Normal – The Examined Life – Twelve Years a Slave – What the Chinese Don't Eat – In Cold Blood	Non-literary text choices: - Once in a House on Fire - In Cold Blood - Skating to Antarctica - A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius - Homage to Catalonia (for examination) plus one from a series of prescribed lists for NEA

Assessment

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AS Component 1: Non-fiction written and spoken texts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of AS • Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes • 50 marks 	AS Component 1: Comparative Analysis and Creative Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40% of AS • Written paper 2 hours • 80 marks
Section A: Reading spoken and written non-fiction One question comparing two texts from the non-fiction anthology (30 marks)	Section A: Comparative analysis of poetry and unseen text (closed-book) One question comparing a poem from the WJEC anthology with one of two printed unseen texts, one of which will be spoken language
Section B: Writing non-fiction One creative writing task from a choice of three (20 marks)	Section B: Creative writing and commentary Two writing tasks: (a) original writing in any given genre (b) original writing of a spoken language text plus commentary

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<p>AS Component 2: The language of literary texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of AS • Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes • 50 marks <p>Section A: The language of prose</p> <p>One compulsory question on prose set text (25 marks)</p> <p>Section B: The language of poetry</p> <p>One compulsory question on poetry set text (25 marks)</p>	<p>AS Component 2: Drama and Non-literary Texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60% of AS • Written paper 2 hours • 120 marks <p>Section A: Post-1900 drama</p> <p>One question from a choice of two. Each question has two parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> close language study of an extract from the studied play an extended response on the rest of the play including consideration of the significance and influence of relevant contexts <p>Section B: Non-literary text study</p> <p>One question from a choice of two on the non-literary set text</p>
<p>A level Component 1: Exploring non-fiction written and spoken texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16% of A level • Written paper 1 hour • 32 marks <p>One compulsory question comparing one anthology set text with and unseen text (32 marks)</p>	<p>A level Component 1: Poetry and Prose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30% of A level • Written paper 2 hours • 120 marks <p>Section A: Poetry</p> <p>One question from a choice of two, requiring candidates to select poetry from the anthology, and make connections between their selected poetry and a previously unseen text printed on the examination paper (60 marks)</p> <p>Section B: Prose</p> <p>One question which will be presented in two separate but linked parts: part (i) is extract-based and focuses on close language study; part (ii) requires an extended response relating to the rest of the prose text (60 marks)</p>

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<p>A level Component 2: The language of poetry and plays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32% of A level • Written paper 2 hours • 64 marks <p>Section A: Poetry: Poetic and stylistic analysis One compulsory question on poetry set text (32 marks)</p> <p>Section B: Plays: dramatic and stylistic analysis One compulsory question on drama set text (32 marks)</p>	<p>A level Component 2: Drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30% of A level • Written paper 2 hours • 120 marks <p>Section A: Shakespeare One compulsory extract-based task focusing on close-reading and one extended response demonstrating whole-play knowledge, from a choice of two (72 marks)</p> <p>Section B: Post-1900 Drama One question from a choice of two on drama set text (48 marks)</p>
<p>A level Component 3: Reading as a writer, writing as a reader</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32% of A level • Written paper 2 hours • 64 marks <p>Section A: Reading as a writer One question from a choice of two on prose set text (32 marks)</p> <p>Section B: Writing as a reader One creative writing task from a choice of two (18 marks) Critical commentary (14 marks)</p>	<p>A level Component 3: Non-Literary Texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20% of A level • Written paper 2 hours • 80 marks <p>Section A: Comparative analysis of spoken non-literary texts One question in which candidates produce a comparative analysis of three unseen spoken language non-literary texts of different genres, chosen from a range of types and periods (40 marks)</p> <p>Section B: Non-literary text study One compulsory question in two parts on a prepared set text: part (i) is extract-based and focuses on close language study; part (ii) requires an extended response relating to the rest of the text (40 marks)</p>

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<p>Component 4: Non-examined assessment Analysing and producing texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20% of A level • 40 marks <p>Task 1: Analytical comparative essay on a set text from a list of 12 non-fiction texts and a second free choice text One text must be post-2000 (24 marks)</p> <p>Task 2: Learners also produce a piece of original non-fiction writing (16 marks)</p>	<p>Component 4: Non-examined assessment Critical and Creative Genre Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20% of A level • 80 marks <p>Task 1: Genre study A study based on the reading of a prose text from a list of approved texts and related wider reading from one of a series of literary/non-literary prose texts in same genre (40 marks)</p> <p>Task 2: Related Creative Writing Two pieces of writing: one literary in style and the other non-literary. One of the pieces of writing must be in the same genre as that studied in Section A (40 marks)</p>

Want to switch to OCR?

If you're an OCR-approved centre, all you need to do is download the specification and start teaching.

Your exams officer can complete an [intention to teach form](#) which enables us to provide appropriate support. When you're ready to enter your students, you just need to speak to your exams officer to make estimated entries then confirmed entries by the specified deadline ahead of the examination session.

If you are not already an OCR-approved centre please refer your exams officer to the [centre approval section](#) of our website.

Next steps

1. Familiarise yourself with the specification, sample assessment materials and teaching resources on the [A/AS Level English Language and Literature \(EMC\)](#) qualification page of the OCR website.
2. Get a login for our secure extranet, Interchange – allows you to access the latest past/practice papers and use our results analysis service, Active Results.
3. Sign up to receive [subject updates](#) by email.
4. Sign up to attend a [training event](#) or take part in webinars on specific topics running throughout the year and/or to join our Q&A webinar sessions every half term.
5. Attend one of our free [teacher network events](#).
6. When you're ready to plan text pairings and task titles with your learners for the NEA component, first take a look at our [Non-exam assessment guide](#).
7. Then submit your tasks using the [Text and Task proposal form](#) before your learners begin work on their tasks.