

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Specification: EDEXCEL

The coverage of texts in A' level English Language and Literature is broad; in addition to the study of fiction texts, it includes the study of non-fiction spoken and written texts as well as providing exciting opportunities for creative writing. If you can take a text and find the themes, plus connect it with other texts, theories and historical events, you are demonstrating that you can handle complex ideas, search for patterns and interpret information in a wider context.

The skills being tested in the language components of this A' level are somewhat different from those tested at GCSE. Nonetheless, A' level English Language and Literature holds obvious attractions for those who enjoyed the creative aspects of English Language GCSE and the opportunities it afforded to consider non-literary forms of writing.

Bishop Stopford School

faith | justice | responsibility | truth | compassion

SUBJECT CONTENT

Unit 1: Voices in Speech and Writing

Edexcel: Anthology

Drama text: Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*

Unit 2: Varieties in Language and Literature

Core Text: F Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*

Either: Shakespeare's *Othello*

OR: Philip Larkin's *The Whitsun Weddings*



Unit 3: NEA – two original writing texts and a commentary.

EXAM ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Voices in Speech and Writing

Section A: one question comparing an Anthology text and an unseen text.

Section B: One question on *All My Sons*

50 marks (25 for each section)

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes

Externally assessed written examination

Open book

40% of final A' level

Paper 2: Varieties in Language and Literature

Section A: one question analysing an unseen non-fiction text.

Section B: One question comparing the two set texts – *The Great Gatsby* compared to either *Othello* or *The Whitsun Weddings*.

50 marks (20 for Section A, 30 for Section B)

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes

Externally assessed written examination

Open book

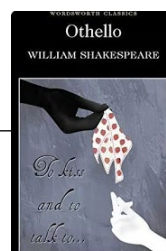
40% of final A' level

NEA (Coursework)

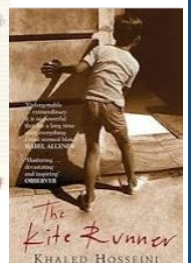
- A piece of fiction (with *The Kite Runner* as stimulus material)
- A piece of non-fiction (with *Cupcakes and Kalashnikovs* as stimulus material)
- A commentary, analysing both texts.

These papers will assess the ability to:

- develop and apply understanding of the linguistic and literary concepts and methods
- engage creatively and critically with a wide range of texts
- explore the ways in which texts relate to each other and the contexts in which they are produced and received
- develop skills as producers and interpreters of language
- undertake independent and sustained studies to develop their skills as producers and interpreters of language.



Philip Larkin
The Whitsun Weddings



Enrichment:

Theatre productions of the set texts.

For further details please contact Mrs Pointer.