

How the Course is Made Up

Unit	Method	Contribution	Amount/Length
Unit 1: (F661) Poetry and Prose	Externally assessed written paper (closed text)	AS 60%/A2 30%	2 hours
Unit 2: (F662) Literature Post 1900	Internally assessed coursework (TWO pieces)	AS 40%/A2 20%	Task 1: 1000 words Task 2: 2000 words
Unit 3: (F663) Drama and Poetry pre 1800	Externally assessed written paper (closed text)	A2 30%	2 hours
Unit 4: (F664) Texts in Time	Internally assessed coursework	A2 20%	3000 words

Assessment Objectives

Please note that these are different to the previous A level.

Candidates are expected to demonstrate the following in the context of the content described:

AO1 Communication and Presentation

Articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression.

AO2 Analysis and Understanding

Demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts.

AO3 Knowledge, Understanding and Evaluation

Explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers.

AO4 Knowledge and Understanding

Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

Unit 1

Poetry and Prose

1800-1945

Poetry 1800 - 1945

You will study a novel and a collection of poems. **This is worth 60% of the AS marks.**
You do not take either text into the examination room (closed book).

The breakdown of marks is as follows: AO1 10%, AO2 25%, AO3 10% and AO4 15%.
This makes AO2 the most important element in this paper.

A poet from the following list will be chosen by your teacher:

- W Wordsworth
- C Rossetti
- W Owen
- R Frost

It is highly unlikely we would chose to teach Rossetti, but the poems for the other poets are printed on the next page.

You will study a collection of approximately fifteen poems. You will need to annotate the poems and learn some quotations. The examination board will chose ONE poem, which will be printed on the examination paper. You will write an essay answer on this question.

You will be given poems on A4 paper ready to put in your file.

Candidates are assessed on:

AO1: articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression;

AO2: demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts;

AO4: demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

William Wordsworth

'Animal Tranquillity and Decay' with 'Old Man Travelling'
'Simon Lee, the Old Huntsman'
'Anecdote for Fathers'
'Expostulation and Reply' with 'The Tables Turned'
'The Fountain'
'Strange fits of passion'
'There Was a Boy'
'Nutting'
'The world is too much with us' with 'Composed upon Westminster Bridge'
'The Solitary Reaper'
'Elegiac Stanzas Suggested by a Picture of Peele Castle'
'St Paul's'

Wilfred Owen

'Strange Meeting'
'Insensibility'
'Apologia Pro Poemate Meo'
'Anthem for Doomed Youth' with 'Arms and the Boy'
'The Exposure'
'The Show'
'Dulce et Decorum Est'
'Futility' with 'The Last Laugh'
'The Sentry'
'Disabled'
'Mental Cases'
'Miners'
'A Terre'

Robert Frost

'Mending Wall'
'The Black Cottage'
'After Apple-Picking'
'The Road not Taken'
'Birches'
'Out, Out—'
'The Sound of Trees'
'To E.T.'
'Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening'
'Two Look at Two'
'Gathering Leaves'
'Desert Places'
'A Leaf-Treader'
'Neither Out Far nor in Deep'
'There are Roughly Zones'

Prose 1800 - 1945

The novel will be selected by your teacher from the following list:

Jane Austen - *Pride and Prejudice*
Emily Brontë - *Wuthering Heights*
Thomas Hardy - *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*
Edith Wharton - *The Age of Innocence*
F. Scott Fitzgerald - *The Great Gatsby*
Evelyn Waugh - *A Handful of Dust*

You will need to annotate the novel and learn quotations. The examination board will set TWO questions; this means you have a choice. You will write an essay answer on one question.

You will need to purchase a copy of the text. You will be told which text you are doing by your teacher.

Your teacher will be encouraging you to look at critical resources. Some of this will be done formally in class, but it is a good idea to be looking at critical texts - you could even look at the E magazine in the library!

Complementary literary critical texts supporting Section B: Prose

The following texts are recommended to support reading and understanding of the set texts for Section B: Prose. Teachers and candidates may find it useful to refer to selected sections or chapters rather than to cover the whole text.

Montgomery/Durant/Fabb/Furniss/Mills - *Ways of Reading*, Routledge (978 0415346344)

Malcolm Peet and David Robinson - *Leading Questions: a Course in Literary Appreciation*, Nelson (0 174 323379)

Robert Eaglestone - *Doing English*, Routledge (0 415 28423 6)

David Lodge - *The Art of Fiction*, Penguin (0 140 17492 3)

Candidates are assessed on:

AO1: articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression;

AO2: demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts;

AO3: explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers;

AO4: demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

Unit 2

Literature

post -1900

You will produce close critical analysis of three texts in coursework essay form. One shorter essay will be based on one text and the other will be comparing the other two texts. This is worth 40% of the AS marks.

The breakdown of marks is as follows: AO1 10%, AO2 10%, AO3 10% and AO4 10%. Both papers are assessed for AO1, but the marking is otherwise different.

It is a requirement that one text was published or performed after 1990.

The first piece of coursework will be on one of these texts. It will be due in before the break for Christmas. This piece will be 1000 words in length.

You will begin the study of the other two texts before the Christmas break. You will produce an essay of 2000 words comparing the two texts (they will have been thematically linked). This will be due in before the end of April.

Task 1: Close reading (15 marks)

Candidates are required to write a close critical analysis of a section of their chosen text.

Candidates are assessed on:

AO1: articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression;

AO2: demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts.

Task 2: Essay on linked texts (25 marks)

Candidates are required to produce an essay on contrasts and comparisons across two texts.

Candidates are assessed on:

AO1: articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression;

AO3: explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers;

AO4: demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

Unit 3

Drama and Poetry pre-1800

You will study a play from Shakespeare and a play and a collection of poems. This is worth 30% of the A2 marks. You do not take texts into the examination room (closed book).

The breakdown of marks is as follows: AO1 10%, AO2 25%, AO3 10% and AO4 15%. This makes AO2 the most important element in this paper.

The Shakespeare text will be chosen by your teacher. The school will loan a text to you, but you may find that purchasing an ARDEN SHAKESPEARE copy of the text is helpful. You **MUST** return the text at the end of the course or you will be charged for a replacement. There will be a choice of two questions on your text; you answer one question.

The Shakespeare texts are as follows:

Henry IV Part 1
Twelfth Night
Othello
The Winter's Tale

Candidates are assessed on:

AO1: articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression;

AO2: demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts;

AO3: explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers.

AO4: demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

The **drama and poetry texts** will be selected by your teacher, but you will need to purchase copies. You will be advised which copies before the A2 course begins. The teacher will select from the following list:

Drama

Christopher Marlowe - *Doctor Faustus*
John Webster - *The Duchess of Malfi*
Richard Brinsley Sheridan - *School for Scandal*
Aphra Behn - *The Rover*

Poetry

Geoffrey Chaucer - *The Pardoner's Tale*
John Milton - *Paradise Lost Book One*
John Donne - *Selected Poems*
Alexander Pope - *The Rape of the Lock*

There will be a choice of six different questions. Candidates will select ONE question that they feel best suits their texts. You must base your answer on a comparative study with substantial discussion of both texts.

Candidates are assessed on:

AO1: articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression;

AO2: demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts;

AO3: explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers;

AO4: demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

Unit 4

Texts in Time

You will study **three** related texts of any genre and time period. Candidates will submit an extended individual essay of 3000 in which they have make a comparative analysis of the texts. This is worth 20% of the A2 course.

The breakdown of marks is as follows: AO1 3.75%, AO2 3.75%, AO3 6.25% and AO4 6.25%.

There is some independence in this coursework, but it is inevitable that we will have to restrict choice as otherwise it will become too difficult to supervise. This must include one prose and one poetry text. The third text can be from any genre. Texts can be selected from any period and also across periods, depending on candidates' interests.

One literary text may be a [significant/influential] text in translation.

One text may be a work of literary criticism or cultural commentary.

Note: The texts chosen must not appear on any of the set text lists for the externally-assessed units at AS and A Level and must not overlap with texts studied for AS Unit F662.

Candidates are assessed on:

AO1: articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression;

AO2: demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts;

AO3: explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers;

AO4: demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

Homeworks

You can expect to receive homework from each of your lessons, these may not always be written, but each task must be completed and the relevant time spent upon it.

These are the types of homework tasks you can expect at AS/A2 level:

- Preparatory reading - being ready to discuss points in a lesson
- Note-taking or compiling comparison charts
- Essay preparation and writing
- Preparing a seminar
- Researching a topic using articles
- Writing short pieces to explore areas of a text
- Revising texts for a timed assignment
- Watching a certain text for a critique
- Preparatory work for a practical piece

Meeting Deadlines

Frequently you will be asked to prepare work for the next lesson and so must ensure that this work is complete if you are to move forward and add to your knowledge of the text. Essays are set throughout the course and the deadlines are set by the class teacher; you can usually expect one week to complete these, although it may vary according to the stage of the course.

If you are unable to meet a deadline for a particular reason, you must approach the class teacher to obtain an extension before the work is due, presenting your work so far. You must be aware that this is at the discretion of your teacher and you should, at all times, aim to complete work for the deadline set.

You have two coursework deadlines in AS. One will be before the December holidays and one will be in April. The drafting will take place over a number of weeks, with tutorials and editing before the final version is handed in. Your teacher will tell you the deadlines well in advance. You will need to be organised as your success is directly related to your ability to meet these deadlines.

Texts in Time is a large piece of work and is your main deadline in the A2 course. We need to look in more detail at the shape of the course before a provisional deadline for this is agreed, but it is likely to be in April. It is anticipated that the majority of the work will be done as an independent study, so you will need to complete work on your own and research appropriately in order to complete the task. Your teacher will be happy to arrange tutorials and give feedback; **DO NOT LEAVE THIS UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE.**

Your draft will be marked and advice given; the teacher may highlight areas of structure or points that need developing further. All work will be set to fulfil specific assessment criteria - as you have your own copy of these, you can see what needs to be covered too.

How you may be asked to 'edit' to improve your grade

- Using points to a greater extent and finding more evidence to support points
- Looking a little wider than the text and bringing in the opinions of other critics
- Making the language more formal; you may have to use a thesaurus to vary your vocabulary and remove chatty phrases.
- Change the structure of the essay so that the argument is more logical - this could be shortening paragraphs, or moving paragraphs around. You may be asked to photocopy your essay and chop up the paragraphs in order to help you reorganise them.

Getting feedback on essays

Your final essay will be marked and graded according to the assessment criteria. For AS, the coursework mark for this will be out of 15 (1000 words) and out of 25 (2000 words). With A2 coursework, there will be a mark out of 15.

For other essays, you can expect to receive a mark out of 30, and/or a grade. This is because the examination essays are marked out of thirty.

The comments on your work will be linked to the band; normally there will be comment on what you have done well - the strengths of the essay, targets for the next piece or areas that require change. You should always discuss this with your teacher if there is any confusion - we want you to understand how to improve!

Your teacher may ask you to repeat a piece of work, or just a few paragraphs, to show that you have understood a skill or technique. Please do this promptly without complaint.

This handbook is available on the school website:

www.skinner-school.co.uk

Details about the OCR course can be downloaded from the examination board:

www.ocr.org.uk