

GCE AS/A level English Language Literature 2015

Specification at a glance: A level and AS level

A level

Component 1: Voices in Speech and Writing		40% weighting
Content	Assessment	
<p>Students study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> voices in speech and writing in literary, non-literary and digital texts <i>Voices in Speech and Writing: An Anthology</i> - non-literary and digital texts from the 20th and 21st centuries one drama text from a prescribed list. 	<p>Paper length: 2 hours and 30 minutes</p> <p>Section A – one comparative essay question on an unseen extract selected from 20th or 21st century sources and one text from the Anthology</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4 assessed 25 marks</p> <p>Section B – Drama Texts: one extract-based essay question on the chosen drama text</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3 assessed 25 marks</p>	
Component 1: Texts		
<p><i>Voices in Speech and Writing: An Anthology</i>. A free anthology of 20th and 21st century non-literary texts. Hard copy for every student</p> <p>One drama text from the following:</p> <p><i>All My Sons, A Streetcar Named Desire, Elmina's Kitchen, Equus, The History Boys, Top Girls, Translations</i></p>		

Component 2: Varieties in Language and Literature

40% weighting

Content	Assessment
<p>Students study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one compulsory prose fiction text (anchor text) from a choice of two plus one other literary text from a chosen theme. <p>Both anchor texts may be studied if desired.</p>	<p>Paper length: 2 hours and 30 minutes</p> <p>Section A – one essay question on an unseen prose non-fiction extract. The unseen extract is linked to the studied theme</p> <p>AO1, AO2 and AO3 assessed 20 marks</p> <p>Section B – Prose Fiction and Other Genres: ONE essay question on one prose fiction anchor text and one other text from a theme</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO4 assessed 30 marks</p>

Component 2: Themes and texts

One prose fiction anchor text plus one other text from the following:

(Both anchor texts may be studied if desired)

Society and the Individual

Prose fiction anchor texts: *The Great Gatsby*, F Scott Fitzgerald or *Great Expectations*, Charles Dickens

Other texts:

The Bone People, Keri Hulme; *Othello*, William Shakespeare; *A Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry; *The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale*, Geoffrey Chaucer; *The Whitsun Wedding*, Philip Larkin

Love and Loss

Prose Fiction anchor texts: *A Single Man*, Christopher Isherwood or *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, Thomas Hardy

Other texts:

Enduring Love, Ian McEwan; *Much Ado About Nothing*, William Shakespeare; *Betrayal*, Harold Pinter; *Metaphysical Poetry*, ed. Colin Burrow; *Sylvia Plath Selected Poems*, Sylvia Plath

Encounters

Prose fiction anchor texts: *A Room with a View*, E M Forster or *Wuthering Heights*, Emily Bronte

Other texts:

The Bloody Chamber, Angela Carter; *Hamlet*, William Shakespeare; *Rock 'N' Roll*, Tom Stoppard, *The Waste Land and Other Poems*, T S Eliot, *The New Penguin Book of Romantic Poetry*, ed. Jonathon Wordsworth

Crossing Boundaries

Prose Fiction anchor texts: *Wild Sargasso Sea*, Jean Rhys or *Dracula*, Bram Stoker

Other texts:

The Lowland, Jhumpa Lahiri; *Twelfth Night*, William Shakespeare; *Oleanna*, David Mamet; *Goblin Market*, *The Prince's Progress and Other Poems*, Christina Rossetti; *North*, Seamus Heaney

Component 3: Coursework

20% weighting

Students study:

- a free choice of 2 texts. One must be fiction and one non-fiction

Fiction texts may be selected from genres such as prose fiction, poetry, drama or short stories.

Non-fiction texts may be selected from genres such as travel writing, journalism, collections of letters, diaries and reportage

Overview of assessment

Students produce two pieces of creative writing and one commentary:

- Assignment 1 – one piece of fiction writing
AO5 assessed
- Assignment 2 – one piece of creative non-fiction writing
AO5 assessed
- Assignment 3 – one analytical commentary reflecting on the two pieces they have produced
AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO4 assessed

Advisory word count is 1500–2000 words for the writing pieces and 1000–1250 for the commentaries. The advisory total word is 2500–3250.

Tasks 1 & 2 – 36 marks

Task 3 – 24 marks

AS Level

Component 1: Voices in Speech and Writing		50% weighting
Content	Assessment	
Students study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> voices in speech and writing in non-literary and digital texts <i>Voices in Speech and Writing: An Anthology</i> - non-literary and digital texts from the 20th and 21st centuries 	Paper length: 1 hour and 30 minutes Section A – Creating Voices: one re-creative response written for a specified audience and/or purpose to an unseen extract selected from a 20 th or 21 st century source AO3 and AO5 assessed 20 marks Section B – Comparing Voices: one essay question on one unseen extract selected from 20 th or 21 st century sources and one text from the Anthology. AO1, AO2, AO3, and AO4 assessed 30 marks	
Component 1: Texts		
<i>Voices in Speech and Writing: An Anthology</i> . A free anthology of 20 th and 21 st century non-literary texts. Hard copy for every student		

Component 2: Varieties in Language and Literature		50% weighting
Content	Assessment	
Students study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one compulsory prose fiction text (anchor text) from a choice of two plus one other literary text from a chosen theme. Both anchor texts may be studied if desired.	Paper length: 1 hour and 30 minutes Section A – Prose Fiction Extract: one essay question based on an extract from a chosen prose fiction anchor text AO1, AO2 and AO3 assessed 25 marks Section B – Exploring Text and Theme: one essay question based on the study of the other text selected from the chosen theme AO1, AO2 and AO3 assessed 25 marks	

Component 2: Themes and texts

One prose fiction anchor text plus one other text from the following:

(Both anchor texts may be studied if desired)

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Prose fiction anchor texts: *The Great Gatsby*, F Scott Fitzgerald or *Great Expectations*, Charles Dickens

Other texts:

The Bone People, Keri Hulme; *Othello*, William Shakespeare; *A Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry; *The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale*, Geoffrey Chaucer; *The Whitsun Wedding*, Philip Larkin

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Prose Fiction anchor texts: *A Single Man*, Christopher Isherwood or *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, Thomas Hardy

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For prescribed editions of texts, and the list of poems to be studied if a poetry collection is selected, please see the AS level specification appendix 4 or A level specification appendix 5.