

Edexcel GCSE English Literature (9-1)

Key features

Engaging texts for all learners.

- Hundreds of teacher responses shaped our **text lists**, with a mixture of **tried-and-tested texts** proven to inspire and challenge the full ability range (such as *Animal Farm* and *Lord of the Flies*), alongside **newer options** chosen by you.

Extensive poetry support.

- A wide range of **Romantic, heritage** and **contemporary** poetry arranged into three broad themes in our anthology: **Relationships, Conflict**, and **Time and Place** - allowing you the opportunity to choose a collection that is right for your students.
- Our current centres have told us how valuable our **support materials** around poetry are for their students. We'll provide **lesson plans** for each of our poems, along with a **digital anthology** of material such as audio recordings of the poems and support for the comparison requirements.

Comparison of poetry.

- We know that comparison can be a challenging skill for some learners to master, and there is a requirement within GCSE English Literature for learners to compare, including unseen texts. Our comparison will always be tackled through poetry: through **one question comparing two studied anthology poems**, and one question asking learners to **compare two unseen poems**, which will always be modern. There will be no cross-genre comparison.

Use of extracts to support effective language analysis.

- All the new examinations will be closed book. In order to facilitate close language analysis without learners having to memorise long quotations, questions that require evidence from the text will utilise **extracts**, to ensure the **right skills** are being assessed.

A range of question types to support all learners.

- Using what we have learned from our current GCSE and Certificate papers, we have employed a combination of question types to help students access both the more complex texts and the assessment objectives. For example, both our Shakespeare and 19th century questions are split into two to help students focus on a **short extract for close language analysis** and then answer a **longer question** to show their knowledge of the whole text.

Assessment at a glance

Paper 1	1hr 45 mins (50%)	Paper 2	2hrs 15 mins (50%)
Section A: Shakespeare	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two questions – one based on a 30 line extract and one on the whole play.	Section A: 19th Century fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two questions – one based on a 400 word extract from the novel (provided for students) and another based on the whole novel.
Section B: Post-1914 British Drama or Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students study EITHER drama or fiction.• Choice of essay questions.• Vocabulary, sentence structure, spelling, punctuation and grammar are assessed.	Section B: Poetry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One question comparing one named poem from the anthology with another anthology poem.• One question asking students to compare two unseen contemporary poems.
Set texts			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shakespeare: <i>Macbeth</i>, <i>The Tempest</i>, <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>, <i>Much Ado</i>, <i>Merchant of Venice</i>, <i>Twelfth Night</i>.• British fiction or drama: <i>Animal Farm</i>, <i>Lord of the Flies</i>, <i>Anita and Me</i>, <i>The Woman in Black</i>, <i>An Inspector Calls</i>, <i>Hobson's Choice</i>, <i>Blood Brothers</i>, <i>Journey's End</i>.• 19th century novel: <i>Jane Eyre</i>, <i>Great Expectations</i>, <i>Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i>, <i>A Christmas Carol</i>, <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>, <i>Silas Marner</i>, <i>Frankenstein</i>.			

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