

General Certificate of Education
Ordinary Level

Syllabus

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH 2010

For examination in June and November 2011

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Note for Exams Officers: Before making Final Entries, please check availability of the codes for the components and options in the E3 booklet (titled “Procedures for the Submission of Entries”) relevant to the exam session. Please note that component and option codes are subject to change.

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH (2010)

GCE Ordinary Level

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Exclusions

This syllabus must not be offered in the same session with the following syllabus:

0486 Literature (English)

AIMS

The aims of the syllabus are the same for all students. The aims are set out below and describe the educational purposes of a course in Literature for the GCE examination.

The aims, which are not listed in order of priority, are to develop the ability of students to:

- communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in speech and writing;
- understand and respond imaginatively to what they hear, read and experience;
- enjoy the reading of literature and appreciate its contribution to aesthetic and imaginative growth;
- explore areas of universal human concern, thus leading to a greater understanding of themselves and others.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

Candidates should be able to:

- (i) demonstrate first-hand knowledge of the content of literary texts;
- (ii) demonstrate an understanding of literary texts in ways which may range from a grasp of their surface meaning to a deeper awareness of their themes and attitudes;
- (iii) recognise and appreciate ways in which writers use language;
- (iv) recognise and appreciate other ways in which writers achieve their effects (e.g. structure, plot, characterisation, dramatic tension, imagery, rhythm, setting and mood);
- (v) communicate a sensitive and informed personal response to what is read.

These Assessment Objectives are inter-related and it will not normally be possible or desirable to test them in isolation.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT

[May not be taken with Subject 9695, 0486]

One paper (Paper 2010/01) of 2 hours 40 minutes will be set.

Candidates will be required to write on **three or four** books chosen from the list of prescribed texts.

The paper will be divided into three sections: Drama, Poetry and Prose.

Candidates must answer four questions in the paper. (Each of these may be on a different text, or alternatively candidates may write two answers on one text.) **These questions must be taken from at least two of the sections Drama, Poetry and Prose.**

All questions carry equal marks. Set texts may NOT be taken into the examination room.

For each poetry text, there will be one passage-based question, and two essay questions. For each drama and prose text, there will be one passage-based question (in a response to a passage from the set text printed on the question paper), one essay question, and one 'empathic' question.

All questions will encourage informed personal response, and are designed to test all the Assessment Objectives. In practical terms this means that candidates will be asked to demonstrate:

- personal response: sometimes directly, for example, 'What do you think?', 'What are your feelings about...?' and sometimes by implication: 'Explore the ways in which...';
- knowledge of the text through the use of close reference to details and use of quotations from it;
- understanding of characters, relationships, situations and themes;
- understanding of the writer's intentions and methods, and response to the writer's use of language.

Empathic tasks (sometimes known as 'empathetic' or 'creative response' tasks) address the same assessment objectives as the essay and passage-based questions. They are intended to test knowledge, understanding and response; but they give the candidate the opportunity to engage more imaginatively with the text, by the assumption of a suitable 'voice', i.e. manner of speaking, for the character concerned.

SET TEXTS FOR EXAMINATION IN YEAR 2011

* text examined also in June and November 2012

** text examined also in June and November 2012 and June and November 2013

Unless otherwise indicated, students may use any edition of the set text, provided it is not an abridgement or simplified version.

Section A: DRAMA

** Arthur Miller

Charlotte Keatley

* William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare

* R. C. Sherriff

Death of a Salesman

My Mother Said I Never Should

Much Ado About Nothing

Richard III

Journey's End

Section B: POETRY

** Alfred, Lord Tennyson

The following poems:

'Mariana'

'The Lady of Shalott'

'Ulysses'

extract from 'Maud' final section of Part II: from 'Dead, long dead' to 'Is enough to drive one mad'
from 'In Memoriam A.H.H':

VII ('Dark house, by which once more I stand')

XXIV ('And was the day of my delight')

L ('Be near me when my light is low')

LXVII ('When on my bed the moonlight falls')

CVI ('Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky')

CXV ('Now fades the long last streak of snow')

'Crossing the Bar'

These appear in the Tennyson section of *Three Victorian Poets*, ed. Jane Ogborn (Cambridge University Press ISBN 0-521-62720-9 / ISBN 9-780521627108).

* from *Songs of Ourselves: The University of Cambridge International Examinations Anthology of Poetry in English* (Cambridge University Press
ISBN-10: 8175962488
ISBN-13: 978-8175962484)

from Part 3 (Poems from the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries) : Poems 96 to 109 inclusive, i.e. the following fourteen poems:
Thomas Hardy, 'The Voice'
Allen Curnow, 'Time'
Mathew Arnold, 'Dover Beach'
Adrienne Rich, 'Amends'
Ted Hughes, 'Full Moon and Little Frieda'
Gillian Clarke, 'Lament'
John Keats, 'The Grasshopper and The Cricket'
Vachel Lindsay, 'The Flower-fed Buffaloes'
Boey Kim Cheng, 'Report to Wordsworth'
John Clare, 'First Love'
Dennis Scott, 'Marrysong'
George Gordon Lord Byron, 'So, We'll Go No More A-Roving'
Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Sonnet 43 ('How do I love thee? Let me count the ways!')
Edna St Vincent Millay, Sonnet 29 ('Pity me not because the light of day')

Section C: PROSE

** Emily Brontë
Anita Desai
* Bessie Head
** F Scott Fitzgerald
* Edith Wharton
* from *Stories of Ourselves: The University of Cambridge International Examinations Anthology of Short Stories in English* (Cambridge University Press:
ISBN-10: 052172791X
ISBN-13: 978-0521727914)

Wuthering Heights
Games at Twilight, and Other Stories
When Rain Clouds Gather
The Great Gatsby
Ethan Frome
The following ten stories:
Charles Dickens, 'The Signalman'
Charlotte Perkins Gilman, 'The Yellow Wall Paper'
Arthur Conan Doyle, 'How It Happened'
Ray Bradbury, 'There Will Come Soft Rains'
John Wyndham, 'Meteor'
Alex La Guma, 'The Lemon Orchard'
Bernard MacLaverty, 'Secrets'
Borden Deal, 'The Taste of Watermelon'
Jhumpa Lahiri, 'The Third and Final Continent'
Tim Winton, 'On Her Knees'

Note: the edition of Shakespeare which will be used by the Examiners will be the Alexander (Collins) edition, unless otherwise stated. It is not intended, however, that this should be regarded as the prescribed edition. Candidates may use any editions for study, unless otherwise stated.