

A Level (includes AS) Literature in English (9695)

Do our candidates have to have studied a Cambridge English examination at a 'lower' level in order to enter this syllabus?

The syllabus is designed to allow progression from GCE O Level or IGCSE syllabuses in Literature. However, it is not a compulsory entry requirement that candidates have passed one of these.

We have the syllabus for next year's exam, but what are the set texts for the list after that?

You will find the details of set texts posted on our website.

I've got a great idea for a set text I'd like to see on the syllabus, and I think it would be very popular with other teachers too. What should I do?

Please write to the Product Manager for AS and AL Literature in English. We welcome suggestions from our Centres for set texts in future sessions.

Can students take their books into the examination?

No.

Can students take dictionaries into the examination?

Candidates are allowed a simple translation dictionary.

Are there particular editions of the set texts? Is it a problem if my candidates are studying from different editions?

If a particular edition is not specified in the syllabus booklet, students can use any edition (so long as it is not an abridgement).

A new student has just joined my class. The set texts she's studied are not the same as those I've been teaching. Is that a problem?

No – assuming that the books she's studied are all on the syllabus! There is no requirement for all candidates in a class/Centre to study the same texts.

Are candidates who prepare more than the minimum required set texts at an advantage in the exam room?

Only in the sense that they potentially will have more choice of questions. In reality, demands on classroom time mean that it is unlikely that the vast majority of candidates will have prepared more than 2 texts for each paper as the syllabus requires.

In last session's Unseen (Paper 7) exam, a piece of poetry was set. Does this mean my students are safe to assume that next time there will be a piece of prose or drama instead, and that we should concentrate on these in the classroom?

No! The Syllabus states that there will two of the three main forms represented on the paper.

What other support material is available for this syllabus?

There is a booklet of specimen questions and marking schemes, and a booklet of specimen answers for AS, both available from CIE publications. A new booklet of specimen answers on AL papers will be able in autumn 2001.