

O Level Literature in English (2000, 2010)

Are there any changes to the syllabus?

There are changes to the scheme of assessment and structure of the papers from the exam in June 2004. Teachers must consult the relevant syllabus booklet (which contains specimen questions) well in advance to be clear about this.

From 2004, syllabus code 2010 will be used for both June and November sessions.

When do set texts change?

Most set texts are kept on the syllabus no longer than three years, so there are inevitably changes each year to the set texts lists. Teachers should ensure that they are working from the text list for the appropriate year.

In the syllabus booklet for a particular year, texts will be asterisked if they are continuing beyond that year.

What resources are available to support the syllabus?

The following are available from CIE Publications:

- Past Papers
- Mark Schemes
- Principal Examiner Reports

See also the Resource List for the syllabus on the CIE website <http://www.cie.org.uk>

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?

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

Are there particular editions of the set texts we should be using? 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, provided that it is not an abridgement. (Where a Shakespeare passage is printed on a question paper, the convention is for CIE to use the Alexander edition of the Complete Works, but this is not recommended for individual study.)

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 we expected to prepare *all* the set texts on the list?

No - it is a list from which teachers/candidates can choose, and very few will in fact prepare more than the minimum.

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 majority of candidates will have prepared more than the minimum required.

Do candidates have to answer on a Shakespeare play?

No.