CAMBRIDGE

Introducing Cambridge International AS & A Level Subject

Literature in English 9695[1]

Why Choose This Syllabus?

Cambridge International AS & A Level Literature in English develops a set of transferable skills, including critical analysis, constructing arguments, and presenting knowledge and understanding in a balanced, articulate and fluent manner. Learners of Literature in English will be well-equipped for progression to higher education or directly into employment; finding that the skills needed will support them in a wide range of subjects and real-world situations. Our approach in Cambridge International AS & A Level Literature in English supports the development of learners who are:

- **confident**, exploring texts and ideas with self-assurance, intellectual freedom and personal insight
- **responsible**, committing to their learning and developing approaches to critical analysis to better understand ideas of culture, context and the community
- **reflective**, considering literary ideas and concepts that are presented in a range of ever-changing contexts
- **innovative**, approaching tasks and texts with a combination of creative, original and flexible thinking
- **engaged**, recognising and interrogating the role literature plays in matters of personal, social and global significance.

Syllabus Aims

The aims are to enable students to:

- enjoy the experience of reading literature
- develop an appreciation of and an informed personal response to literature in English in a range of texts in different forms, and from different periods and cultures
- communicate effectively, accurately and appropriately in written form
- develop the interdependent skills of reading, analysis and communication
- analyse and evaluate the methods writers use in creating meaning and effects
- encourage wider reading and an understanding of how it may contribute to personal development
- build a firm foundation for further study of literature.

Content Overview

Cambridge International AS & A Level Literature in English will provide learners with the opportunity to gain further knowledge and understanding of international poetry, prose and drama, with candidates studying all genres at both levels.

A wide range of inspiring set texts have been carefully selected to offer a depth and breadth of literary study and to encourage lively and stimulating classroom discussion. At AS Level learners will study three set texts and prepare for one unseen text. At A Level they will study four further set texts .

Throughout the AS and A Level course learners will be encouraged to practise their skills in close reading through the study of literary extracts and unseen texts; developing skills of analysis and interpretation of texts, alongside their expression of personal response to the texts studied. Learners will explore the conventions of genres of texts and the contexts in which works have been written, read and received.

At A Level learners will further develop their subject knowledge through the evaluation of opinions and ideas, both their own and those of others.

Continued

[1] This content is based on the 2027–2028 version of the Cambridge International AS & A Level Literature in English syllabus. For the latest updates and detailed information, please visit https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-english-literature-9695/.

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Assessment Objectives

Assessment Objective	Weighting in AS Level %	Weighting in A Level %
Knowledge and understanding	25	20
Analysis	25	20
Personal response	25	20
Communication	25	20
Evaluation of opinion	0	20
Total	100	100

Previous Study

We recommend that learners starting this course should have completed a course in English equivalent to Cambridge IGCSE and should have a level of English equivalent to first language English at IGCSE.

Guided Learning Hours

Each Cambridge International AS Level subject typically requires 180 guided learning hours. The full Cambridge International A Level subject typically requires 360 guided learning hours in total, including the 180 hours for AS Level. This is for guidance only. The number of hours a learner needs to achieve the qualification may vary according to each school and the learners' previous experience of the subject.

Exam Timetable

Students can take exams in the June and November exam series.

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