

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

WHY STUDY ENGLISH LITERATURE?

- 01** Develop Critical Thinking: Literature challenges us to think deeply, analyse different perspectives, and engage with complex ideas.
- 02** Enhance Communication Skills: Reading and discussing literature improves both written and verbal communication by expanding vocabulary and refining expression.
- 03** Cultural Awareness: Literature introduces us to different cultures, histories, and worldviews, fostering empathy and global understanding.

- 04** Explore Human Nature: Through characters, stories, and themes, literature helps us explore the depths of human emotions, behaviors, and experiences.
- 05** Stimulate Creativity and Imagination: Literature encourages creative thinking, sparking new ideas and helping us see the world from fresh angles.
- 06** Enjoyment and Escape: Engaging with literature can be fun, offering entertainment, relaxation, and an escape into different worlds.

Knowledge and Understanding

01

READING SKILLS:

- Understanding of plot, character, theme, and context
- Evaluating the writer's methods (vocabulary, structure, language features, etc.)

02

WRITING SKILLS:



- Producing clear and coherent responses to literary texts
- Using apt quotations and relevant textual references

03

SET TEXTS:

- An Inspector Calls, J.B. Priestley
- Macbeth, William Shakespeare
- A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens
- Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology

Assessment - Two Exams

PAPER 1: SHAKESPEARE AND THE 19TH CENTURY NOVEL

- 1 hour 45 minutes
- 40% of GCSE
- Macbeth / A Christmas Carol



PAPER 2: MODERN TEXTS AND POETRY

- 2 hours 15 minutes
- 60% of GCSE
- An Inspector Calls / Power and Conflict Poetry/ Unseen Poetry

What Doing Well in English Literature Can Lead To

01

University Admissions: English Literature is highly regarded by universities and can strengthen your application for many courses.

04

Creativity and Problem-Solving: Literature helps foster creative thinking and problem-solving, essential for roles in design, marketing, and the arts.

02

Career Opportunities: Strong literacy and communication skills open doors in fields like journalism, publishing, law, advertising, teaching, and media.

05

Personal Growth: A deeper understanding of literature can enhance your empathy, cultural awareness, and ability to communicate effectively.

03

Critical Thinking and Analysis: The skills you develop in literature—evaluating complex ideas and arguments—are valued in many professions.

**“A room without books
is like a body without a
soul.”**

— Marcus Tullius Cicero