

OCR A-level English Literature

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-english-literature-h072-h472-from-2015/>

The OCR A-Level in English Literature allows students to undertake independent and sustained studies to deepen their appreciation and understanding of literature. Students will read and study literary texts, including prose, poetry and drama from the early modern period to contemporary fiction.

Students are expected to be capable, articulate students, enthusiastic readers, and able to engage in debate about literature in their verbal discussion as well as their writing!

A-Level in English Literature is assessed in two examinations, sat at the end of the course in year 13, as well as two 'non-examined assessment' essays, completed over the two year course. See below for a detailed overview of the assessment:

Component 1: Drama and poetry pre-1900

Examined in 2 ½ hour exam (closed text) 40% of total A-level mark

Texts include:

- *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare
- *The Duchess of Malfi* by John Webster
- *Selected Poems* by Christina Rossetti

Component 2: Comparative and contextual study – 'The Gothic'

Examined in 2 ½ hour exam (closed text) 40% of total A-level mark

Texts include:

- *Dracula* by Bram Stoker
- *The Bloody Chamber* by Angela Carter

Other genre authors studied may include:

- Ian Banks, Edgar Allan Poe, Oscar Wilde, Ann Radcliffe, Stephen King, Mary Shelley, HP Lovecraft...

Component 3: Non-examined assessment – 'Literature post-1900'

Assessed by two extended 'coursework' assignments: 1 close reading, 1 comparative essay

A close reading task on a scene from:

- *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams

A critical essay on a pair of linked prose and poetry texts. Author choices include:

- Jeanette Winterson, Carol Ann Duffy, Maya Angelou, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Cormac McCarthy, Ian McEwan, Zadie Smith...

