



Chenderit School
Flying Start 2019

A-Level English Literature
AQA

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Introduction to the course

The Course

This course will encourage you to consider texts in a wider context and explore the relationships between different texts you have read. You will be introduced to literary criticism and will explore texts from new perspectives.

You will study texts for two papers: **Love through the Ages** and **WWI and its aftermath**.

You can find out more information here: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-literature-a-7711-7712>

Love Through the Ages (studied in year 12)

Othello

The Great Gatsby

AQA poetry anthology

Unseen poetry comparison

WWI and its aftermath (studied in year 13)

Texts to be confirmed.

Texts to buy

Please buy:

- Othello (The RSC Shakespeare) Paperback, Macmillan, – 2009, by Eric Rasmussen (Author), Jonathan Bate (Contributor)
- The Penguin Classics version of *The Great Gatsby* for September.

Assessment

A 3 hour exam – 40% of the A Level.

A 2 and a half hour exam – 40% of the A Level.

Non-exam assessment (a comparative essay) – 20% of the A Level.

Tasks to prepare you for September

Read one of the books on the suggested reading list below. Complete a page for your reading journal (guidance on the final page of this booklet). You will be expected to complete one entry to your reading journal every term in addition to reading set texts.

Other suggested tasks

Reading widely will benefit you for both the unseen element of the course and for your NEA (coursework). Please see the suggested reading list below. Feel free to read any of the course set texts too.

Watch a version of *Othello* (the Kenneth Brannagh version is recommended). If you can see *Othello* (or any Shakespeare!) at a theatre over the summer, we would really recommend doing so.

Read arrange of love poetry from different eras. Anything from Renaissance poetry to modern Instagram poetry will be beneficial. You could use <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/> to find poems.

Suggested reading – You will find lots of these second hand in charity shops or online, as well as in local libraries.

Fahrenheit 451 - Ray Bradbury
Frankenstein - Mary Shelley
Catch 22 - Joseph Heller
The Suitable Boy - Vikram Seth
Catcher in the Rye - J.D Salinger
The God of All Small Things - Arundhati Roy
Jane Eyre - Charlotte Bronte
Pride and Prejudice - Jane Austen
Persuasion – Jane Austen
To Kill A Mockingbird - Harper Lee
1984 - George Orwell
Jacob's Room and/or *Mrs Dalloway* -Virginia Woolf
Wuthering Heights - Emily Bronte
Lord of the Flies - William Golding
Great Expectations and/or *Little Dorrit* - Charles Dickens
Middlemarch - George Elliot
History of the World in 10 ½ Chapters - Julian Barnes
Enduring Love and/or *Atonement* - Ian McEwan
Bell Jar - Sylvia Plath
Robinson Crusoe - Daniel Defoe
Canterbury Tales - Chaucer
Clockwork Orange - Anthony Burgess
Death of A Salesman - Arthur Miller
Don Quixote - Miguel de Cervantes
Captain Corelli's Mandolin - Louis de Bernieres
Vernon God Little - DBC Pierre
The Kite Runner and/or *A Thousand Splendid Suns* - Khaled Hosseini
The Reader - Bernhard Schlink
The Bloody Chamber (short stories) - Angela Carter
Birdsong - Sebastian Faulks
Never Let Me Go -Kazuo Ishiguro
Tender is the Night - F. Scott Fitzgerald
The Awakening – Kate Chopin
The Rotter's Club – Jonathan Coe
The Mill on the Floss – George Eliot
Tess of the D'Urbervilles – Thomas Hardy
Rebecca – Daphne Du Maurier

Key information

Title:

Author's name:

Date of publish:

Genre:

Contextual information

Record any relevant information about the context, e.g. information about the author, key dates/events that might have influenced the author.

Plot

Briefly summarise the plot.

Narrative

What type of narrator does the novel have? What is interesting about the narrative?

Characters

Who are the key characters? How are they presented?

Themes

What are the key themes of the text? How do they develop?

Opinion

What is your opinion of the text? Explain why you did/didn't like it.

Connections

How does this text connect to other texts you have read?

