

### Course content

The course we will follow is the AQA AS/A2 syllabus A.

#### **AS**

In year one students will complete two units: 'The Modern Novel' (e.g. Charles Frazier's *Cold Mountain*) and 'Texts in Contexts' (e.g. Ford's *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* and Carol Ann Duffy's poetry anthology *The World's Wife*) ready for the end of year examination. In addition they will produce a coursework response to a Shakespeare play worth 30% of the AS marks and 15% of the A Level marks.

#### **A2**

In year two unit 4 will be 'Texts in Time' in which students will answer exam questions on a pre-1770 play (e.g. *The Winter's Tale*) and pre-1900 poetry (e.g. Blake's *Songs of Innocence and Experience*). Unit 5 will be the synoptic assessment consisting of responses to unseen material based on a prepared theme (in 2007 it will be 'War in Literature'). In addition students will write a comparative essay as coursework worth 15% of the total marks.

Students need:

- To be prepared for a demanding work load.
- To enjoy literature.
- To have self motivation.
- To have an ability to work to deadlines.



If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the

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# ENGLISH LITERATURE



MALBANK  
SCHOOL  
AND  
SIXTH FORM  
COLLEGE



## AEB ENGLISH LITERATURE

### Introduction:

English Literature is studied in groups of between ten and twenty students for nine hours per fortnight. Each group has two tutors. Texts are approached in a variety of ways- small group work, individual research, using videos and visiting the theatres for example- but the main medium is the university type seminar: relaxed, enjoyable, wide-ranging discussion.

### Aims

At AS the specification aims to:

- 1 Develop confident, independent and reflective readers of a range of texts.
- 2 Encourage candidates to express their responses effectively.
- 3 Encourage the use of critical concepts and terminology with understanding and discrimination.
- 4 Encourage candidates to reflect their own responses to texts, to consider other readers' interpretations, and to develop some awareness of the contexts in which texts are written.



At A level the specification aims to:

- 1 Broaden and deepen the knowledge, skills and understanding developed at AS level, enabling candidates to gain a wider sense of the scope of literary study.
- 2 Encourage candidates to use detailed knowledge and understanding of individual texts to explore comparisons and connections between them
- 3 Encourage candidates to appreciate the significance of cultural and historical influences upon readers and writers.

### Assessment Objectives

The assessment will assess the candidate's ability to:

#### **At AS**

- 1 Communicate clearly the knowledge, understanding and insight appropriate to literary study, using appropriate terminology and accurate and coherent written expression;
- 2i Respond with knowledge and understanding to literary texts of different types and periods;
- 3 Show detailed understanding of the ways in which writers' choices of form, structure and language shape meanings;
- 4 Articulate independent opinions and judgements, informed by different interpretations of literary texts by other readers;
- 5i Show understanding of the contexts in which literary texts are written and understood.

#### **At A level.**

- 1 As AS level;
- 2 Respond with knowledge and understanding to literary texts of different types and periods; exploring and commenting on relationships and comparisons between literary texts.
- 3 As AS level;
- 4 As AS level;
- 5ii Evaluate the significance of cultural, historical and other contextual influences on literary texts and study.

### Aims and Objectives

The main aim is obviously to achieve the highest possible grades for all students, but this is best served by encouraging them "to develop as autonomous readers and critics of literary texts"; in other words to equip them to respond to texts in an informed personal way and not just repeat learned material.



On a more practical level a major objective is to ensure that the students' essay styles, written expression and technical accuracy are as near perfect as possible and that they are fully prepared in terms of effective exam technique.

