



Archbishop Tenison's

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM



ENGLISH LITERATURE

A Level Course Overview

- We follow the AQA A specification. The specification encourages the exploration of texts in a number of different ways:
- the study of a literary theme over time
- the study of literature through engaging with two of the main historicist perspectives, the diachronic (reading texts written across widely different time periods that explore the same theme) and synchronic (reading texts written within a narrower and clearly defined time period)
- the study of various texts, both singly and comparatively, chosen from a list of core set texts and a list of chosen comparative set texts
- writing about texts in a number of different ways.
- Currently, we are studying the following texts:
- 'Othello' William Shakespeare
- 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles' Thomas Hardy
- Pre-1900 poetry William Blake, et al.
- 'Heart of Darkness' Joseph Conrad
- 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' Tennessee Williams
- 'The Color Purple' Alice Walker
- 'Feminine Gospels' Carol Ann Duffy
- A range of extracts that encompass the key literary movements, from Chaucer to Olive Senior.



What's great about English Literature at Tenison's Sixth Form?

We employ a range of teaching strategies to ensure English Literature is engaging for our students; we aim to make learning relevant to the world around us, building on skills for future success. We have a range of subject specialists who contribute to the dynamic teaching of our subject; our team also enjoy a range of literary genres that we aim to share with our students from classical poetry to children's literature and the post-modern novel.

Our students enjoy the variety of texts and challenges English Literature affords, as well as the opportunities presented for speaking and listening. They also enjoy the passion and enthusiasm their teachers exhibit for each of the disciplines.

Specifically, we also support the development of a variety of skills that stand our students in good stead for further learning beyond our classrooms, for example: the development of writing skills; improvement of critical thinking and ability to analyse; increased knowledge of English and American culture and our rich, literary heritage; the ability to read and enjoy a wide variety of texts.



Opportunities and Successes

- **What events can you expect to attend?**
- Typically, we organise a variety of opportunities that will compliment our studying of English Literature, for example: Theatre trips, external lectures, exhibitions; there are many changing and developing events that the English Department endeavour to take our students to with the aim of supporting our students with their explorations of literature in the wider world.
- **What career opportunities could studying English Literature lead to?**
- There are a variety of career opportunities studying English Literature could lead to, for example: Business Administration, Marketing, Journalism / Media, Law Education, Performing Arts, Health & Social Care, Leisure, Tourism, Civil Service, Archiving, Events Management, Human Resourcing, Copywriting, Politics, Linguistics, Public Relations, Editing, Screen Writing and many, many more.
- **What Employability skills does English Literature develop and nurture?**
- In addition, studying English Literature develops and nurtures a wealth of employability skills, for example: communication and interpersonal skills.; problem solving skills; using your initiative and being self-motivated; working under pressure and to deadlines; organisational skills; team working; ability to learn and adapt; valuing diversity and difference; negotiation skills.



What is the difference between English Language and English Literature?

English Language	English Literature
Our study has more focus on non-fiction	Our study has more focus on fiction
We focus on the language around us, looking at current texts and language with consideration of current affairs	We take a historicist approach to our study of literature, considering the reception of a text through time and critical theory
We study the origins of English as a language and how and why the language is changing...and continues to change	We engage in an overview of the canon of Literature, considering classical to contemporary literature
We explore how meaning is conveyed and how language carries meaning	We explore authorial intent and how meaning is shaped
We explore how language is impacted by social context	We explore how literature critiques social structures



Can I study both English Language and English Literature?

Yes, we have many students studying both language and literature, both subjects compliment each other well.