

# The AS English Literature course

## *The Struggle for Identity in Modern Literature*

### EXAM: Texts in contexts 60% of AS

- 2 hour written examination (open book)

#### 1. Context question (45 marks)

There will be **one** compulsory question in this section. A short extract related to the area of study (from a work of criticism, diary, letter, biography, cultural commentary, for example) will be printed. Candidates will then be invited to link all their reading in their chosen area of Literature to the focus of the given passage.

#### 2. Poetry (45 Marks)

There will be a choice of two questions on a set poetry text. Candidates answer **one** question. One of the two questions will foreground one particular poem and its relation to the whole text, the other will provide a view about the poems for candidates to discuss.



### COURSEWORK:

The coursework folder will contain **two pieces of writing**; one will be on the selected prose text and the other will be on the selected drama text. The two pieces of work should be 2000-2500 words in total.

#### 1. Prose: The Colour Purple

The **first piece** of writing in the folder will focus on a personal, informed response to the prose text, and will be: **Either a.** creative (as personal/original) Interpretation (essay)  
**Or b.** creative/transformational writing (creative writing response)

*30 marks*

#### 2. Drama

The **second piece** of writing in the folder will be on the chosen drama text. Candidates will be invited **either** to place this text in its dramatic context **or** to connect it to the prose text, focusing on aspects of the text such as theme, structure or characterisation.

*30 marks*



## WIDER READING

*Prose and poetry and drama*

# AS Level English Literature Assessment Objectives

All of your work for the course will be assessed against 4 assessment objectives (AO's):

**AO1** Articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression

**AO2** Demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts

**AO3** Explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers

**AO4** Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received

Quality of Written Communication (QWC)

- ensure that text is legible and that spelling, punctuation and grammar are accurate so that meaning is clear
- select and use a form and style of writing appropriate to purpose and to complex subject matter
- organise information clearly and coherently, using specialist vocabulary when appropriate.

## Weighting of Assessment Objectives for AS

Assessment Objectives	Unit Weightings		Overall weightings
	Unit 1: Exam	Unit 2: Coursework	
<b>AO1</b>	12%	12%	24%
<b>AO2</b>	18%	14%	32%
<b>AO3</b>	12%	10%	22%
<b>AO4</b>	18%	4%	22%
<b>Overall weighting of units</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>100%</b>

- These four assessment objectives are used to measure your achievement throughout the Specification and are organised by your examiners into a marking grid which is used to assess each piece of work that you do throughout your course.
- You will be able to check your progress on the course against the criteria on the marking grids as each AO is divided into bands:

### Bands

- If your work has the features of **Band 1**: inaccurate, irrelevant and assertive- you will not be working at the required standard for AS.
- If your work is assessed as falling into **Band 2**: it will be judged to be narrative and descriptive and rather generalised in its approach to the text.
- If your work is assessed as falling into **Band 3**: it means that you are starting to explore and analyse the texts and presenting your work in a coherent fashion.
- If your work is assessed as falling into **Band 4**: it is coherent, cogent, mature and sophisticated and worthy of the highest grades .

