

MAKING THE SWITCH
SPECIFICATION
COMPARISON

A LEVEL ENGLISH
LITERATURE



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THINKING ABOUT THE SWITCH - COMPARING SPECIFICATIONS

IF YOU ARE WITH AQA A:

AQA specification A	Eduqas specification
Paper 1: Love through the ages	Written examination: 3 hours - 40% of qualification
One Shakespeare play AND one poetry text AND one prose text (Three sections: Shakespeare extract plus essay AND comparison of unseen poetry AND comparative essay based on two texts)	Spread across Eduqas components: Component 1: Poetry Component 2: Drama Component 3: Unseen texts Component 4: Prose study NEA
Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts	Written examination: 2 hours 30 mins - 40% of qualification
Thematic options: WW1 and its aftermath OR Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day (Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000. Examination will include an unseen prose extract)	Spread across Eduqas components: Component 1: Poetry Component 2: Drama Component 3: Unseen texts Component 4: Prose study NEA (includes post-2000)
Non exam assessment: Texts across time - 20% of qualification	
Comparative study of two texts from any genre, one of which must be pre-1900	Component 4: Prose study NEA comparative essay

IF YOU ARE WITH AQA B:

AQA specification B	Eduqas specification
Paper 1: Literary genres	Written examination: 2 hours 30 mins - 40% of qualification
Options: Option 1A: Aspects of tragedy Option 1B: Aspects of comedy (Study of three texts: one Shakespeare text; a second drama text and one further text, of which one must be written pre-1900)	Spread across Eduqas components: Component 1: Poetry Component 2: Drama Component 3: Unseen texts Component 4: Prose study
Paper 2: Texts and genres	Written examination: 3 hours - 40% of qualification
Options Option 2A: Elements of crime writing Option 2B: Elements of political and social protest writing (Study of three texts: one post-2000 prose text; one poetry and one further text, one of which must be written pre-1900. Examination will include an unseen passage)	Spread across Eduqas components: Component 1: Poetry Component 2: Drama Component 3: Unseen texts Component 4: Prose study
Non exam assessment: Theory and independence - 20% of qualification	
Study of two texts: one poetry and one prose text PLUS study of the Critical Anthology Two essays of 1250–1500 words, each responding to a different text and linking to a different aspect of the Critical anthology One essay can be re-creative. The re-creative piece will be accompanied by a commentary.	Component 4: Prose study comparative essay (one task only)

IF YOU ARE WITH EDEXCEL (PEARSON):

Edexcel specification	Eduqas specification
Paper 1: Drama	Written examination: 2 hours 15 mins - 30% of qualification
One Shakespeare play AND one other play AND one critical anthology (related to Shakespeare)	Component 2: Drama No critical anthology (comments from critics are printed in the paper for the unseen prose question in Component 3)
Paper 2: Prose	Written examination: 1 hour - 20% of qualification
Two prose texts, one pre-1900, from a prescribed list based on themes	Component 4: Prose study NEA (two prose texts, one pre-2000 and one post-2000)
Paper 3: Poetry	Written examination: 2 hours 15 mins - 30% of qualification
Post-2000 poetry set text plus unseen poem AND Pre or post-1900 poetry (nb selection depends on texts selected in other components)	Component 1: Poetry and Component 3: Unseen texts
Non exam assessment: 20% of qualification	
Comparative study based on two complete texts from any genre (nb selection depends on texts selected in other components to ensure requirement for post 2000 text)	Component 4: A comparative study of a pre and a post-2000 prose text. Independent choice rather than set texts (choices must be validated by the board)

IF YOU ARE WITH OCR:

OCR specification	Eduqas specification
Paper 1: Drama and poetry pre-1900	Written examination: 2 hours 30 mins - 40% of qualification
One Shakespeare play AND one pre-1900 drama text AND one pre-1900 poetry text	Component 1: Poetry and Component 2: Drama
Paper 2: Comparative and contextual study	Written examination: 2 hours 30 mins - 40% of qualification
Two prose texts, one, from a list based on themes, plus an unseen text	Component 4: Prose study NEA (two prose texts, one pre-2000 and one post-2000) Component 3: Unseen prose text
Non exam assessment: 20% of qualification	
Two tasks covering three texts (one prose, one poetry, one drama) all post-1900, including one post-2000. Task 1: close reading OR re-creative task plus commentary Task 2: comparative essay	Component 4: Prose study NEA comparative essay (one task only)