

English Literature

Examination board: Edexcel



English Literature in the King Edward's School Sixth Form classroom is a course which gives pupils the opportunity to read classic and contemporary texts, studying drama, prose and poetry.

The course offered is the Edexcel A Level syllabus, whereby pupils are prepared for three examinations, and one coursework component:

Component	Content	Assessment	Course %
1. <i>Drama</i>	Two plays: either comedy or tragedy. One Shakespeare and one other drama	Choice of essay questions in open-book examination – two essays	30%
2. <i>Prose</i>	Two novels: connected by a theme of Childhood, Colonization and its Aftermath, Crime and Detection, Science and Society, the Supernatural, or Women and Society	Choice of essay questions in open-book examination – one essay	20%
3. <i>Poetry</i>	Two works of poetry: an anthology of contemporary award-winning poems, and poetry from either pre- or post-1900	Choice of essay questions in open-book examination – two essays	30%
4. <i>Coursework</i>	Two texts, chosen by teacher and pupil	One coursework essay	20%

Pupils studying English develop their ability to make connections, to appreciate the complexities and subtleties of language and communication, and to enjoy the powerful ideas, insights, and emotions of literature. They learn to build arguments and to express themselves with clarity, precision, and eloquence.

Throughout the A Level course, they enjoy reading a balance of different forms of writing, covering different periods and styles. Pupils benefit from a combination of teaching expertise, access to literary criticism resources, and guided independence in their exploration of literature.

