

English Literature at Cannock Chase High School



ENGLISH
COMMUNITY

Better never
means better for
everyone. It
always means
worse, for some.
– The Handmaid's
Tale, Margaret
Atwood

Words, Wisdom, etc.

*"O Beware my lord, of
jealousy;/ it is the green-eyed
monster which doth mock the
meat it feeds on."*

(Othello by William Shakespeare)

No man chooses evil because it is
evil; he only mistakes it for
happiness, the good he seeks.

MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN

THE
BUSHWICK
BOOK CLUB

I have always depended on
the kindness of
strangers

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE
TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

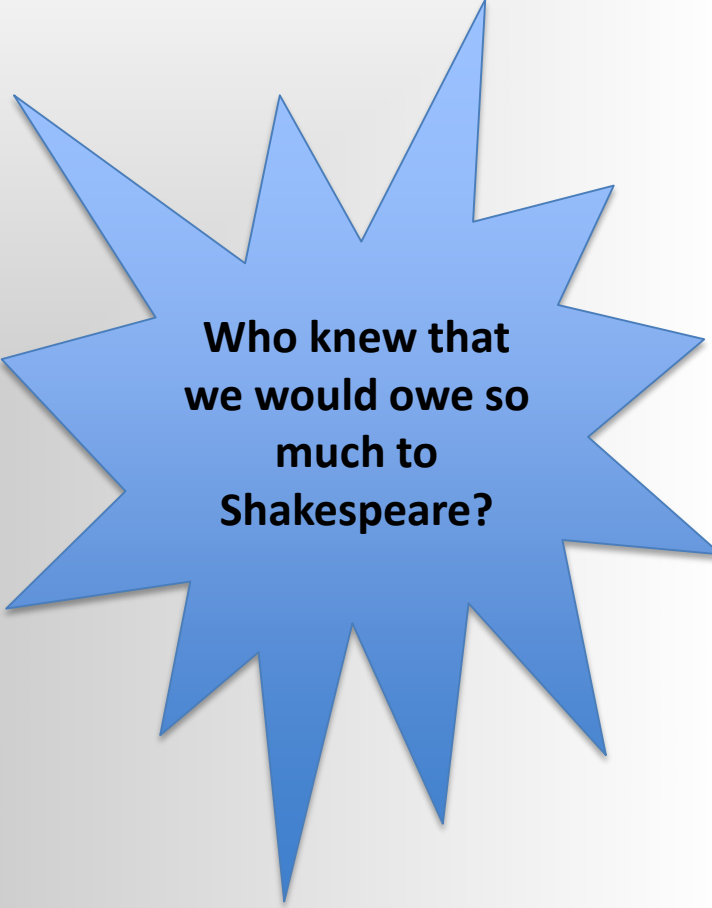


CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

A C H I E V E M E N T F O R A L L

THINGS WE SAY TODAY, WHICH WE OWE TO SHAKESPEARE:

"KNOCK, KNOCK! WHO'S THERE?"
"IN A PICKLE" "SET YOUR TEETH ON EDGE" "HEART OF GOLD"
"FAINT HEARTED" "SO-SO" "GOOD RIDDANCE"
"LIE LOW" "FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE" "BAITED BREATH" "SEND HIM PACKING"
"WEAR YOUR HEART ON YOUR SLEEVE" "COME WHAT MAY"
"NOT SLEPT ONE WINK" "FULL CIRCLE" "OUT OF THE JAWS OF DEATH"
"WHAT'S DONE IS DONE" "NAKED TRUTH" "TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING"
"LAUGHING STOCK" "BREADED HIS LAST" "BREAK THE ICE" "WILD GOOSE CHASE"
"HEART OF HEARTS" "VANISH INTO THIN AIR" "WILD GOOSE CHASE"
"SEEN BETTER DAYS" "MAKES YOUR HAIR STAND ON END"
"DEAD AS A DOORNAIL" "FOR GOODNESS' SAKE" "LOVE IS BLIND"
"GREEN EYED MONSTER" "FAIR / FOUL PLAY / PLAY" "OFF WITH HIS HEAD"
"THE WORLD IS MY OYSTER" "BRAVE NEW WORLD" "A SORRY SIGHT"
"BE ALL / END ALL"



Who knew that
we would owe so
much to
Shakespeare?

Did you expect the following to be things that we discuss in English Literature?

- Some of our more recent topics:
- Donald Trump's climb to power was inevitable.
- Society will never be equal.
- What would happen if a Miley Cyrus concert video was the one thing saved from our generation?
- Is love always linked to money? Can you be wealthy and fall in love?



CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

A C H I E V E M E N T F O R A L L

Where can English Literature take me?

- Teaching
- Law
- Journalism
- Author
- Publishing
- Editor
- Business
- Public relations
- MANY more!

A qualification in English Literature can show future employers that you can analyse, discuss theories, write essays and present arguments. It is not just about reading!



CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

A C H I E V E M E N T F O R A L L

Results

- 100% A*-E
- A number of our students go on to study English at University or an English based qualification.

You are in an amazing position!

- In previous years, the ‘jump’ to AS from GCSE seemed quite significant in English Literature because Year 11 had included 25% coursework and less quotations to learn.
- You are in a much better position because you are already in the habit of learning quotations.
- You will be able to take the books in to your A Level exams!



CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

A C H I E V E M E N T F O R A L L

Why should you choose to study English Literature?

- I like reading. (You will be expected to read outside of lessons).
- I especially like to read different forms of literature.
- My analytical skills are a strength.
- I like to debate issues.
- I enjoy exploring why a writer has chosen to produce a certain text.
- I want to develop my ability to link texts across genres and time periods.
- I am good at explaining the effects of words and phrases on the reader.

What will you study?



- We follow the Edexcel course and it is structured over two years.

Component 1: Drama

*Paper code: 9ET0/01

- Externally assessed
- Availability: May/June
- First assessment: 2017

**30% of the
total
qualification**

Overview of content

Students study:

- one Shakespeare play and one other drama from either tragedy or comedy – both texts may be selected from one or both of these categories.
- critical essays related to their selected Shakespeare play. Students' preparation is supported by *Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Tragedy* or *Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Comedy*.

Overview of assessment

- Written examination, lasting 2 hours and 15 minutes.
- Open book – clean copies of the drama texts can be taken into the examination. The Critical Anthology **must not** be taken into the examination.
- Total of 60 marks available – 35 marks for Section A and 25 marks for Section B.
- Two sections: students answer **one** question from a choice of **two** on their studied text for both Section A and Section B.
- Section A – Shakespeare: **one** essay question, incorporating ideas from wider critical reading (AO1, AO2, AO3, AO5 assessed).
- Section B – Other Drama: **one** essay question (AO1, AO2, AO3 assessed).

Othello

*Streetcar
Named
Desire*

Component 2: Prose

*Paper code: 9ET0/02

- Externally assessed
- Availability: May/June
- First assessment: 2017

**20% of the
total
qualification**

Overview of content

Students study:

- two prose texts from a chosen theme. At least **one** of the prose texts must be pre-1900.

Overview of assessment

- Written examination, lasting 1 hour and 15 minutes.
- Open book – clean copies of the prose texts can be taken into the examination.
- Total of 40 marks available.
- Students answer **one** comparative essay question from a choice of **two** on their studied theme (AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4 assessed).

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood and
Frankenstein by Mary Shelley.

Component 3: Poetry***Paper code: 9ET0/03**

- Externally assessed
- Availability: May/June
- First assessment: 2017

**30% of the
total
qualification****Overview of content**

Students study:

- poetic form, meaning and language
- a selection of post-2000 specified poetry

and

- a specified range of poetry from:

either

- a literary period (either pre- or post-1900)

or

- a named poet from within a literary period.

Overview of assessment

- Written examination, lasting 2 hours and 15 minutes.
- Open book – clean copies of the poetry texts can be taken into the examination.
- Total of 60 marks available – 30 marks for Section A and 30 marks for Section B.
- Two sections: students answer **one** question from a choice of **two**, comparing an unseen poem with a named poem from their studied contemporary text and **one** question from a choice of **two** on their studied movement/poet.
- Section A – Post-2000 Specified Poetry: **one** comparative essay question on an unseen modern poem written post-2000 and one named poem from the studied contemporary text (AO1, AO2, AO4 assessed).
- Section B – Specified Poetry Pre- or Post-1900: **one** essay question (AO1, AO2, AO3 assessed).

Romantic Poetry Collection

Post 200 Poetry

Non-examination assessment***Code: 9ET0/04**

- Internally assessed, externally moderated
- Availability: May/June
- First moderation: 2017

**20% of the
total
qualification****Overview of content**

Students have a free choice of two texts to study.

Chosen texts:

- must be different from those studied in Components 1, 2 and 3
- must be complete texts and may be linked by theme, movement, author or period
- may be selected from poetry, drama, prose or literary non-fiction.

Overview of assessment

Students produce one assignment:

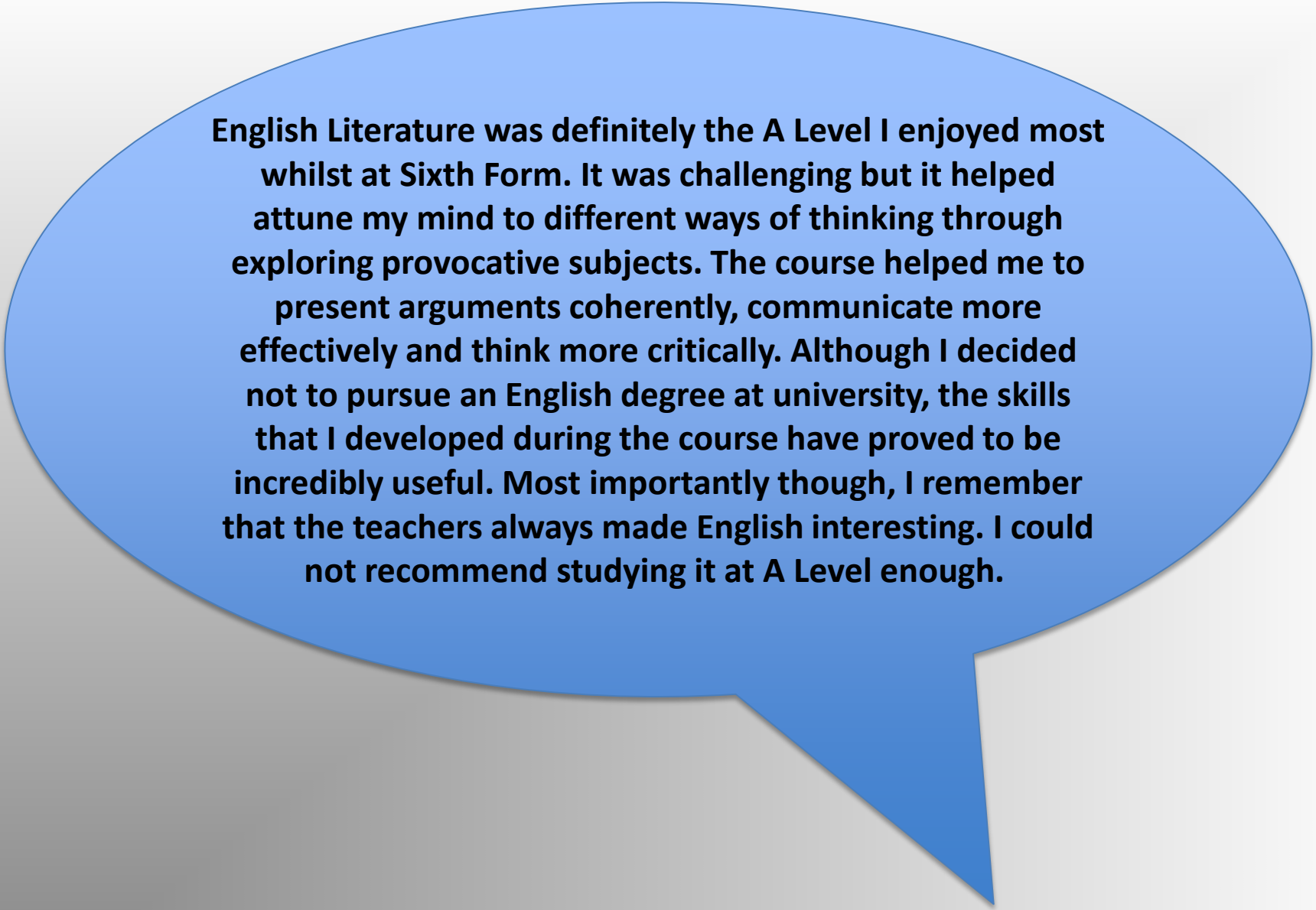
- **one** extended comparative essay referring to two texts (AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4, AO5 assessed)
- advisory total word count is 2500–3000 words
- total of 60 marks available.

**See Appendix 3: Codes for a description of this code and all other codes relevant to this qualification.*

Coursework that is worth 20%
You can choose your texts.

Our previous students have voiced their thoughts:

I took English Literature as I loved to analyse books and poems and explore different layers of meaning. Now, in my second year of my Psychology degree, I can see what an important role English Literature played in developing my critical analysis. Whether writing a literature review or a lab report, being able to critically evaluate is vital to achieve at least a 2:1. I also believe, in general, that English Literature exposes you to a wealth of knowledge regarding different opinions and historical information that is useful in all aspects of a degree.

A blue speech bubble with a white border and a drop shadow, containing a paragraph of text. The bubble is positioned in the upper half of the page, with its tail pointing downwards and to the right.

English Literature was definitely the A Level I enjoyed most whilst at Sixth Form. It was challenging but it helped attune my mind to different ways of thinking through exploring provocative subjects. The course helped me to present arguments coherently, communicate more effectively and think more critically. Although I decided not to pursue an English degree at university, the skills that I developed during the course have proved to be incredibly useful. Most importantly though, I remember that the teachers always made English interesting. I could not recommend studying it at A Level enough.

Studying A Level English Literature means that you're studying so much more than just remembering quotes and page numbers. It's learning about your own views and beliefs that you may not even know you had or how strongly you feel about them. It's being assured that having a different opinion is the best thing you can have because it's yours and you're passionate about it.

The books, poems, plays, extracts and more that you'll come across will be interesting. Some you'll love and some you'll hate but those are the best ones because you'll be rewarded for having an opinion. It's different from GCSE as it is more challenging and thought-provoking.

Even though I didn't take English at university, it's still a part of my life. I'm now able to understand viewpoints that may differ from my own and respect them as though they were mine.

To put it simply, if you want a subject to challenge you, fuel your passionate views and grow your appreciation for others then do A Level English!

Entry Requirements

- Grade 6 in English. (Can be in either Language or Literature).
- Enthusiasm
- Organisation
- A willingness to debate.



CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

A C H I E V E M E N T F O R A L L

Questions?

Please visit our stand in the hall where students will be willing to answer questions.

Alternatively, please feel free to email any of the staff below:

Miss Carter or Mrs Ayre.



CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

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