**Cambridge International AS & A Level Literature in English**

**1 Syllabus overview**

**1.1 Content Cambridge International AS Level Literature in English** requires candidates to answer two compulsory papers: Paper 3 Poetry and Prose, and Paper 4 Drama. Overall, at AS Level candidates are required to study four set texts. In each paper candidates answer two questions, each on a different text. Candidates are required to answer questions on a range of poems, prose and plays, with options from the canon of English Literature and modern texts in English. Close study of all the texts chosen is needed in preparation for a choice of essay and passage-based questions.

**2.1 Assessment For Cambridge International AS Level Literature in English**, candidates:

• take Papers 3 and 4 only in the same series (for the Cambridge International AS qualification).

**Cambridge International AS Level candidates take:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Paper 3 Poetry and Prose | Duration | Weighting |
| Candidates answer two questions: one question from Section A Poetry and one question from Section B Prose. Externally assessed. 50 marks | 2 hours | 50% |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Paper 4 Drama | Duration | Weighting |
| Candidates answer two questions on two plays. Externally assessed. 50 marks | 2 hours | 50% |

Syllabus aims and assessment objectives

**2.1 Syllabus aims The syllabus aims to develop**:

• appreciation of and informed personal response to literature in English in a range of texts in different forms, and from different periods and cultures

• the interdependent skills of reading, analysis and communication

• effective and appropriate communication • wider reading and an understanding of how it may contribute to personal development.

2.2 Assessment objectives Candidates must demonstrate:

AO1: The ability to respond to texts in the three main forms (Prose, Poetry and Drama) of different types and from different cultures.

AO2: An understanding of the ways in which writers’ choices of form, structure and language shape meanings.

AO3: The ability to produce informed, independent opinions and judgements on literary texts.

AO4: The ability to communicate clearly the knowledge, understanding and insight appropriate for literary study.

3 Syllabus content

Paper 3 Poetry and Prose [This paper is timetabled with 8695 Paper 9 Poetry, Prose and Drama.]

The paper contains two sections:

Section A: Poetry and Section B: Prose.

Candidates answer two questions, each from a different section.

• An essay question and a passage-based question are set on each text.

• In all answers, candidates must show understanding of the text and an informed independent opinion; they must communicate these clearly and appropriately. Questions will test candidates’ understanding of:

• the ways in which writers’ choices of form, structure and language shape meanings

• the language and style of texts

• the effective use of narrative methods

• how parts of the text relate to the work as a whole.

**Texts are not allowed in the examination room. Dictionaries may not be used.**

**Paper 4**

**Drama Candidates answer two questions on two plays.**

• An essay question and a passage-based question are set on each text.

• In all answers, candidates must show understanding of the text and an informed independent opinion; they must communicate these clearly and appropriately. Questions will test candidates’ understanding of:

• the ways in which writers’ choices of form, structure and language shape meanings

• the language and style of texts

• the effective use of narrative methods • how parts of the text relate to the work as a whole

• the dramatic qualities of play texts.

**Texts may not be taken into the examination room. Dictionaries may not be used**

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