

Frequently Asked Question

English Department Literature Unit

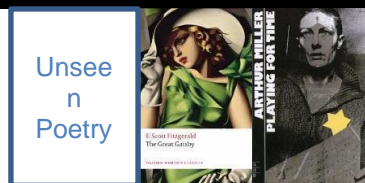
FAQ 1 : What is Literature in English about?

It is about learning to read with a deep critical appreciation.

FAQ 2 : Is Literature in English a pre-requisite for any courses in the universities?

No. English Literature is not a pre-requisite for any courses.

FAQ 3 : What are the texts offered for H1 Literature in English (8832/01)?



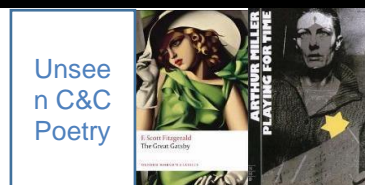
8832/01 H1 EN Paper Format: 3 Sections, Essay question, 3 hours, 25 marks each

Section A: Poetry - UNSEEN single poem analysis

Section B: Prose – The Great Gatsby by F. S. Fitzgerald

Section C: Drama – Playing for Time by A. Miller

FAQ 4 : What are the texts for H2 Literature in English (9509/01 & 9509/02)?

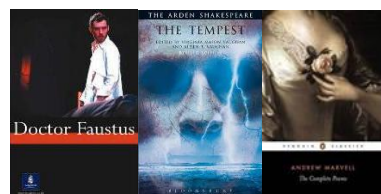


9509/01 H2 EN Paper Format: 3 Sections, Essay question, 3 hours, 25 marks each

Section A: Poetry – UNSEEN comparative analysis of 2 poems

Section B: Prose – The Great Gatsby by F. S. Fitzgerald

Section C: Drama – Playing for Time by A. Miller



9509/02 H2 EN Paper Format: 3 Sections, Essay question, 3 hours, 25 marks each

Section A: UNSEEN analysis from a choice of two genres

Section B: Text Comparison – The Tempest by W. Shakespeare & Doctor Faustus by C. Marlowe

Section C: Single text study – Andrew Marvell's poetry (21 poems)

FAQ 5 : Is there a pre-requisite to take Literature in English in YIJC?

No. But to be able to enjoy the subject you must be able to read, write and think in the English language. You also must have **AIM**:

A – Attitude (a positive one)

I – Interest (for engaging intelligently with the texts and sensitively with others)

M – Motivation (for wanting to do well, reading beyond and overcoming challenges)

**FAQ 6 : I did not do O level Literature - will I be at a disadvantage?**

Literature in English at A level is more than reading story books. So students must be aware of the demands of the subject. The EN Unit will conduct a foundation module for ALL students in the first 6 weeks of the instructional programme. Students will learn the critical terminology, the literary conventions of the different genres and ways to approach literary analysis. Focus and diligence in these few weeks will overcome the imagined disadvantage. Doing well for the subject depends very much on the student's attitude and aptitude.

FAQ 7 : Do I have to buy the texts? Are they expensive?

For H1, the 2 texts will be about \$25 - \$28. For H2, the 5 texts will cost around \$80 - \$90. Students can bring these texts into the exam venue. Where possible, working copies of the exam texts may be printed for note taking and discussion purposes.

FAQ 8 : How are lessons conducted? What is the class size?

For H1 EN, lessons are conducted in tutorials. We do two sections of the paper concurrently: unseen poetry and a text (prose / drama) per school year. Class size is below 25 per group. For H2 EN, lessons are a combination of lectures and tutorials. We do two sections concurrently across the two papers (9505/01 and 9509/02). Class size is around 20 – 25 per group.

Thank you