

Frequently Asked Questions

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 (8841/01)?

Unseen
Poetry



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 – *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
Section C: Drama – *The Winter's Tale* by William Shakespeare

FAQ 4 : What are the texts for H2 Literature in English (9539/01 & 9539/02)?

Unseen
C&C
Poetry



9539/01 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 – *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
Section C: Drama – *The Winter's Tale* by William Shakespeare



9539/03 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 – *Remembering Babylon* by David Malouf and *Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys
Section C: *An Enemy of the People* by Henrik Ibsen

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. Students must be aware of the demands of the subject. The EN Unit will conduct a foundation module for ALL students in the first 4 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 your attitude and aptitude.

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

Each text will cost about \$20. Students are required to bring these texts into the exam venue.

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 (9539/01 and 9539/03). Class size is around 25 per group.

Thank you.