

Reading Literature in YIJC 2021– Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are the texts 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

2. 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: The English Renaissance

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)

3. Is there a pre-requisite for Literature in English?

*Yes! Be able to read, write and think in the English language. You also must have **AIM**:*

***A** – Attitude (preferably 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)*

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. How can I do well for the subject?

Be familiar with your texts; Read ahead and come to class prepared; Take notes and be attentive; Consult your teachers for help if need; Participate as spectatorship is so boring!