

Circular Number: 0013/2022

To: Boards of Management, Principal Teachers and Teaching Staff of Post-Primary Schools, Special Schools and Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards (ETBs).

Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate English Examination in 2024

The Department of Education wishes to inform the management authorities of second-level schools that the attached lists include the prescribed material for the Leaving Certificate English Examination in June 2024.

The Department requests school authorities to bring this circular to the attention of all English teachers. School authorities and teachers should note that while this is a list of prescribed texts, no specific text is compulsory, although at Higher Level one of the listed Shakespeare plays must be studied.

The Department reminds schools that any use of these texts in Transition Year should be in accordance with the Department's published guidelines on the content of the Transition Year programme.

The Department requests school authorities to give adequate notice of these texts to students before the start of the relevant school year.

This Circular can be accessed on www.gov.ie

Enquiries regarding this Circular should be e-mailed to CAP@education.gov.ie

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Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate English Examination in 2024

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As the syllabus indicates, students are required to study:

- One text for study on its own – See 1 below
- Three other texts for comparative study – See 2 below
- A selection of poetry – See 3 below

Texts chosen for study must be from this list.

At Higher Level a play by Shakespeare must be one of the texts chosen.

This can be studied on its own or as an element in a comparative study.

At Ordinary Level the study of a play by Shakespeare is optional.

1. **One text on its own**, from the following texts: -

DOERR, Anthony	All the Light We Cannot See (H/O)
ELIOT, George	Silas Marner (O)
FRIEL, Brian	Philadelphia, Here I Come! (O)
HANSBERRY, Lorraine	A Raisin in the Sun (O)
MILLER, Arthur	The Crucible (H/O)
RASH, Ron	The Cove (O)
SHAKESPEARE, William	Hamlet (H/O)
SHELLEY, Mary	Frankenstein (H/O)
WILDE, Oscar	The Picture of Dorian Gray (H/O)

N.B. Texts marked H/O may be studied at Higher Level or at Ordinary Level.

Texts marked O may be studied only at Ordinary Level.

2. **Three other texts in a comparative manner, according to the comparative modes prescribed for this course.**

- Any texts from the list of texts prescribed for comparative study, **other than the one already chosen for study on its own**, may be selected for the comparative study.

- In this list, texts are in three broad categories: novel and memoir; drama; and film. At Higher Level and at Ordinary Level, a film may be studied as **one** of the three texts in a comparative study. **Only the texts identified on the list as films may be studied as films.**

The Comparative Modes for Examination in 2024 are:

Higher Level

- (i) Literary Genre
- (ii) Theme or issue
- (iii) Cultural Context

Ordinary Level

- (i) Hero, heroine, villain
- (ii) Theme
- (iii) Social Setting

List of Texts prescribed for comparative study, for examination in the year 2024

Novel / Memoir

ADICHIE, Chimamanda Ngozi	Purple Hibiscus
AUSTEN, Jane	Pride and Prejudice
BARKER, Pat	The Silence of the Girls
BARRY, Sebastian	Days Without End
CHANDLER, Raymond	The Big Sleep
DOERR, Anthony	All the Light We Cannot See
DONOGHUE, Emma	Room
DU MAURIER, Daphne	Rebecca
ELIOT, George	Silas Marner
GREGORY, Tom	A Boy in the Water
ISHIGURO, Kazuo	Never Let Me Go
O'CONNOR, Nuala	Miss Emily
O'FARRELL, Maggie	Hamnet

OWENS, Delia	Where the Crawdads Sing
RASH, Ron	The Cove
SHELLEY, Mary	Frankenstein
WALLACE, Jason	Out of Shadows
WESTOVER, Tara	Educated
WHITEHEAD, Colson	The Underground Railroad
WILDE, Oscar	The Picture of Dorian Gray (1891 version)

Drama

BUTTERWORTH, Jez	The Ferryman
EURIPIDES	Medea
FRIEL, Brian	Philadelphia, Here I Come!
HANSBERRY, Lorraine	A Raisin in the Sun
MILLER, Arthur	The Crucible
RAINE, Nina	Tribes
SAMUELS, Diane	Kindertransport
SHAKESPEARE, William	Hamlet
	Macbeth

Film

BREATHNACH, Paddy	Rosie
CURTIZ, Michael	Casablanca
DARABONT, Frank	The Shawshank Redemption
ERGÜVEN, Deniz Gamze	Mustang
GERWIG, Greta	Ladybird
JOHNSON, Rian	Knives Out
KAPADIA, Asif	Diego Maradona

McQUEEN, Steve

Hunger

3. Poetry

Higher Level

A selection from the poetry of **eight** poets is prescribed for Higher Level.

Students will be expected to have studied **at least six poems** by each poet.

Ordinary Level

A total of **36 poems** is prescribed for Ordinary Level.

Poets prescribed for higher level 2024

DICKINSON, Emily

“Hope” is the thing with feathers
There’s a certain Slant of light
I felt a Funeral, in my Brain
A Bird came down the Walk
I Heard a fly buzz – when I died
The Soul has Bandaged moments
I could bring You Jewels – had I a mind to
A narrow Fellow in the Grass
I taste a liquor never brewed
After great pain, a formal feeling comes

DONNE, John

The Sunne Rising
Song: Go, and catch a falling star
The Anniversarie
Song: Sweetest love, I do not goe
The Dreame (Deare love, for nothing less than
thee...)
A Valediction Forbidding Mourning
The Flea
Batter my heart
At the round earth’s imagined corners
Thou hast made me

HEANEY, Seamus

The Forge
Bogland

The Tollund Man
Mossbawn: Two Poems in Dedication (1) Sunlight
A Constable Calls
The Skunk
The Harvest Bow
The Underground
Postscript
A Call
Tate's Avenue
The Pitchfork
Lightenings viii. (The annals say ...)

HOPKINS, Gerard
Manley

God's Grandeur
Spring
As kingfishers catch fire, dragonflies draw flame
The Windhover
Pied Beauty
Felix Randal
Inversnaid
I wake and feel the fell of dark, not day
No worst there is none. Pitched past pitch of grief
Thou art indeed just, Lord, if I contend

MEEHAN, Paula

Buying Winkles
The Pattern
The Statue of the Virgin at Granard Speaks
Cora, Auntie
The Exact Moment I Became a Poet
My Father Perceived as a Vision of St. Francis
Hearth Lesson
Prayer for the Children of Longing
Death of a Field
Them Ducks Died for Ireland

NÍ CHUILLEANÁIN,
Eiléan

Lucina Schynning in Silence of the Night
The Second Voyage
Deaths and Engines
Street

Fireman's Lift
All for You
Following
Kilcash
Translation
The Bend in the Road
On Lacking the Killer Instinct
To Niall Woods and Xenya Ostrovskaia, married in
Dublin on 9 September 2009

PLATH, Sylvia

Black Rook in Rainy Weather
The Times are Tidy
Morning Song
Finisterre
Mirror
Pheasant
Elm
Poppies in July
The Arrival of the Bee Box
Child

YEATS, William Butler

The Lake Isle of Innisfree
September 1913
The Wild Swans at Coole
An Irish Airman Foresees his Death
Easter 1916
The Second Coming
Sailing to Byzantium
from Meditations in Time of Civil War:
VI, The Stare's Nest by My Window
In Memory of Eva Gore-Booth and Con Markiewicz
Swift's Epitaph
An Acre of Grass
from Under Ben Bulbin: V and VI
Politics

Poets prescribed for ordinary level 2024

ADCOCK, Fleur

Advice to a Discarded Lover

ANGELOU, Maya

When Great Trees Fall

BARRETT BROWNING, Elizabeth	How Do I Love Thee?
CARVER, Raymond	The Juggler At Heaven's Gate
CLARKE, Austin	New Liberty Hall
COLERIDGE, Samuel Taylor	Kubla Khan
DICKINSON, Emily	I felt a Funeral, in my Brain I Heard a fly buzz – when I died
DONNE, John	The Flea
DOVE, Rita	Song: Go and catch a falling star Summit Beach, 1921
FRENCH, Tom	Night Drive
GIOVANNI, Nikki	They Clapped
GROARKE, Vona	Away
HEANEY, Seamus	A Constable Calls The Underground A Call
HOPKINS, Gerard Manley	Spring Inversnaid
HUGHES, Ted	The Thought Fox
MEEHAN, Paula	Buying Winkles Hearth Lesson Prayer for the Children of Longing
NÍ CHUILLEANÁIN, Eiléan	Street To Niall Woods and Xenya Ostrovskaja, married in Dublin on 9 September 2009
O'DONOGHUE, Bernard	Ter Conatus
PLATH, Sylvia	Poppies in July Child The Arrival of the Beebox
SMITHER, Elizabeth	On the euthanasia of a pet dog
SZYMBORSKA, Wislawa	In Praise of My Sister
WILLIAMS, William Carlos	This Is Just To Say

YEATS, William Butler

The Lake Isle of Innisfree
The Wild Swans at Coole
An Irish Airman Foresees his Death

ZEPHANIAH, Benjamin

The Sun