

Subject: English Literature	Exam board: EDUQAS (WJEC)
------------------------------------	----------------------------------

Course information:		
	Teacher 1	Teacher 2
Autumn 1	Unseen Prose – Late Victorian	A Streetcar Named Desire &
Autumn 2	Duffy and Larkin poetry	The Duchess of Malfi
Spring 1	Duffy and Larkin poetry	Unseen Poetry
Spring 2	Paradise Lost (Bk 9/IX)	
Summer 1	Paradise Lost (Bk 9/IX)	Coursework – Core text and partner text
Summer 2		

Summer preparation for Year 13:

Reading the partner text for coursework; unseen prose reading list

Year 13	Teacher 1	Teacher 2
Autumn 1	King Lear	Coursework
Autumn 2	King Lear	Coursework
Spring 1	Unseen Prose	Unseen Poetry
Spring 2	Revision	Revision
Summer 1	Revision	Revision
Summer 2	Public exams	Public exams

Summer Transition Work:

Task 1: Thorough annotations of the poems ‘Crush’ by Carol Ann Duffy and ‘Afternoons’ by Philip Larkin followed by a writing task: Write a response to ONE of the poems explaining what you think the message is and how the poet uses language and/or structure to convey ideas. Write one side of A4. Instructions and poems in handbook.

Task 2: Research task about the tragedy genre which is central to understanding several of the set texts on the course. Instructions in handbook.

Task 3: Optional wider reading – set texts and wider reading recommendations included in transition handbook

Approximate completion time:

2 hours – Task 1 poetry 2 hours – Task 2 research

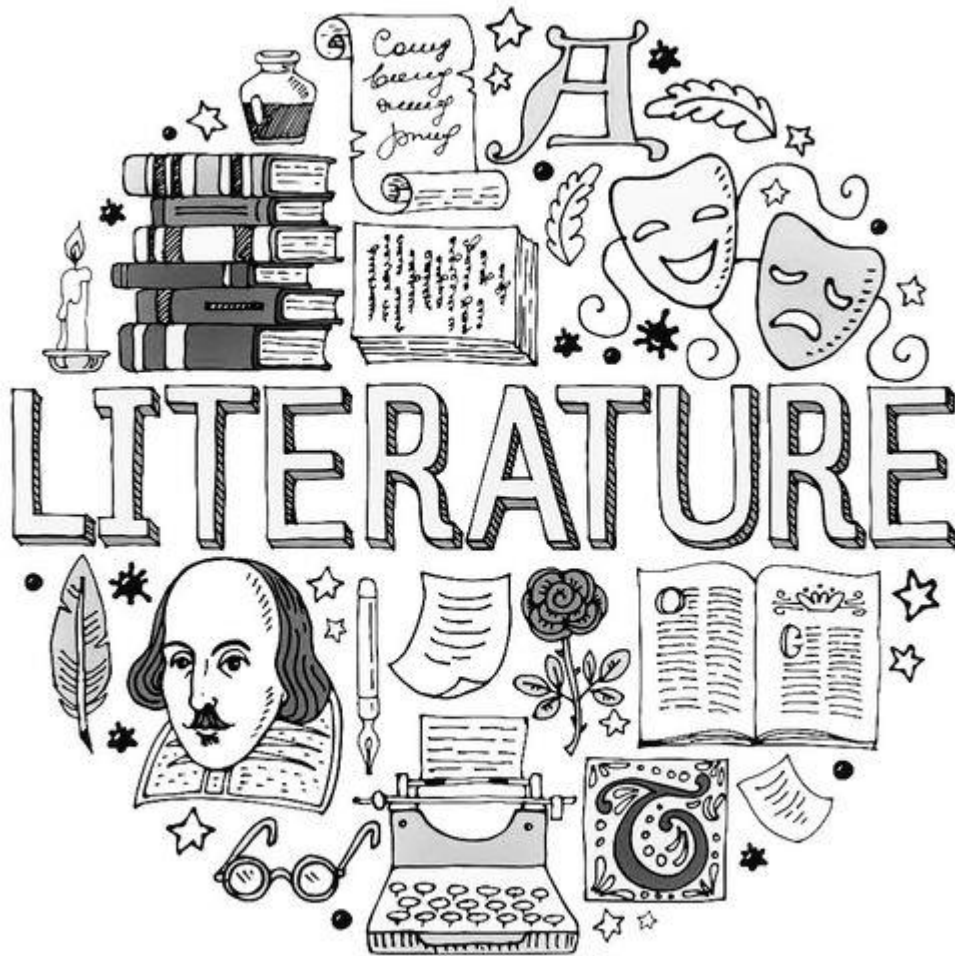
Suggested Summer Wider Reading:

Tess of the D’Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy

ISBN number: 1853260053

A Level English Literature

Student Handbook



Transition

- Transition work, the course overview and reading lists, including the set texts, are in this booklet.

EDUQAS Specification

- Key documents, including the A Level specification can be found on their website: [AS and A Level English Literature | Eduqas](#)

Course Overview

Year 12

	<i>Teacher 1:</i>	<i>Teacher 2:</i>
Autumn 1	Unseen Prose – Late Victorian Duffy and Larkin	A Streetcar Named Desire and Unseen Poetry
Autumn 2		
Spring 1	Duffy and Larkin	The Duchess of Malfi
Spring 2	Paradise Lost (Bk 9/IX)	
Summer 1	Paradise Lost (Bk 9/IX)	Coursework – Core text and partner text

Year 13

	<i>Teacher 1:</i>	<i>Teacher 2:</i>
Autumn 1	King Lear and Unseen Prose	Coursework
Autumn 2		
Spring 1	Duffy and Larkin	A Street Car Named Desire and The Duchess of Malfi Revision
Spring 2	Paradise Lost (Bk 9/IX)	
Summer 1	Revision	Revision

Part One: Summer Work to complete for September:

Task 1: Read the two poems included and thoroughly annotate:

- What do you think the meaning is and what themes are explored?
- Analyse the poetic devices and structural features used by the poet to create meaning

Write a response to ONE of the poems explaining what you think the message is and how the poet uses language and/or structure to convey ideas. Write one side of A4.

We will be asking you to hand this response in and we will look at your annotations.



Wallington High School for Girls *Sixth Form*

Crush

The older she gets,
the more she awakes
with somebody's face strewn in her head
like petals which once made a flower.

What everyone does
is sit by a desk
and stare at the view, till the time
where they live reappears. Mostly in words.

Imagine a girl
turning to see
love stand by a window, taller,
clever, anointed with sudden light.

Yes, like an angel then,
to be truthful now.
At first a secret, erotic, mute;
today a language she cannot recall.

And we're all owed joy,
sooner or later.
The trick's to remember whenever
it was, or to see it coming.

Carol Ann Duffy



Wallington High School for Girls

Sixth Form

Afternoons

Summer is fading:
The leaves fall in ones and twos
From trees bordering
The new recreation ground.
In the hollows of afternoons
Young mothers assemble
At swing and sandpit
Setting free their children.

Behind them, at intervals,
Stand husbands in skilled trades,
An estateful of washing,
And the albums, lettered
Our Wedding, lying
Near the television:
Before them, the wind
Is ruining their courting-places

That are still courting-places
(But the lovers are all in school),
And their children, so intent on
Finding more unripe acorns,
Expect to be taken home.
Their beauty has thickened.
Something is pushing them
To the side of their own lives.

Philip Larkin



Wallington High School for Girls

Sixth Form

Part Two: Research task

The tragedy genre is central to a number of the set texts and a detailed understanding of the conventions and subgenres is important.



Complete this research and bring to your lessons in September:

- a) Write down everything you already know about the tragedy genre

 - b) Research the three following aspects of tragedy and present your notes in a useful format to refer back to in lessons
 - i) Modern domestic tragedy
 - ii) Revenge tragedy
 - iii) Shakespearean tragedy
-
- What are the conventions and characteristics of these types of tragedy?
 - What types of settings, characters, plots and structures are typical of these genres?
 - Find examples of plays in these genres.

Optional Reading

We will be asking you what you have read over the summer in our first lesson in September.

You can make a start reading any of the set texts.



Wallington High School for Girls

Sixth Form

The set texts we will read during the A Level Course are listed below and the texts we read first are in bold:

Component 1: Poetry

Carol Ann Duffy: *Mean Time* and Philip Larkin: *The Whitsun Weddings* – Year 12

John Milton: *Paradise Lost* Book IX (Oxford) – Year 12

Component 2: Drama

William Shakespeare: *King Lear* – Year 13

John Webster: *The Duchess of Malfi* (Methuen) & **Tennessee Williams: *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Penguin Modern Classics)** – Year 12

Component 3: An unseen prose text taken from the time period of 1880-1910

A selection of extracts and writers from the time period will be studied in preparation.

Copies of the texts

Links to the relevant editions of the set texts are listed below:

[Mean Time: Amazon.co.uk: Duffy DBE, Professor Carol Ann: 9781509852949: Books](#)

[The Whitsun Weddings: Amazon.co.uk: Larkin, Philip: 9780571097104: Books](#)

[Oxford Student Texts: John Milton: Paradise Lost Book IX : Milton, John, Croft, Steven, Baldwin, Anna: Amazon.co.uk: Books](#)

[The Duchess of Malfi \(New Mermaids\): Amazon.co.uk: John Webster, Karen Britland: 9781474295673: Books](#)

[A Streetcar Named Desire \(Modern Classics \(Penguin\)\)\(Play edition\): Amazon.co.uk: Williams, Tennessee, Browne, E., Miller, Arthur: 9780141190273: Books](#)

[Oxford School Shakespeare: King Lear: Amazon.co.uk: Shakespeare, William, Gill, Roma: 9780198392224: Books](#)



Wallington High School for Girls

Sixth Form

Unseen prose wider reading

Read a novel from the 1890-1910 period to help you experience literature relevant to the Unseen Prose section of the A Level Course. Suggested novels:

1. Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy - ISBN 1853260053
2. The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde
3. The Awakening by Kate Chopin

Performances of drama texts

It is also highly recommended that you watch performances of the Drama texts - many good versions are available online, including on streaming services such as BBC iPlayer and Prime Video.

1. The Duchess of Malfi by John Webster
2. A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams
3. King Lear by William Shakespeare

Read books for pleasure

Included is a reading list to give you inspiration for wider reading throughout the summer, course and beyond!

Other inspiration:

Follow literature prizes and new releases using websites such as:

[Books | The Booker Prizes](#)

[Books | The Guardian](#)

[New Books | Waterstones](#)

Follow BookTok : <https://www.tiktok.com/tag/booktok>



Wallington High School for Girls

Sixth Form

Wider reading lists for you to explore

Prose:

Chinua Achebe - Things Fall Apart

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie - **Purple Hibiscus**, Americanah

Monica Ali - Brick Lane

Margaret Atwood - **The Handmaid's Tale**, Oryx and Crake, The Blind Assassin, Alias Grace

Jane Austen - Pride and Prejudice, Emma, Sense and Sensibility

Pat Barker – The Silence of Girls

Charlotte Brontë - Jane Eyre

Anthony Burgess - A Clockwork Orange

Emily Brontë - Wuthering Heights

AS Byatt - Possession

Angela Carter - The Bloody Chamber, Nights at the Circus

Arthur Conan Doyle – The Hound of the Baskervilles

Joseph Conrad - The Secret Agent, The Heart of Darkness

Charles Dickens - Great Expectations, Hard Times, Bleak House

Daphne Du Maurier - Rebecca

George Eliot - The Mill on The Floss, Middlemarch, Silas Marner

Sebastian Faulks - Birdsong, Charlotte Gray

F. Scott Fitzgerald - The Great Gatsby, Tender is the Night

Susan Fletcher – Eve Green

E.M. Forster - A Room with a View, A Passage to India

Michael Frayn – Spies

Gabriel Garcia Marquez - Love in the Time of Cholera

The books underlined and in bold are sometimes taught for coursework depending on which group you are in





Wallington High School for Girls

Sixth Form

Elizabeth Gaskell - North and South, Wives and Daughters

Graham Greene - Brighton Rock

Thomas Hardy - Far from the Madding Crowd, Tess of the D'Urbervilles

L.P. Hartley - The Go-Between

Ernest Hemingway - For Whom the Bell Tolls, A Farewell to Arms

Khaled Hosseini - A Thousand Splendid Suns, The Kite Runner

Aldous Huxley - Brave New World

Kazuo Ishiguro - The Remains of the Day, Never Let Me Go

James Joyce - Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, Dubliners

D.H Lawrence - Sons and Lovers, Women in Love

Harper Lee - To Kill a Mockingbird

Andrea Levy - Small Island

Hilary Mantel - Wolf Hall, Bring out the Bodies

Yann Martel - Life of Pi

Ian McEwan - Atonement, Enduring Love

Toni Morrison- Beloved

Iris Murdoch - The Bell, The sea, the sea

George Orwell - Nineteen Eighty-Four

Arundhati Roy - The God of Small Things

Sylvia Plath - The Bell Jar

Annie Proulx - Postcards, The Shipping News

Jean Rhys - Wide Sargasso Sea

Bernard Schlink – The Reader

John Steinbeck - The Grapes of Wrath, East of Eden



Wallington High School for Girls

Sixth Form

Bram Stoker - Dracula

Alice Walker - The Colour Purple

Sarah Waters - The Little Stranger

Jeanette Winterson - Oranges are not the only Fruit

Zadie Smith - White Teeth, NW, On Beauty

Virginia Woolf - Mrs. Dalloway, To the Lighthouse



Wallington High School for Girls

Sixth Form

Wanting a challenge? Considering an English degree?

- Check [this list](#) of the best 100 novels written in English, by the Guardian. How many have you read?
- Find out what other budding English students are reading in the [Reading Bank](#)
- Read this blog post on [Classic Books Everyone Should Read](#)

Poetry:

Simon Armitage

WH Auden

William Blake

Evan Boland

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Lord Byron Geoffrey Chaucer

ST Coleridge

Emily Dickinson

Carol Ann Duffy

TS Eliot

Seamus Heaney

Ted Hughes

John Keats

Philip Larkin

John Milton

Wilfred Owen

Sylvia Plath

Christina Rossetti

Jacob Sam-La Rose

Siegfried Sassoon

Percy Shelley

Alfred Lord Tennyson

William Wordsworth

Drama: You could also try and watch performances of work by the following dramatists:

Samuel Beckett

Alan Bennett

Bertolt Brecht

Jez Butterworth

Anton Chekhov

Shelagh Delaney

Brian Friel

Henrik Ibsen

Arthur Miller

Harold Pinter

William Shakespeare

George Bernard Shaw

Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Polly Stenham

Sam Shephard

Tom Stoppard

John Webster

Tennessee Williams

Timberlake Wertenbaker

Oscar Wilde



Wallington High School for Girls

Sixth Form

Non Fiction:

Anon: I Am The Secret Footballer

Maya Angelou: I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings

Bill Bryson: The Lost Continent, Notes from a Small Island

Alan Bennett: Writing Home

Vera Brittain: Testament of Youth

Truman Capote: In Cold Blood

Jenny Diski: Skating to Antarctica

Anna Funder: Stasiland

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl

Robert Graves: Goodbye To All That

Stephen Grosz: The Examined Life

Stephen King – On Writing

George Orwell: Down and Out in Paris and London

Alexander Masters: Stuart: A Life Backwards

Helen Macdonald: H is for Hawk

Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom

Solomon Northrop: Twelve Years a Slave

Jeannette Winterson: Why Be Happy When You Could be Normal?

Xinran: What the Chinese Don't Eat