

English Literature SIL 2026 - Year 12 into 13

Part 1- Compulsory Content

1) NEA/Coursework:

Start to write a first draft of your essay *using the plan shared on Teams and introduced in class*. Your aim is to have written 1,000 words by September. This should include:

- The introduction (approx. 300 words)
- The first developed comparative point (approx. 700 words)

2) Othello Preparation and Research:

You need to buy THIS version of the play (this is the copy specified for use in exams by Edexcel);

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Othello-Wordsworth-Classics-William-Shakespeare/dp/1853260185/ref=pd_sbs_74_1/261-4757943-9243517?encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=1853260185&pd_rd_r=95c9cc7b-16e3-4c04-9875-347cbc503ccd&pd_rd_w=wvymf&pd_rd_wg=G1Aaa&pf_rd_p=2773aa8e-42c5-4dbe-bda8-5cdf226aa078&pf_rd_r=MKPPDYN1EHZBJ4A1ZW33&psc=1&refRID=MKPPDYN1EHZBJ4A1ZW33

I would also advise you to get this study guide and DVD as well:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Othello-York-Notes-level-Advanced/dp/1447982258/ref=pd_bxgy_img_2/261-4757943-9243517?encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=1447982258&pd_rd_r=95c9cc7b-16e3-4c04-9875-347cbc503ccd&pd_rd_w=TJX6J&pd_rd_wg=G1Aaa&pf_rd_p=106f838b-b7d1-46e9-83e0-f70facc857bf&pf_rd_r=MKPPDYN1EHZBJ4A1ZW33&psc=1&refRID=MKPPDYN1EHZBJ4A1ZW33

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Othello-Laurence-Fishburne/dp/B000CCRCFM>

Remember, Shakespeare wrote his plays to be watched in a theatre, so watching a version of the play is the best way to start!

Then: research and define these following character types (also make cross references as to where you might have seen these characters before...)

- Protagonist
- Antagonist
- Tragic Hero
- Villain
- Machiavellian Villain/Machiavel

- Rake
- Archetypal Victim
- Gull
- Scapegoat
- Flat and Round characters (google E M Forster's definition)
- Foil/Mirror
- Shrew
- Virgin/Whore roles and Dichotomy
- Idealised Female
- fool/clown

Now, research and define the following terms, making cross references as to where you have seen them before:

- Rhymed Verse
- Blank Verse
- Prose (used by Shakespeare)
- Iambic Pentameter
- Heroic Couplets
- Soliloquy
- Parenthesis
- Paralinguistics
- Prosodic Features

Part 2- Additional Content

Begin to make revision folders using the following plan:

	WHAT?	Revision Notes made?	WHEN?
PAPER 1 SECTION B- A Streetcar Named Desire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot of the play • Development of characters/character types • Analysis Structure to hit all Assessment Objectives (WHAT / HOW / WHY) • Protagonist, Antagonist, Hamartia, Hubris, Anagnorisis (epiphany), Peripateia (downfall/downturn/catastrophe), Catharsis, • Melodrama 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freytag’s Pyramid- Exposition, Rising Action, Complicating Action, Climax/Crisis, Denouement/Resolution • Symbols and Motifs: Undressing, Bathing, Paper, Light and Shadow, Phallic symbols • Staging features: proxemics (characters’ closeness to each other), paralinguistic/prosodic features, Plastic theatre, Music/sound, Lighting, Costume and clothing, Props, Staged pauses/ parenthesis, One sided conversations • Williams’ methods; phallic imagery, zoomorphism, dramatic irony, proleptic irony, Poetic realism, expressionism • Context: Southern gothic, Biography of Tennessee Williams, Post WW2 Society, Hegemonic Masculinity, Hegemonic Femininity, Napoleonic Code, Setting- Elysian Fields/New Orleans, Social Class, Misogyny, Patriarchy, Southern Belle, War-Civil and WW2, Old South/New South, Slavery (plantations), Salerno • Themes: Betrayal, Desire, Fate, Love, Lust, Sex, Violence, Hypocrisy, Mental illness/instability, Decay, Sexuality, Sexual Autonomy, Loneliness, Conflict and Confrontation, Appearance vs Reality • Mythological allusions: Elysian Fields, Pleiades and Orion, Hades and Persephone • Intertextuality: Poe, Hawthorne, Whitman, La Dame aux Camelias, The Arabian Nights, Barrett Browning 		
	WHAT?	HOW?	WHEN?
PAPER 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot of both texts • Character development and Character archetypes (heroes/foil/Flat/Round/Active/Passive characters) • How to compare (Beginning of essay, frequent links all the way through) • Analysis structure to hit all Assessment Objectives (WHAT / HOW / WHY) <p>A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genre: Social Realism, Historical Fiction, Domestic Fiction, Didactic Fiction • Narrative devices and structure: Limited Heterodiagetic, interweaving perspectives, female protagonists • Themes: War, Gender, Religion, Plight of Refugees, Hope, Motherhood, Beauty of Afghanistan, Power of Love, Sacrifice, Inequality 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Context/Verisimilitude: Afghanistan History, Bloody Coup, Russian Invasion, Civil War, Taliban takeover, American invasion to defeat Taliban after 9/11 • Intertextuality- Poems by Afghan poets used throughout <p>TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genre: Social Realism, Domestic Fiction, (Anti)Pastoral Tragedy, Didactic Fiction • Narrative devices and structure: Omniscient Heterodiaget, interweaving perspectives, female protagonists • Themes: Gender, Inequality, Modernity, Nature, Religion, Hypocrisy, Society, Fate, Love, Redemption, Family and Motherhood, Plight of the Working Class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Context/Verisimilitude: Victorian Religious Morality, Angel of the House/Fallen Woman, Industrial Revolution, Farming, Class roles, Poverty, Rise of New Money <p>Aiming for A/A*? Wider Reading for ALL Topics: Study guides, JStor, Critical Interpretations/Essays</p>		
	WHAT?	HOW?	WHEN?
PAPER 3 SECTION A	The Anthology poems that we have studied from this list:		

Eat Me	Patience Agbabi
Chainsaw Versus the Pampas Grass	Simon Armitage
Material	Ros Barber
History	John Burnside
An Easy Passage	Julia Copus
The Deliverer	Tishani Doshi
The Lammas Hireling	Ian Duhig
To My Nine-Year-Old Self	Helen Dunmore
A Minor Role	U A Fanthorpe
The Gun	Vicki Feaver
The Furthest Distances I've Travelled	Leontia Flynn
Giuseppe	Roderick Ford
Out of the Bag	Seamus Heaney
Effects	Alan Jenkins
Genetics	Sinéad Morrissey
From the Journal of a Disappointed Man	Andrew Motion
Look We Have Coming to Dover!	Daljit Nagra
Please Hold	Ciaran O'Driscoll
On Her Blindness	Adam Thorpe
Ode on a Grayson Perry Urn	Tim Turnbull

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- How to analyse an unseen poem (SMILE analysis)
- Forms of poetry
- Structural decisions
- Stanza types
- Types of repetition
- Lineation
- Meter and rhyme
- Language methods:
- Imagery
- Simile/metaphor
- Semantic field connotations
- Sound imagery
- AO1 advanced terms
- How to compare (comparative topic sentences / discourse markers, etc)

Unseen poetry practice- have a go at these practice booklets on the Team

[Unseen Poetry practice](#)- B group

[Unseen Poetry practice](#) – E group

Also- you can google 'unseen poetry practice' and find countless examples aimed at both GCSE and A level students.