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**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 2022**

The Department of Education and Skills 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 2022.

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.

**Eamonn Moran**  
**Principal Officer**  
**Curriculum and Assessment Policy Unit**

## List of prescribed texts for the Leaving Certificate English examination of June 2022.

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.**

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

CARR, Marina	By the Bog of Cats (O)
DOERR, Anthony	All the Light We Cannot See (H/O)
DONOGHUE, Emma	Room (O)
FRIEL, Brian	Philadelphia, Here I Come! (O)
IBSEN, Henrik	A Doll's House (H/O)
SHAKESPEARE, William	Othello (H/O)
SHELLEY, Mary	Frankenstein (H/O)
TAYLOR, Sarah	The Lauras (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.**

**3. The Comparative Modes for Examination in 2022 are:**

### Higher Level

- (i) Cultural Context
- (ii) General Vision and Viewpoint
- (iii) Literary Genre

### Ordinary Level

- (i) Social setting
- (ii) Relationships
- (iii) Hero, heroine, villain

#### 4. 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.

#### 5. 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.

#### List of texts prescribed for comparative study, for examination in the year 2022

##### Novel / Memoir

ADICHIE, Ngozi Chimimanda	Americanah
ATKINSON, Kate	Behind the Scenes at the Museum
ATWOOD, Margaret	The Handmaid's Tale
AUSTEN, Jane	Persuasion
BARRY, Sebastian	Days Without End
BRONTË, Emily	Wuthering Heights
DOERR, Anthony	All the Light We Cannot See
DONOGHUE, Emma	Room
ELIOT, George	Silas Marner
ISHIGURO, Kazuo	Never Let Me Go
LEVI, Primo	If This Is A Man
O'CONNOR, Nuala	Miss Emily
O'CONNOR, Joseph	Star of the Sea
PEACE, David	The Damned Utd
RASH, Ron	The Cove
SHELLEY, Mary	Frankenstein
TAYLOR, Sarah	The Lauras
WALLACE, Jason	Out of Shadows
WESTOVER, Tara	Educated
WILDE, Oscar	The Picture of Dorian Gray (1891 version)

## **Drama**

BURKE-BROGAN, Patricia	Eclipsed
CARR, Marina	By the Bog of Cats
FRIEL, Brian	Philadelphia, Here I Come!
IBSEN, Henrik	A Doll's House
RAINE, Nina	Tribes
SAMUELS, Diane	Kindertransport
SHAKESPEARE, William	Macbeth
	Othello
SOPHOCLES	Oedipus the King

## **Film**

BREATHNACH, Paddy	Rosie
EASTWOOD, Clint	Unforgiven
ERGÜVEN, Deniz Gamze	Mustang
GERWIG, Greta	Ladybird
GRANIK, Debra	Winter's Bone
LANDIS, John	Trading Places
McQUEEN, Steve	Hunger
WILDER, Billy	Some Like It Hot

## **6. 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 2022

BISHOP, Elizabeth

The Fish  
The Bight  
At the Fishhouses  
The Prodigal  
Questions of Travel  
The Armadillo  
Sestina  
First Death in Nova Scotia  
Filling Station  
In the Waiting Room

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

KEATS, John

To one who has been long in city pent  
Ode To A Nightingale  
On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer  
Ode On A Grecian Urn  
When I have fears that I may cease to be  
La Belle Dame Sans Merci  
To Autumn  
Bright star, would I were steadfast as thou art

KENNELLY, Brendan

Begin  
Bread  
Dear Autumn Girl  
Poem from a Three Year Old

	Oliver to His Brother
	I See You Dancing, Father
	A Cry for Art O'Leary
	Things I Might Do
	A Great Day
	Fragments
	The Soul's Loneliness
	St Brigid's Prayer
LAWRENCE, DH	Call into Death
	Piano
	The Mosquito
	Snake
	Hummingbird
	Intimates
	Delight of Being Alone
	Absolute Reverence
	What have they done to you?
	Bavarian Gentians
	Baby-Movements II, "Trailing Clouds"
RICH, Adrienne	Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
	Uncle Speaks in the Drawing Room
	Power
	Storm Warnings
	Living in Sin
	The Roofwalker
	Our Whole Life
	Trying to Talk with a Man
	Diving Into the Wreck
	From a Survivor
WORDSWORTH, William	To My Sister
	A slumber did my spirit seal
	She dwelt among the untrodden ways
	Composed upon Westminster Bridge
	It is a beautiful evening, calm and free
	The Solitary Reaper

*from* The Prelude:  
 The Stolen Boat [ll357-400]  
     Skating [ll425-463]  
 Lines Composed... above Tintern Abbey  
 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 2022

BISHOP, Elizabeth	The Fish
	The Prodigal
	Filling Station
BRYCE, Colette	Self-Portrait in the Dark (with Cigarette)
CANNON, Moya	Shrines
CLANCHY, Kate	Driving to the Hospital
DICKINSON, Emily	I felt a Funeral, in my Brain
	I Heard a fly buzz – when I died
DUFFY, Carol Ann	Valentine
FRANCE, Linda	If Love Was Jazz
HEALY, Randolph	Frogs
HUDGINS, Andrew	The Cadillac in the Attic
HUGHES, Ted	Hawk Roosting
KEATS, John	On First Looking into Chapman's Homer
	La Belle Dame Sans Merci
KENNELLY, Brendan	Begin

	Bread
	Saint Brigid's Prayer
LAWRENCE, D.H.	Humming-Bird
	Baby-Movements II, "Trailing Clouds"
LEVERTOV, Denise	An Arrival (North Wales, 1897)
MEEHAN, Paula	The Russian Doll
O'REILLY, Caitriona	Interlude 12
RICH, Adrienne	Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
	Uncle Speaks in the Drawing Room
SHEEHAN, Eileen	My Father, Long Dead
SHUTTLE, Penelope	Zoo Morning
SOTO, Gary	Oranges
STAFFORD, William	Travelling Through the Dark
WILLIAMS, William Carlos	This is just to say...
WORDSWORTH, William	She dwelt among the untrodden ways
	It is a beauteous evening, calm and free
	from The Prelude: Skating [ll 425-463]
YEATS, William Butler	The Lake Isle of Innisfree
	The Wild Swans at Coole
	An Irish Airman Foresees his Death