

Rannóg Pholasáí,
Churaclaim agus Mheasúnachta,
An Roinn Oideachais agus
Scileanna,
Bloc 2,
Sráid Maoilbhríde,
Baile Átha Cliath 1



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Circular Letter 0006/2017

To the Principals and Boards of Management of Second-Level Schools and Special Schools, and to the Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards

**Prescribed Material for the
Leaving Certificate English Examination in 2019**

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 2019.

The Department requests school authorities to bring this circular to the attention of all English teachers.

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
February 2017

List of prescribed texts for the Leaving Certificate English examination of June 2019.

Texts chosen for study must be from this list.

As the syllabus indicates, students are required to study:

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

At **Higher Level** a play by Shakespeare must be one of the texts chosen. This can be studied on its own or as a text within the comparative study. At **Ordinary Level** the study of a play by Shakespeare is optional.

1. One text for study on its own from the following texts:

ADICHIE, Chimamanda Ngozi	Americanah (H/O)
ATWOOD, Margaret	The Handmaid's Tale (H/O)
AUSTEN, Jane	Persuasion (H/O)
CARR, Marina	By the Bog of Cats (H/O)
DONOGHUE, Emma	Room (O)
FITZGERALD, F. Scott	The Great Gatsby (O)
RYAN, Donal	The Spinning Heart (O)
SHAKESPEARE, William	Macbeth (H/O)
SYNGE, J. M.	The Playboy of the Western World (O)

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

2. Three other texts to be studied 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 texts identified on the list as films may be studied as films.

The Comparative Modes for Examination in 2019 are:

Higher Level

- (i) General Vision and Viewpoint
- (ii) Literary Genre
- (iii) Theme or Issue

Ordinary Level

- (i) Relationships
- (ii) Hero, Heroine, Villain
- (iii) Theme

List of texts prescribed for comparative study, for examination in the year 2019

Novel / Memoir

ADICHIE, Chimamanda Ngozi	Americanah
AUSTEN, Jane	Persuasion
ATWOOD, Margaret	The Handmaid's Tale
BINCHY, Maeve	Circle of Friends
BRONTË, Emily	Wuthering Heights
DONOGHUE, Emma	Room
ELIOT, George	Silas Marner
FITZGERALD, F. Scott	The Great Gatsby
FITZMAURICE, Simon	It's Not Yet Dark
GAIMAN, Neil	The Ocean at the End of the Lane
GAUTREAUX, Tim	The Next Step in the Dance
KEEGAN, Claire	Foster
McCABE, EUGENE	Death and Nightingales
O'CONNOR, Joseph	Star of the Sea
ORWELL, George	1984
PEACE, David	The Damned Utd
RYAN, Donal	The Spinning Heart
SATRAPI, Marjane	Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood and The Story of a Return (Graphic Memoir)
SIMPSON, Joe	Touching the Void
VÁSQUEZ, Juan Gabriel	The Sound of Things Falling
WILDE, Oscar	The Picture of Dorian Gray

Drama

CARR, Marina	By the Bog of Cats
IBSEN, Henrik	A Doll's House
KEANE, John B.	Big Maggie
McDONAGH, Martin	A Skull in Connemara
MILLER, Arthur	All My Sons
SHAKESPEARE, William	Macbeth
	The Tempest
SOPHOCLES	Antigone
SYNGE, J. M.	The Playboy of the Western World

Film

CROWLEY, John	Brooklyn
EASTWOOD, Clint	Unforgiven
FARHADI, Asghar	About Elly
HITCHCOCK, Alfred	Rear Window
HOLMES, Alex	Stop at Nothing: The Lance Armstrong Story
HOOPER, Tom	Les Misérables
REITMAN, Jason	Juno

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

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

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

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

Saint Brigid's Prayer

LAWRENCE, D.H.

Call into Death

Piano

The Mosquito

Snake

Humming-Bird

Intimates

Delight of Being Alone

Absolute Reverence

What have they done to you?

Baby-Movements II, "*Trailing Clouds*"

Bavarian Gentians

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

Poems prescribed for ordinary level

AUDEN, W.H.	Funeral Blues
BEER, Patricia	The Voice
BISHOP, Elizabeth	The Fish
	The Prodigal
	Filling Station
BROWNING, Elizabeth Barrett	How Do I Love Thee?
CANNON, Moya	Shrines
COLERIDGE, Samuel Taylor	Kubla Khan
DYAR, Martin	Death and the Post Office
GALLAGHER, Tess	The Hug
HARDIE, Kerry	Daniel's Duck
HEALY, Randolph	Frogs
HEANEY, Seamus	A Constable Calls
	The Underground
	A Call
HERRICK, Robert	To Daffodils
HOPKINS, Gerard Manley	Spring
	Inversnaid
HUGHES, Ted	Hawk Roosting
KENNELLY, Brendan	Begin
	Bread
	Saint Brigid's Prayer
LAWRENCE, D.H.	Humming-Bird
	Baby-Movements II, "Trailing Clouds"
LODEN, Rachel	Memo from the Benefits Department
MISTRAL, Gabriela	Let Him Not Grow Up (trans. Ursula LeGuin)
NÍ CHUILLEANÁIN, Eiléan	Street
	To Niall Woods and Xenya Ostrovskaia, married in Dublin on 9 September 2009
O'MALLEY, Mary	<i>Caoineadh Mháire</i>
PLATH, Sylvia	Poppies in July
	Child
	The Arrival of the Bee Box
SMITHER, Elizabeth	On the euthanasia of a pet dog
YEATS, William Butler	The Wild Swans at Coole
	An Irish Airman Foresees his Death
ZEPHANIAH, Benjamin	The Sun