

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



Curriculum and Assessment  
Policy Unit,  
Department of Education  
and Skills,  
Block 2,  
Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1

☎ (01) 8892291

Fax (01) 8892040

**Circular Letter 0064/2017**

**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 Junior Cycle English.**

**For students commencing Junior Cycle in September 2017**

This circular supersedes Circular 031/2017 entitled ‘Prescribed material for the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) in English. For students commencing Junior Cycle in September 2017 only’.

The Department of Education and Skills wishes to inform the management authorities of second-level schools that the attached list provides the prescribed material for the second and third year of Junior Cycle in English.

The prescribed material for Junior Cycle English for candidates presenting for their Junior Cycle Final examinations in 2018 and 2019 is detailed in Circular 0032/2014.

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

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

Eamonn Moran  
Principal Officer  
October 2017

The list of prescribed texts for second and third year refers to specific texts in the case of novel, drama and film from which students should study.

Other texts (non-literary texts; biopic; screen documentary; screen travelogue; poetry; short stories) are referred to by genre or type only and teachers have freedom to choose specific examples. A list of indicative texts, including suggestions made by teachers, is available at [www.juniorcycle.ie](http://www.juniorcycle.ie). This will support teachers in their selection of suitable material.

**Second and Third  
Year students  
MUST study texts  
as described  
opposite**

From the list of prescribed texts students must study

- Two novels
- Two drama texts.

Note 1: An extract from a play or extracts from one or more plays may be used as one of the drama texts. The extracts may be chosen from outside the list of prescribed texts. The extract or extracts selected by schools should provide students with a broad experience of the dramatic form

Note 2: Students intending to take the Final Assessment at Higher Level must study the full text of one of the five prescribed Shakespearean dramas listed on page four of this Circular during second and/or third year.

A variety of non-literary texts including texts in oral format

A film chosen from the prescribed list of texts

- or** A biopic
- or** A screen documentary
- or** A screen travelogue

Note 3: Visual/screen texts are envisaged here. Print and/or audio biographical, documentary and travel texts may still be explored but fall into the category of ‘non-literary texts, including texts in oral format’.

A selection of poetry (a minimum of 16 poems over the two years)

A number of short stories

## Prescribed texts for second and third year

### For students commencing Junior Cycle in September 2017

#### Novel

BLACKMAN, Malorie	Noughts and Crosses
BOYNE, John	The Dare
BRONTË, Charlotte	Jane Eyre
CATHER, Willa	My Antonia
CONNOLLY, John	The Book of Lost Things
CROSSAN, Sarah	The Weight of Water
GLEITZMAN, Morris	Once
GOLDING, William	Lord of the Flies
HINTON, S.E.	The Outsiders
JOHNSTON, Jennifer	Shadows on our Skin
KIERNAN, Celine	Into the Grey
LEE, Harper	To Kill a Mockingbird
MITCHELL, Jane	Chalkline
MULLIGAN, Andy	Trash
NESS, Patrick	The Knife of Never Letting Go
NICHOLSON, William	The Wind Singer
ORWELL, George	Animal Farm
PORTIS, Charles	True Grit
STEINBECK, John	Of Mice and Men
SWINDELLS, Robert	Stone Cold

#### Drama

BREEN, John	Alone It Stands
FRIEL, Brian	Lovers (Winners and Losers)
GOGOL, Nikolai	The Government Inspector
HILL, Susan	The Woman in Black (adapted for stage by Stephen Mallatratt)
LAURENTS, Arthur	West Side Story

MORPURGO, Michael

O'CASEY, Sean

ROSE, Reginald

RUSSELL, Willy

SHAKESPEARE, William

Students intending to take the Final Assessment at Higher Level must study the full text of one of these prescribed Shakespearean dramas during second **and/or** third year.

SHAW, George Bernard

WILDE, Oscar

War Horse (adapted for stage by Nick Stafford)

The Shadow of a Gunman

Twelve Angry Men

Blood Brothers (musical or stage play)

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Henry IV, Part 1

Much Ado About Nothing

The Merchant of Venice

Romeo and Juliet

Pygmalion

The Importance of Being Earnest

### **Film**

BENIGNI, Roberto

CARO, Niki

CHADHA, Gurinder

JENNINGS, Garth

LAUGHTON, Charles

LINKLATER, Richard

MIYAZAKI, Hayao

SHERIDAN, Jim

SPIELBERG, Stephen

ZEITLIN, Benh

Life Is Beautiful

Whale Rider

Bend It Like Beckham

Son of Rambow

The Night of the Hunter

School of Rock

Spirited Away

In America

ET

Beasts of the Southern Wild