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

Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate English Examination in 2018

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 2018.

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

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

Breda Naughton
Principal Officer
February 2016
List of prescribed texts for the Leaving Certificate English examination of June 2018. 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:

   BINCHY, Maeve            Circle of Friends (O)
   BRONTË, Emily            Wuthering Heights (H/O)
   FITZGERALD, F. Scott     The Great Gatsby (H/O)
   GAIMAN, Neil             The Ocean at the End of the Lane (O)
   MILLER, Arthur           All My Sons (H/O)
   NGOZI ADICHIE, Chimamanda Americanah (H/O)
   O’CASEY, Sean             The Plough and the Stars (O)
   RYAN, Donal              The Spinning Heart (O)
   SHAKESPEARE, William     King Lear (H/O)

   ▪ One of the texts marked with H/O may be studied on its own either at Higher Level or at Ordinary Level.
   ▪ One of the texts marked with O may be studied on its own 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.
   ▪ 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 2018 are:

**Higher Level**
(i) The Cultural Context  
(ii) General Vision and Viewpoint  
(iii) Literary Genre

**Ordinary Level**
(i) Social Setting  
(ii) Relationships  
(iii) Hero, Heroine, Villain

List of Texts prescribed for comparative study, for examination in the year 2018.

- AUSTEN, Jane     Emma  
- BINCHY, Maeve    Circle of Friends  
- BRONTË, Emily     Wuthering Heights  
- COLLINS, Ciarán    The Gamal  
- CHBOSKY, Stephen    The Perks of Being a Wallflower  
- CUARÓN, Alfonso (Dir.)    Children of Men (Film)  
- FITZGERALD, F. Scott    The Great Gatsby  
- GAIMAN, Neil     The Ocean at the End of the Lane  
- GAUTREAUX, Tim     The Next Step in the Dance  
- GREEN, John     The Fault in Our Stars  
- HARDY, Thomas     The Mayor of Casterbridge  
- HAZANAVICIUS, Michel (Dir.)    The Artist (Film)  
- HITCHCOCK, Alfred (Dir.)    Rear Window (Film)  
- HOLMES, Alex (Dir.)    Stop at Nothing: The Lance Armstrong Story (Film)  
- HOOPER, Tom (Dir.)    Les Misérables (Film)  
- IBSEN, Henrik     A Doll’s House  
- KEANE, John B     Big Maggie  
- KEEGAN, Claire     Foster  
- KINGSOLVER, Barbara     Flight Behaviour  
- McCABE, EUGENE     Death and Nightingales  
- McDONAGH, Martin     A Skull in Connemara  
- MILLER, Arthur     All My Sons  
- MILLER, Madeline     The Song of Achilles
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>ORWELL, George</td>
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<td>PEACE, David</td>
<td>The Damned Utd</td>
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<td>REITMAN, Jason (Dir.)</td>
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<td>RYAN, Donal</td>
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<td>SALVATORES, Gabriele (Dir.)</td>
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<td>SATRAPI, Marjane</td>
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<td>SHAKESPEARE, William</td>
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<td>SHAKESPEARE, William</td>
<td>Macbeth</td>
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<td>SIMPSON, Joe</td>
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<td>VÁSQUEZ, Juan Gabriel</td>
<td>The Sound of Things Falling</td>
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<td>ZUSAK, Markus</td>
<td>The Book Thief</td>
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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

BOLAND, Eavan

The War Horse
Child of Our Time
The Famine Road
The Shadow Doll
White Hawthorn in the West of Ireland
Outside History
The Black Lace Fan my Mother Gave Me
This Moment
The Pomegranate
Love

DURCAN, Paul

Nessa
The Girl with the Keys to Pearse’s Cottage
The Difficulty that is Marriage
Wife Who Smashed Television Gets Jail
Parents
En Famille, 1979
Madman
“Windfall”, 8 Parnell Hill, Cork
Six Nuns Die in Convent Inferno
Sport
Father’s Day, 21 June 1992
The Arnolfini Marriage
Ireland 2002
Rosie Joyce
The MacBride Dynasty

FROST, Robert

The Tuft of Flowers
Mending Wall
After Apple-Picking
The Road Not Taken
Birches
‘Out, Out’
Spring Pools
Acquainted with the Night
Design
Provide, Provide
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

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

LARKIN, Philip

Wedding-Wind  
At Grass  
Church Going  
An Arundel Tomb  
The Whitsun Weddings  
MCMXIV  
Ambulances  
The Trees  
The Explosion  
Cut Grass

MONTAGUE, John

Killing the Pig  
The Trout  
The Locket  
The Cage  
Windharp  
All Legendary Obstacles  
The Same Gesture  
The Wild Dog Rose  
Like Dolmens Round My Childhood  
A Welcoming Party

NÍ CHUILLEANÁIN, Eiléan

Lucina Schynning in Silence of the Nicht  
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 Ostrovskaja,
married in Dublin on 9 September 2009

Poetry prescribed for Ordinary Level

BEER, Patricia           The Voice
BOLAND, Eavan             Child of Our Time
                          This Moment
                          Love
COADY, Michael            New World
DUFFY, Carol Ann          Valentine
DURCAN, Paul              Wife Who Smashed Television Gets Jail
                          Parents
                          Sport
FROST, Robert             The Tuft of Flowers
                          Mending Wall
                          ‘Out, Out –’
HARRISON, Tony            Book Ends 1
HERBERT, George           The Collar
HOPKINS, Gerard Manley    Spring
                          Inversnaid
HUGHES, Ted               Hawk Roosting
KEATS, John               On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer
                          La Belle Dame Sans Merci
KENNELLY, Brendan         Night Drive
MORRISSEY, Sinead         Genetics
LARKIN, Philip            Ambulances
                          The Explosion
MONTAGUE, John            The Cage
                          The Locket
                          Like Dolmens Round My Childhood
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