To: Management Authorities of Second-Level Schools

Prescribed Material for English in the
Leaving Certificate Examination in 2014

1. The Department of Education and Skills wishes to inform the management authorities of second-level schools that the prescribed material for English in the Leaving Certificate Examinations in 2014 is as indicated on the attached list.

2. Please bring this Circular and the attached list to the notice of the teachers concerned.

3. Please provide a copy of this Circular to the appropriate representatives of parents and teachers for transmission to individual parents and teachers.

Margaret Kelly
Principal Officer

February 2012
Herewith is the list of prescribed texts for the Leaving Certificate Examination, 2014

As the syllabus indicates, students are required to study from this list:

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

   - AUSTEN, Jane: Pride and Prejudice (H/O)
   - BINCHY, Maeve: Circle of Friends (O)
   - BALLARD, J.G.: Empire of the Sun (H/O)
   - FRIEL, Brian: Translations (H/O)
   - ISHIGURO, Kazuo: Never Let me Go (H/O)
   - JOHNSTON, Jennifer: How Many Miles to Babylon? (O)
   - KEANE, John B.: Sive (O)
   - LEONARD, Hugh: Home Before Night (O)
   - SHAKESPEARE, William: Macbeth (H/O)

   - One of the texts marked with H/O may be studied on its own at Higher Level and at Ordinary Level.
   - One of the texts marked with O may be studied on its own 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. **Texts chosen must be from the prescribed list for the current year.**

   - At Higher Level and at Ordinary Level, a film may be studied as one of the three texts in a comparative study.
3. The Comparative Modes for Examination in 2014 are:

   Higher Level
   (i) The Cultural Context
   (ii) The General Vision and Viewpoint
   (iii) Theme or Issue

   Ordinary Level
   (i) Relationships
   (ii) Social Setting
   (iii) Theme

4. Shakespearean Drama

   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.
Texts prescribed for comparative study, for examination in the year 2014

ABRAHAMSON, Lenny (Dir.) Garage (Film)
ADIGA, Aravind The White Tiger
AUSTEN, Jane Pride and Prejudice
BALLARD, J. G. Empire of the Sun
BINCHY, Maeve Circle of Friends
BRANAGH, Kenneth (Dir.) Much Ado about Nothing (Film)
BRONTË, Emily Wuthering Heights
CUARÓN, Alfonso (Dir.) Children of Men (Film)
CURTIZ, Michael (Dir.) Casablanca (Film)
FRIEL, Brian Translations
HAMILTON, Hugo The Sailor in the Wardrobe
HARRIS, Robert Pompeii
HEMINGWAY, Ernest The Old Man and the Sea
IBSEN, Henrik A Doll’s House
ISHIGURO, Kazuo Never Let me Go
JOHNSTON, Jennifer How Many Miles to Babylon?
JONES, Lloyd Mister Pip
KAY, Jackie Red Dust Road
KEANE, John B. Sive
KEEGAN, Claire Foster
LEVY, Andrea Small Island
LEONARD, Hugh Home Before Night
LESSING, Doris The Grass Is Singing
McCARTHY, Cormac The Road
McGUINNESS, Frank Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme
MILLER, Arthur     All My Sons
NGOZI ADICHIE, Chimamanda   Purple Hibiscus
ORWELL, George     Nineteen Eighty-Four
PICOULT, Jodi     My Sister’s Keeper
ROSOFF, Meg     How I Live Now
SALVATORES, Gabriele (Dir.)   I’m Not Scared (Film)
SALINGER, J.D.     The Catcher in the Rye
SANSOM, C.J.     Dissolution
SCOTT, Ridley (Dir.)     Blade Runner (Film)
SHAKESPEARE, William     Macbeth
SHAKESPEARE, William     Othello
TÓIBÍN, Colm     Brooklyn
TREVOR, William     The Story of Lucy Gault
TWAIN, Mark     Huckleberry Finn
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

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

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…)

KINSELLA, Thomas

Thinking of Mr D.
Dick King
Mirror in February
Chrysalides

from Glenmacnass
VI Littlebody

Tear
Hen Woman
His Father’s Hands

from Settings
Model School, Inchicore

from The Familiar
VII

from Belief and Unbelief
Echo
LARKIN, Philip
Wedding-Wind
At Grass
Church Going
An Arundel Tomb
The Whitsun Weddings
MCMXIV
Ambulances
The Trees
The Explosion
Cut Grass

MAHON, Derek
Grandfather
Day Trip to Donegal
Ecclesiastes
After the Titanic
As It Should Be
A Disused Shed in Co. Wexford
Rathlin
The Chinese Restaurant in Portrush
Kinsale
Antarctica

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 Markievicz
Swift’s Epitaph
An Acre of Grass
from Under Ben Bulben: V and VI
Politics
Poetry Prescribed for Ordinary Level

BEER, Patricia     The Voice

BISHOP, Elizabeth   The Fish
                  The Prodigal
                  Filling Station

DICKINSON, Emily    I felt a Funeral, in my Brain
                  I heard a fly buzz – when I died

DUFFY, Carol Ann    Valentine

GALLAGHER, Tess     The Hug

HARDIE, Kerry       Daniel’s Duck

HEANEY, Seamus      A Constable Calls
                  The Underground
                  A Call

HERBERT, George     The Collar

KENNELLY, Brendan   Night Drive

KINSELLA, Thomas    Thinking of Mr D.
                  Mirror in February

LARKIN, Philip      Ambulances
                  The Explosion

LOCHHEAD, Liz       Kidspoem/Bairmsang

MAHON, Derek        Grandfather
                  After the Titanic
                  Antarctica
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