

## Frequently Asked Questions

### English Department Literature Unit

#### FAQ 1 : What is Literature in English about?

It is about learning to read with a deep critical appreciation.

#### FAQ 2 : Is Literature in English a pre-requisite for any courses in the universities?

No. English Literature is not a pre-requisite for any courses.

#### FAQ 3 : What are the texts offered for H1 Literature in English (8841/01)?

Unseen  
Poetry



8832/01 H1 EN Paper Format: 3 Sections, Essay question, 3 hours, 25 marks each  
Section A: Poetry - UNSEEN single poem analysis  
Section B: Prose – *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte  
Section C: Drama – *The Winter's Tale* by William Shakespeare

#### FAQ 4 : What are the texts for H2 Literature in English (9539/01 & 9539/02)?

Unseen  
C&C  
Poetry



9539/01 H2 EN Paper Format: 3 Sections, Essay question, 3 hours, 25 marks each  
Section A: Poetry – UNSEEN comparative analysis of 2 poems  
Section B: Prose – *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte  
Section C: Drama – *The Winter's Tale* by William Shakespeare



9539/03 H2 EN Paper Format: 3 Sections, Essay question, 3 hours, 25 marks each  
Section A: UNSEEN analysis from a choice of two genres  
Section B: Text Comparison – *Remembering Babylon* by David Malouf and *Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys  
Section C: *An Enemy of the People* by Henrik Ibsen

#### FAQ 5 : Is there a pre-requisite to take Literature in English in YIJC?

No. But to excel in the subject, you should have a relatively strong English Language foundation and be prepared to read and write extensively. You should also have an

#### **AIM:**

**A** – Attitude (a positive one)

**I** – Interest (for engaging intelligently with the texts and sensitively with others)

**M** – Motivation (for wanting to do well, reading beyond and overcoming challenges)



**FAQ 6 : I did not do O level Literature - will I be at a disadvantage?**

Literature in English at the A-levels is about engaging with the literary craft of texts. The Unit will conduct a foundation module for ALL students in the first 4 weeks of the instructional programme. Students will learn the fundamentals. This includes an appreciation of critical terminology, the literary conventions of the different genres and ways to approach literary analysis. Focus and diligence in these few weeks will help you develop a critical appreciation for the subject. Doing well depends very much on your attitude and aptitude.

**FAQ 7 : Do I have to buy the texts? Are they expensive?**

Each text will cost about \$20. It is an open-book exam. Students are required to bring their texts into the exam venue.

**FAQ 8 : How are lessons conducted? What is the class size?**

For H1 EN, lessons are conducted in tutorials. We do two sections of the paper concurrently: unseen poetry and a text (prose / drama) per school year. Class size is below 25 per group. For H2 EN, lessons are a combination of lectures and tutorials. We do two sections concurrently across the two papers (9539/01 and 9539/03). Class size is around 25 per group.

**Thank you**