



**Circular Number: 0013/2022**

**To: Boards of Management, Principal Teachers and Teaching Staff of Post-Primary Schools, Special Schools and Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards (ETBs).**

## **Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate English Examination in 2024**

The Department of Education 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 2024.

The Department requests school authorities to bring this circular to the attention of all English teachers. School authorities and teachers should note that while this is a list of prescribed texts, no specific text is compulsory, although at Higher Level one of the listed Shakespeare plays must be studied.

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.

This Circular can be accessed on [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie).

Enquiries regarding this Circular should be e-mailed to [CAP@education.gov.ie](mailto:CAP@education.gov.ie).

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**Curriculum and Assessment Policy Unit**

**10 March 2022**



## Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate English Examination in 2024

### Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate English examination in 2024

As the syllabus indicates, students are required to study:

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

**Texts chosen for study must be from this list.**

**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.

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

DOERR, Anthony	All the Light We Cannot See (H/O)
ELIOT, George	Silas Marner (O)
FRIEL, Brian	Philadelphia, Here I Come! (O)
HANSBERRY, Lorraine	A Raisin in the Sun (O)
MILLER, Arthur	The Crucible (H/O)
RASH, Ron	The Cove (O)
SHAKESPEARE, William	Hamlet (H/O)
SHELLEY, Mary	Frankenstein (H/O)
WILDE, Oscar	The Picture of Dorian Gray (H/O)

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

Texts marked O may be studied only 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.



- 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 the texts identified on the list as films may be studied as films.**

**The Comparative Modes for Examination in 2024 are:**

Higher Level

- (i) Literary Genre
- (ii) Theme or issue
- (iii) Cultural Context

Ordinary Level

- (i) Hero, heroine, villain
- (ii) Theme
- (iii) Social Setting

**List of Texts prescribed for comparative study, for examination in the year 2024**

**Novel / Memoir**

ADICHIE, Chimamanda Ngozi	Purple Hibiscus
AUSTEN, Jane	Pride and Prejudice
BARKER, Pat	The Silence of the Girls
BARRY, Sebastian	Days Without End
CHANDLER, Raymond	The Big Sleep
DOERR, Anthony	All the Light We Cannot See
DONOGHUE, Emma	Room
DU MAURIER, Daphne	Rebecca
ELIOT, George	Silas Marner
GREGORY, Tom	A Boy in the Water
ISHIGURO, Kazuo	Never Let Me Go
O'CONNOR, Nuala	Miss Emily
O'FARRELL, Maggie	Hamnet



OWENS, Delia	Where the Crawdads Sing
RASH, Ron	The Cove
SHELLEY, Mary	Frankenstein
WALLACE, Jason	Out of Shadows
WESTOVER, Tara	Educated
WHITEHEAD, Colson	The Underground Railroad
WILDE, Oscar	The Picture of Dorian Gray (1891 version)

### **Drama**

BUTTERWORTH, Jez	The Ferryman
EURIPIDES	Medea
FRIEL, Brian	Philadelphia, Here I Come!
HANSBERRY, Lorraine	A Raisin in the Sun
MILLER, Arthur	The Crucible
RAINE, Nina	Tribes
SAMUELS, Diane	Kindertransport
SHAKESPEARE, William	Hamlet
	Macbeth

### **Film**

BREATHNACH, Paddy	Rosie
CURTIZ, Michael	Casablanca
DARABONT, Frank	The Shawshank Redemption
ERGÛVEN, Deniz Gamze	Mustang
GERWIG, Greta	Ladybird
JOHNSON, Rian	Knives Out
KAPADIA, Asif	Diego Maradona
McQUEEN, Steve	Hunger



### 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 2024

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

DONNE, John

The Sunne Rising  
Song: Go, and catch a falling star  
The Anniversarie  
Song: Sweetest love, I do not goe  
The Dreame (Deare love, for nothing less than  
thee...)  
A Valediction Forbidding Mourning  
The Flea  
Batter my heart  
At the round earth’s imagined corners  
Thou hast made me

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

MEEHAN, Paula

Buying Winkles  
The Pattern  
The Statue of the Virgin at Granard Speaks  
Cora, Auntie  
The Exact Moment I Became a Poet  
My Father Perceived as a Vision of St. Francis  
Hearth Lesson  
Prayer for the Children of Longing  
Death of a Field  
Them Ducks Died for Ireland

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

### **Poets prescribed for ordinary level 2024**

ADCOCK, Fleur	Advice to a Discarded Lover
ANGELOU, Maya	When Great Trees Fall
BARRETT BROWNING, Elizabeth	How Do I Love Thee?
CARVER, Raymond	The Juggler At Heaven's Gate
CLARKE, Austin	New Liberty Hall



COLERIDGE, Samuel Taylor	Kubla Khan
DICKINSON, Emily	I felt a Funeral, in my Brain I Heard a fly buzz – when I died
DONNE, John	The Flea
DOVE, Rita	Song: Go and catch a falling star Summit Beach, 1921
FRENCH, Tom	Night Drive
GIOVANNI, Nikki	They Clapped
GROARKE, Vona	Away
HEANEY, Seamus	A Constable Calls The Underground A Call
HOPKINS, Gerard Manley	Spring Inversnaid
HUGHES, Ted	The Thought Fox
MEEHAN, Paula	Buying Winkles Hearth Lesson Prayer for the Children of Longing
NÍ CHUILLEANÁIN, Eiléan	Street To Niall Woods and Xenya Ostrovskaja, married in Dublin on 9 September 2009
O'DONOGHUE, Bernard	Ter Conatus
PLATH, Sylvia	Poppies in July Child The Arrival of the Beebox
SMITHER, Elizabeth	On the euthanasia of a pet dog
SZYMBORSKA, Wislawa	In Praise of My Sister
WILLIAMS, William Carlos	This Is Just To Say
YEATS, William Butler	The Lake Isle of Innisfree The Wild Swans at Coole An Irish Airman Foresees his Death
ZEPHANIAH, Benjamin	The Sun