



SUMMER EXAMS YEAR 13: English Literature Revision Guidance

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| Circulation | Year 13 Students |
| Title | Y13 End of Year Exam Revision |
| Purpose | To provide revision information for Summer Exams |

You will sit **two papers** for PPE 1

- **Paper 1:** Love Through the Ages [3 hours]
- **Paper 2:** Texts in shared contexts: Modern time: Literature from 1945 to the present day [2 hours, 30 minutes]

Paper 1: Love Through the Ages:

Section A: Shakespeare

You will be given an extract from Othello and asked to discuss the extract and the play as a whole.

Section B – Unseen Poetry (1 hour)

You will be given two poems about love and will need to evaluate and compare them. [25 marks]

Section C – Love (Prose and Poetry) (1 hour)

- You will be given two possible questions about the literature of love – you will need to respond to one of your choice.
- In your answer you must discuss the novel “The Great Gatsby” and two of the poems from the “Love Anthology pre-1900” – this is what they mean by ‘two texts’. [25 marks]

You will be provided with a clean copy of “The Great Gatsby” and “Love Anthology pre-1900”.

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts: *Modern time: Literature from 1945 to the present day*

- You must read all of the questions. Then choose **EITHER** Option 1 **OR** Option 2 **OR** Option 3.
- Answer one question from Section A and **both questions** from Section B from your chosen option. **Remember that one of the questions from Section B will be unseen prose.*
- You must answer questions from **only one** option.

You will be provided with a clean copy of “A Streetcar Named Desire”, “The Handmaid’s Tale” and “Skirrid Hill”.

Some general exam guidance:

- You will be provided a copy of all set texts in the exam (with the exception of *Othello*), but you should still know the texts well and should be able to quote accurately from memory.
- You will be examined only on taught content.
- **ALL FIVE** assessment objectives are considered in ALL questions (although there is a heavier weighting in general for AO1 and AO2)

Paper 1 – Love Through the Ages (3 hours)

You will be provided with a copy of “The Great Gatsby” and “Love Anthology pre-1900”

- Revise poetic techniques and features.
- You can use the second half of your anthology (the post 1900 poems) to practise for unseen poetry.
- Research the ‘theme of love’ in literature and poetry.
- Have you thought of a range of approaches and perspectives writers has taken in presenting and exploring the theme of love?
- In the exam - you can select which poems you want to write a response on, from the anthology yourself. Try and keep the main focus on two of them although relating the poem to others in the anthology if you feel it has contextual or thematic relevance to the question and your discussion is also advised.
- Is your knowledge of the historical and cultural background to the poems secure? Research the following poetic movements:
 - 1) Middle English 11th-15th Century
 - 2) The Renaissance
 - 3) The Romantics
 - 4) The Victorian
 - 5) Modernism

For each movement create a mind map/ Cornell notes on the following:

- Key contextual information – e.g. Industrial revolution
- Key conventions of poetry
- Key poets writing in that era
- Attitudes to love

You can use Massolit to help you - <https://massolit.io/courses/love-through-the-ages>

Paper 2 – Texts in Modern Time (2 hours, 30 minutes)

You will be provided with a copy of “A Streetcar Named Desire”, “The Handmaid’s Tale” and “Skirrid Hill”.

- Revise features of prose writing (conventions of different genres, e.g. dystopian, horror, etc)
- Research themes in modern times: *the struggle for identity; existentialism and minds under stress; war and conflict; psychological confusion; upheavals in class, gender and sexuality; rapid change and insecurity.*
- Be ready to discuss techniques associated with ‘modern’ writing, such as satire and dystopia; irony, cynicism and nihilism; apathy; violence.
- Is your knowledge of the historical and cultural background from 1945 onwards secure? Use your timelines from last year, and create flash cards on some of the most important such as:
 - 1) Feminism & 2nd Wave Feminism & the advent of the Pill
 - 2) The rise of Globalisation & Capitalism
 - 3) Politics of Regan & Thatcher
 - 4) Terrorism
 - 5) Post colonialism
 - 6) The Great Depression

7) War

8)

- Engage with the Massolit lectures on 'A Streetcar Named Desire': [MASSOLIT - John McRae Lectures](#)
[MASSOLIT – Dr Alfie Bown Lectures](#)
- Watch the National Theatre's adaptation of the play: [Log in | National Theatre Tickets](#)