

Bishop Wordsworth's School
English Department

A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 1A:

'THE TEMPEST'

AO1: Articulating informed, personal
and creative responses

AO2: Analysing how meanings shape
texts

AO5: Exploring how texts are
informed by different interpretations

Part A: close reading
(15 marks)

Part B: wider play
(15 marks)





A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 1A: 'THE TEMPEST'

THE LOWDOWN

Students begin YEAR 12 with an introduction to studying Shakespeare's language at A Level, as well looking at the history of British literature from the earliest texts in Old Norse to modern day.

They move on to study Shakespeare's final play through close reading of a series of key extracts . This activity widens out to evaluate how interpretations and productions of the play have changed over the centuries.

Knowledge of the play and its critical reception is developed further in YEAR 13.

THE TASKS

A two-part question: the first focusing on an extract from the play; the second, widening the question out to explore a critical viewpoint on the play as a whole.

Bishop Wordsworth's School
English Department

A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 1B: CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

AO1: Articulating informed,
personal and creative
responses

AO3: Appreciating the
significance of context

AO4: Exploring connections
across texts

AO5: Exploring how texts are
informed by different
interpretations

**Comparison with set
pre-1700 Drama**





A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 1B: CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

THE LOWDOWN

In Term 3 of YEAR 12, students are introduced to skills needed to compare poems. They then study the life and times of this intriguing poet before reading a collection of 16 of her greatest poems. As well as examining social, political and religious context; students also consider the changing critical reception, including that of the seminal fantasy work, 'Goblin Market.'

In TERM 13, students draw comparisons between the verse of Rossetti and that of John Webster, in his C17th Jacobean revenge tragedy, 'The Duchess of Malfi'.

THE TASKS

In YEAR 12, students make comparison between Rossetti's poems; in YEAR 13, they compare contextual and critical factors surrounding the poems and Webster's 'Malfi'.

Bishop Wordsworth's School
English Department

A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 1B: 'THE DUCHESS OF MALFI'

AO1: Articulating informed,
personal and creative
responses

AO3: Appreciating the
significance of context

AO4: Exploring connections
across texts

AO5: Exploring how texts are
informed by different
interpretations

Comparison with pre-
C20th poetry



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English Department



A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 1B:

'THE DUCHESS OF MALFI'

THE LOWDOWN

At the start of YEAR 13, students begin studying this gory Jacobean revenge tragedy. They will research how critics have responded to the play over the centuries, as well as experiencing how different productions interpret the key characters, themes and ideas.

During the study, they will also be comparing context, themes and characters with those in Rossetti's poems.

THE TASKS

YEAR 13, students compare contextual and critical factors surrounding Rossetti's poetry and Webster's drama.

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A LEVEL LITERATURE

**PAPER 2A:
CRITICAL APPRECIATION:**

THE GOTHIC

**AO1: Articulating informed,
personal and creative
responses**

**AO2: Appreciating the effects
of language, form and
structure**

**AO3: Appreciating the
significance of context**

**Close reading of an
unseen prose passage**



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A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 2A: CRITICAL APPRECIATION: THE GOTHIC

THE LOWDOWN

At the beginning of Year 12, students will be introduced to the diverse and intriguing world of Gothic literature. They will learn about its Romantic origins and how it has been developed by a diverse range of writers over time.

Moving through the course, students will be taught how to closely read and analyse unseen passages written in the Gothic genre.

THE TASKS

Close reading and critical appreciation of an extract from a Gothic text.

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A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 2B: 'THE BLOODY CHAMBER'

AO1: Articulating informed,
personal and creative
responses

AO2: Appreciating the effects
of language, form and
structure

AO3: Appreciating the
significance of context

Comparative and
contextual study



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A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 2B:

'THE BLOODY CHAMBER'

THE LOWDOWN

In Year 12, students will study Angela Carter's ingenious adult Gothic takes on European fairytales.

In Year 13, they will go on to compare these modern short stories with Bram Stoker's chilling C19th novel, 'Dracula'.

THE TASKS

In Year 13, students will write a comparative and contextual study, comparing Carter's short stories with Stoker's 'Dracula'

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A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 2B:

'DRACULA'

AO1: Articulating informed,
personal and creative
responses

AO3: Appreciating the
significance of context

AO4: Exploring connections
across texts

AO5: Exploring how texts are
informed by different
interpretations

Comparative and
contextual study



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A LEVEL LITERATURE

PAPER 2B:

'DRACULA'

THE LOWDOWN

In Year 13, students will study Bram Stoker's Gothic masterpiece, examining its contextual significance as well as how critics have responded to the work over the years.

They will also learn how to draw comparisons between the novel and Carter's 'The Bloody Chamber'.

THE TASKS

In Year 13, students will craft a comparative and contextual study, comparing the novel with Angela Carter's 'The Bloody Chamber'.

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A LEVEL LITERATURE

NEA TASK 1: "THE WORLD'S WIFE"

AO1: Articulating informed,
personal and creative
responses

AO2: Appreciating the effects
of language, form and
structure

Close Reading or
Recreative



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A LEVEL LITERATURE

NEA TASK 1: 'THE WORLD'S WIFE'

THE LOWDOWN

Towards the end of Year 12, students read Carol Ann Duffy's witty and occasionally disturbing collection that casts a wry look at a patriarchal world through the eyes of female counterparts.

They have a choice of tasks: they write their own verse influenced by Duffy's collection; or they closely analyse 40 lines of Duffy's poetry.

THE TASK

In Year 13, students will write a comparative and contextual study, comparing the novel with Angela Carter's 'The Bloody Chamber'

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A LEVEL LITERATURE

NEA TASK 2:

'ATONEMENT' & 'A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE'

AO1: Articulating informed,
personal and creative
responses

AO2: Appreciating the effects
of language, form and
structure

AO3: Appreciating the
significance of context

AO4: Exploring connections
across texts

AO5: Exploring how texts are
informed by different
interpretations

Comparison essay



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A LEVEL LITERATURE

NEA TASK 2:

'ATONEMENT' / 'A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE'

THE LOWDOWN

In Year 12, students read and study Tennessee William's landmark drama. Towards the Summer break, they will also read Ian McEwan's brilliant post-modern work, 'Atonement'.

In Year 13, they develop a longer piece of synoptic coursework that makes comparisons between these fascinating texts.

THE TASK

Through Year 13, students will plan and craft a comparative and contextual study, comparing the novel with the play.