

Rannóg Pholasáí,  
Churaclaim agus Mheasúnachta,  
An Roinn Oideachais agus  
Scileanna,  
Bloc 2,  
Sráid Maoilbhríde,  
Baile Átha Cliath 1



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**Circular Letter 0006/2017**

**To the Principals and Boards of Management of Second-Level Schools and Special Schools, and to the Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards**

**Prescribed Material for the  
Leaving Certificate English Examination in 2019**

The Department of Education and Skills 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 2019.

The Department requests school authorities to bring this circular to the attention of all English teachers.

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.



Eamonn Moran  
Principal Officer  
February 2017

## List of prescribed texts for the Leaving Certificate English examination of June 2019.

Texts chosen for study must be from this list.

As the syllabus indicates, students are required to study:

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

At **Higher Level** a play by Shakespeare **must be one of the texts chosen**. This can be studied on its own or as a text within the comparative study. At **Ordinary Level** the study of a play by Shakespeare is optional.

### 1. One text for study on its own from the following texts:

ADICHIE, Chimamanda Ngozi	Americanah (H/O)
ATWOOD, Margaret	The Handmaid's Tale (H/O)
AUSTEN, Jane	Persuasion (H/O)
CARR, Marina	By the Bog of Cats (H/O)
DONOGHUE, Emma	Room (O)
FITZGERALD, F. Scott	The Great Gatsby (O)
RYAN, Donal	The Spinning Heart (O)
SHAKESPEARE, William	Macbeth (H/O)
SYNGE, J. M.	The Playboy of the Western World (O)

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

### 2. Three other texts to be studied 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 texts identified on the list as films may be studied as films.**

**The Comparative Modes for Examination in 2019 are:**

<u>Higher Level</u>	(i) General Vision and Viewpoint
	(ii) Literary Genre
	(iii) Theme or Issue
<u>Ordinary Level</u>	(i) Relationships
	(ii) Hero, Heroine, Villain
	(iii) Theme

## List of texts prescribed for comparative study, for examination in the year 2019

### Novel / Memoir

ADICHIE, Chimamanda Ngozi	Americanah
AUSTEN, Jane	Persuasion
ATWOOD, Margaret	The Handmaid's Tale
BINCHY, Maeve	Circle of Friends
BRONTË, Emily	Wuthering Heights
DONOGHUE, Emma	Room
ELIOT, George	Silas Marner
FITZGERALD, F. Scott	The Great Gatsby
FITZMAURICE, Simon	It's Not Yet Dark
GAIMAN, Neil	The Ocean at the End of the Lane
GAUTREAUX, Tim	The Next Step in the Dance
KEEGAN, Claire	Foster
MCCABE, EUGENE	Death and Nightingales
O'CONNOR, Joseph	Star of the Sea
ORWELL, George	1984
PEACE, David	The Damned Utd
RYAN, Donal	The Spinning Heart
SATRAPI, Marjane	Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood and The Story of a Return (Graphic Memoir)
SIMPSON, Joe	Touching the Void
VÁSQUEZ, Juan Gabriel	The Sound of Things Falling
WILDE, Oscar	The Picture of Dorian Gray

### Drama

CARR, Marina	By the Bog of Cats
IBSEN, Henrik	A Doll's House
KEANE, John B.	Big Maggie
MCDONAGH, Martin	A Skull in Connemara
MILLER, Arthur	All My Sons
SHAKESPEARE, William	Macbeth
	The Tempest
SOPHOCLES	Antigone
SYNGE, J. M.	The Playboy of the Western World

### Film

CROWLEY, John	Brooklyn
EASTWOOD, Clint	Unforgiven
FARHADI, Asghar	About Elly
HITCHCOCK, Alfred	Rear Window
HOLMES, Alex	Stop at Nothing: The Lance Armstrong Story
HOOPER, Tom	Les Misérables
REITMAN, Jason	Juno

### **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**

**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

**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

KENNELLY, Brendan

Begin  
Bread  
'Dear Autumn Girl'  
Poem from a Three Year Old  
Oliver to His Brother  
I See You Dancing, Father  
A Cry for Art O'Leary  
Things I Might Do  
A Great Day  
Fragments  
The soul's loneliness  
Saint Brigid's Prayer

LAWRENCE, D.H.

Call into Death  
Piano  
The Mosquito  
Snake  
Humming-Bird  
Intimates  
Delight of Being Alone  
Absolute Reverence  
What have they done to you?  
Baby-Movements II, "*Trailing Clouds*"  
Bavarian Gentians

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 Kenya 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

**Poems prescribed for ordinary level**

AUDEN, W.H.	Funeral Blues
BEER, Patricia	The Voice
BISHOP, Elizabeth	The Fish
	The Prodigal
	Filling Station
BROWNING, Elizabeth Barrett	How Do I Love Thee?
CANNON, Moya	Shrines
COLERIDGE, Samuel Taylor	Kubla Khan
DYAR, Martin	Death and the Post Office
GALLAGHER, Tess	The Hug
HARDIE, Kerry	Daniel's Duck
HEALY, Randolph	Frogs
HEANEY, Seamus	A Constable Calls
	The Underground
	A Call
HERRICK, Robert	To Daffodils
HOPKINS, Gerard Manley	Spring
	Inversnaid
HUGHES, Ted	Hawk Roosting
KENNELLY, Brendan	Begin
	Bread
	Saint Brigid's Prayer
LAWRENCE, D.H.	Humming-Bird
	Baby-Movements II, "Trailing Clouds"
LODEN, Rachel	Memo from the Benefits Department
MISTRAL, Gabriela	Let Him Not Grow Up (trans. Ursula LeGuin)
NÍ CHUILLEANÁIN, Eiléan	Street
	To Niall Woods and Xenya Ostrovskaia, married in Dublin on 9 September 2009
O'MALLEY, Mary	<i>Caoineadh Mháire</i>
PLATH, Sylvia	Poppies in July
	Child
	The Arrival of the Bee Box
SMITHER, Elizabeth	On the euthanasia of a pet dog
YEATS, William Butler	The Wild Swans at Coole
	An Irish Airman Foresees his Death
ZEPHANIAH, Benjamin	The Sun