Circular Letter 0021/2014

To the Principals and Boards of Management of Second-Level Schools and the CEOs of Education and Training Boards

Prescribed Material for English in the Leaving Certificate Examination in 2016

1. The Department of Education and Skills wishes to inform the management authorities of second-level schools that the prescribed material for English in the Leaving Certificate Examinations in 2016 is as indicated on the attached list.

2. Please bring this Circular and the attached list to the notice of the teachers concerned.

3. Please provide a copy of this Circular to the appropriate representatives of parents and teachers for transmission to individual parents and teachers.

Breda Naughton
Principal Officer
March 2014

List of prescribed texts for the Leaving Certificate English examination of 2016
As the syllabus indicates, students are required to study from this list:

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

   - BINCHY, Maeve  
   - BRONTË, Emily  
   - FITZGERALD, F. Scott  
   - FRIEL, Brian  
   - KEANE, John B.  
   - LÉONARD, Hugh  
   - McCABE, Eugene  
   - O’CASEY, Sean  
   - SHAKESPEARE, William  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BINCHY, Maeve</td>
<td>Circle of Friends (O)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BRONTË, Emily</td>
<td>Wuthering Heights (H/O)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FITZGERALD, F. Scott</td>
<td>The Great Gatsby (H/O)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIEL, Brian</td>
<td>Translations (H/O)</td>
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<tr>
<td>KEANE, John B.</td>
<td>Big Maggie (O)</td>
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<tr>
<td>LÉONARD, Hugh</td>
<td>Home Before Night (O)</td>
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<tr>
<td>McCABE, Eugene</td>
<td>Death and Nightingales (H/O)</td>
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<tr>
<td>O’CASEY, Sean</td>
<td>The Plough and the Stars (O)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHAKESPEARE, William</td>
<td>King Lear (H/O)</td>
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   - One of the texts marked with H/O may be studied on its own at Higher Level and at Ordinary Level.
   - One of the texts marked with O may be studied on its own 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. **Texts chosen must be from the prescribed list for the current year.**
   - At Higher Level and at Ordinary Level, a film may be studied as one of the three texts in a comparative study.
3. The Comparative Modes for Examination in 2016 are:

**Higher Level**
(i) Cultural Context
(ii) The General Vision and Viewpoint
(iii) Literary Genre

**Ordinary Level**
(i) Relationships
(ii) Social Setting
(iii) Hero, Heroine, Villain

4. Shakespearean Drama

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.

5. 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.
List of Texts prescribed for comparative study, for examination in the year 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUSTEN, Jane</td>
<td>Pride and Prejudice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BENNETT, Alan</td>
<td>The Uncommon Reader</td>
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<tr>
<td>BINCHY, Maeve</td>
<td>Circle of Friends</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOLGER, Dermot</td>
<td>New Town Soul</td>
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<tr>
<td>BRONTÉ, Emily</td>
<td>Wuthering Heights</td>
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<tr>
<td>DICKENS, Charles</td>
<td>Great Expectations</td>
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<tr>
<td>FITZGERALD, F. Scott</td>
<td>The Great Gatsby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FITZGIBBON, IAN (Dir.)</td>
<td>Death of a Superhero (Film)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIEL, Brian</td>
<td>Translations</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAMILTON, Hugo</td>
<td>The Sailor in the Wardrobe</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAZANAVICIUS, Michel (Dir.)</td>
<td>The Artist (Film)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOOPER, Tom (Dir.)</td>
<td>The King’s Speech (Film)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IBSEN, Henrik</td>
<td>A Doll’s House</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISHIGURO, Kazuo</td>
<td>Never Let Me Go</td>
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<tr>
<td>JOYCE, James</td>
<td>The Dead (in a dramatization by Frank McGuinness)</td>
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<tr>
<td>KAY, Jackie</td>
<td>Red Dust Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>KEANE, John B.</td>
<td>Big Maggie</td>
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<td>KEEGAN, Claire</td>
<td>Foster</td>
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<tr>
<td>LEONARD, Hugh</td>
<td>Home Before Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>LONCRaine, Richard (Dir.)</td>
<td>Richard III (Film)</td>
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<tr>
<td>McCABE, EUGENE</td>
<td>Death and Nightingales</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCCARTHY, Cormac</td>
<td>The Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>McDONAGH, Martin</td>
<td>A Skull in Connemara</td>
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<td>MARTEL, Yann</td>
<td>Life of Pi</td>
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<td>Author</td>
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<tr>
<td>MILLER, Arthur</td>
<td>All My Sons</td>
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<tr>
<td>MILLER, Madeline</td>
<td>The Song of Achilles</td>
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<tr>
<td>O’CASEY, Sean</td>
<td>The Plough and the Stars</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRIESTLEY, J. B.</td>
<td>An Inspector Calls</td>
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<tr>
<td>REITMAN, Jason (Dir.)</td>
<td>Juno (Film)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHAKESPEARE, William</td>
<td>Othello</td>
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<td>King Lear</td>
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<td>SOPHOCLES</td>
<td>Antigone</td>
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<tr>
<td>TREVOR, William</td>
<td>The Story of Lucy Gault</td>
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<td>WATERS, Sarah</td>
<td>The Little Stranger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELLES, Orson (Dir.)</td>
<td>Citizen Kane (Film)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILDER, Thornton</td>
<td>Our Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WINTERSON, Jeanette</td>
<td>Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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

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

DURCAN, Paul

Nessa
The Girl with the Keys to Pearse’s Cottage
The Difficulty that is Marriage
Wife Who Smashed Television Gets Jail
Parents
En Famille, 1979
Madman
“Windfall”, 8 Parnell Hill, Cork
Six Nuns Die in Convent Inferno
Sport
Father’s Day, 21 June 1992
The Arnolfini Marriage
Ireland 2002
Rosie Joyce
The MacBride Dynasty
ELIOT, Thomas S

The Lovesong of J. Alfred Prufrock
Preludes
Aunt Helen
from *The Waste Land II. A Game of Chess*
Journey of the Magi
from *Landscapes*
III Usk
IV Rannoch, by Glencoe
from *The Four Quartets East Coker IV*

LARKIN, Philip

Wedding-Wind
At Grass
Church Going
An Arundel Tomb
The Whitsun Weddings
MCMXIV
Ambulances
The Trees
The Explosion
Cut Grass

NÍ CHUILLEANÁIN, Eiléan

Lucina Schynning in Silence of the Nicht
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 Ostrovskiaia,
made 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 Bulben: V and VI
Politics
Poetry Prescribed for Ordinary Level

BISHOP, Elizabeth
- The Fish
- The Prodigal
- Filling Station

DELANTY, Greg
- After Viewing *The Bowling Match at Castlemary, Cloyne (1847)*

DICKINSON, Emily
- I felt a Funeral, in my Brain
- I Heard a fly buzz – when I died

DURCAN, Paul
- Wife Who Smashed Television Gets Jail
- Parents
- Sport

ELIOT, Thomas Stearns
- Preludes
- Aunt Helen

HARDIE, Kerry
- Daniel's Duck

HUGHES, Ted
- The Stag

KAVANAGH, Patrick
- Shancoduff

KENNELLY, Brendan
- A Glimpse of Starlings

LARKIN, Philip
- Ambulances
- The Explosion

LEDWIDGE, Francis
- Lament for Thomas MacDonagh

LEVERTOV, Denise
- An Arrival (North Wales, 1897)

MEEHAN, Paula
- The Russian Doll

MURRAY, Les
- Joker as told

NÍ CHUILLEANÁIN, Eiléan
- Street
- The Bend in the Road
- To Niall Woods and Xenya Ostrovskaiia, married in Dublin on 9 September 2009

O’REILLY, Caitriona
- Interlude

PLATH, Sylvia
- Poppies in July
- Child
- The Arrival of the Bee Box
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<tr>
<td>SHELLEY, Percy Bysshe</td>
<td>Ozymandias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAFFORD, William</td>
<td>Travelling Through the Dark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALL, William</td>
<td>Ghost Estate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILBUR, Richard</td>
<td>A Summer Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOODS, Macdara</td>
<td>Kavanagh in Umbria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOODS, Joseph</td>
<td>Letting the Cat out of the Bag</td>
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