

Prescribed text list

Literature 2019–2021

This resource provides the prescribed text list for 2019–2021 for the *Literature General Senior Syllabus 2019*.

The [Prescribed text list](#) was developed by the Prescribed Text Selection Working Group. The texts have been approved by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) as suitable for study in Units 3 and 4 of Literature for 2019–2021.

Texts were selected in accordance with the following criteria and guidelines:

Criteria

Criteria for the text list

The text list as a whole will:

- meet the syllabus requirements
- reflect the cultural and social diversity of the Australian context and student cohorts
- provide a range and balance of texts and writers in respect to time, place and gender
- encourage critical and creative engagement
- include texts that provide affirming perspectives
- consider broad community standards and expectations in the context of a senior secondary study of texts.

Criteria for inclusion of texts

Texts selected for the list will:

- have merit in genre and style
- provide opportunities for sustained intensive study and challenge
- provide opportunities for student engagement.

Guidelines for text selection

The text list for Literature will adhere to the following guidelines:

- The text list
 - will contain a range of texts
 - must contain titles that are different from those on the English and English as an Additional Language text list
 - must include at least one Shakespearean text.
- A text on the initial list must be in place for a minimum of three years and can remain for up to six years.
- From 2022, 25% of the texts on the prescribed text list will be retired annually.

- Once retired from a prescribed text list, a text cannot be restored to the text list for that subject for three years. That text, however, can be moved to the prescribed text list for the other English Learning Area subjects.
- 8–10 text options will be available for the external assessment.
- Texts identified for the external assessment can be used in other areas of the course; however, no text from this list can be used for more than one piece of assessment for an individual student in an individual school setting.

Information for schools

The Literature text list offers text choices across a range of texts, including prose, plays, poetry and multimedia.

For text selection, the syllabus states:

- Across Units 3 and 4, students must study at least six texts from the prescribed text list. The selection must include
 - one novel
 - one play
 - a collection of poetry (at least 10 poems)
 - one film or episode of a television series.
- At least one of the texts selected must be Australian.
- At least three of the six texts selected across Units 3 and 4 must be studied in depth.
- A text studied in Unit 3 or Unit 4 cannot be studied in Unit 1 or Unit 2 of this syllabus, or in any units in the General syllabus of English.
- No single text is prescribed — schools will have the opportunity to choose texts suitable for their contexts and cohorts.
- The texts selected for each list will provide opportunities for student engagement with a range of writers from varied times and places, and with writers of varied outlook and gender.
- No writer, other than Shakespeare, is represented more than once. The study of Shakespeare is not mandated for an individual school.
- Schools will register their text choices for Units 3 and 4 in the General syllabus of Literature before the endorsement process begins.
- While the QCAA considers all texts on the list as suitable for study, teachers should be aware that some texts may contain sensitivities in relation to certain issues and topics. In selecting texts for study, teachers should make themselves aware of these prior to introducing the text to students.

External assessment texts

- *Bleak House* — Charles Dickens
- *In Cold Blood* — Truman Capote
- *King Lear* — William Shakespeare
- *Mrs Dalloway* — Virginia Woolf
- *That Deadman Dance* — Kim Scott
- *The Poisonwood Bible* — Barbara Kingsolver
- *The Quiet American* — Graham Greene
- *The Tempest* — William Shakespeare

Novels and prose texts

- *Anna Karenina* — Leo Tolstoy
- *Art Objects* (collection of essays) — Jeanette Winterson
- *Carpentaria* — Alexis Wright
- *Catch-22* — Joseph Heller
- Collections of essays by John Gardner
- Collections of essays by Rebecca Solnit
- *Crime and Punishment* — Fyodor Dostoyevsky
- *Hag-Seed* — Margaret Atwood
- *Heart of Darkness* — Joseph Conrad
- *Life After Life* — Kate Atkinson
- *Love in the Time of Cholera* — Gabriel García Márquez
- *My Uncle Napoleon* — Iraj Pezeshkzad
- *Only the Animals* (linked collection of short stories) — Ceridwen Dovey
- *Pattern Recognition* — William Gibson
- *Persuasion* — Jane Austen
- Short stories by Amy Witting
- Short stories by Annie Proulx
- Short stories by Edgar Allan Poe
- Short stories by Ursula K Le Guin
- *The Complete Maus* (graphic novel — two volumes) — Art Spiegelman
- *The Good People* — Hannah Kent
- *The Leopard* — Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa
- *The Picture of Dorian Gray* — Oscar Wilde
- *The Spy Who Came in From the Cold* — John le Carré
- *The Stories of Eva Luna* — Isabel Allende
- *The White Tiger* — Aravind Adiga
- *Things Fall Apart* — Chinua Achebe
- *Wolf Hall* — Hilary Mantel

Plays and drama texts

- *A Doll's House* — Henrik Ibsen
- *A Man for All Seasons* — Robert Bolt
- *A Streetcar Named Desire* — Tennessee Williams
- *'Art'* — Yasmina Reza
- *Black Medea* — Wesley Enoch
- *Constellations* — Nick Payne
- *Death and the Maiden* — Ariel Dorfman
- *Inheritance* — Hannie Rayson
- *Ninety* — Joanna Murray-Smith
- *Rainbow's End* — Jane Harrison
- *Terror* — Ferdinand von Schirach
- *The Matilda Women* — Sue Rider
- *The Woman Before* — Roland Schimmelpfennig
- *Travesties* — Tom Stoppard
- *Twelfth Night* — William Shakespeare
- *Uncle Vanya* — Anton Chekhov
- *Wit* — Margaret Edson

Film and television/multimodal texts

Title followed by director/creator.

- *Adaptation* — Spike Jonze
- *Arrival* — Denis Villeneuve
- *Beneath Clouds* — Ivan Sen
- *Cardinal* (TV series) — Daniel Grou and Jeff Renfroe
- *Citizen Kane* — Orson Welles
- *Dr. Strangelove* — Stanley Kubrick
- *Elementary* (TV series) — Robert Doherty
- *Gattaca* — Andrew Niccol
- *Glitch* (TV series) — Emma Freeman
- *Hugo* — Martin Scorsese
- *Mephisto* — István Szabó
- *Picnic at Hanging Rock* — Peter Weir
- *Radiance* — Rachel Perkins
- *Raise the Red Lantern* — Zhang Yimou
- *Run Lola Run* — Tom Tykwer
- *Sweet Country* — Warwick Thornton
- *The Bureau* (TV series) — Éric Rochant
- *The Daughter* — Simon Stone
- *The Gods of Wheat Street* (TV series) — Wayne Blair, Catriona McKenzie and Adrian Russell Wills
- *True Grit* — Ethan Coen and Joel Coen
- *Wadjda* — Haifaa al-Mansour
- *World War Z* — Marc Forster

Note: All episodes selected from television or documentary series should be rated 'MA' or below.

Poetry

Options by poet.

- Christina Rossetti
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning
- Ellen van Neerven
- Gerard Manley Hopkins
- Gwen Harwood
- James McAuley
- Kate Tempest
- Les Murray
- Lionel Fogarty
- Maya Angelou
- Pablo Neruda
- Rosemary Dobson
- Seamus Heaney
- TS Eliot
- WH Auden