

Prescribed texts nominated by schools in 2024

English and English as an Additional Language (EAL)

The QCAA developed the prescribed text lists for the English and English as an Additional Language General senior syllabuses to ensure students and schools had access to a rich resource of texts suitable for study at senior secondary level and included texts that reflected the diversity of school contexts, cultural and religious sensitivities, and the range of student cohorts.

The criteria and guidelines for the text selection are available on the QCAA website in the English senior syllabus webpages, under Related resources in the Teaching tab.

The following tables set out the number of schools that selected each prescribed text for English and EAL in 2024. The data was extracted from the registration of choices by schools in the Prescribed Lists application in the QCAA Portal.

Note: Some schools offer multiple texts for one piece of assessment or within one unit.

Key: ^ indicates where fewer than five schools selected the text.

External assessment texts

Text	Number of schools
<i>Burial Rites</i> — Hannah Kent	27
<i>Othello</i> — William Shakespeare	57
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> — Jane Austen	8
<i>Macbeth</i> — William Shakespeare	362
<i>Never Let Me Go</i> — Kazuo Ishiguro	20
<i>The White Earth</i> — Andrew McGahan	8
<i>The Yield</i> — Tara June Winch	10
<i>We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves</i> — Karen Joy Fowler	^

Internal assessment

Novels and prose texts

Text	Number of schools
<i>After Darkness</i> — Christine Piper	^
<i>Behind the Beautiful Forevers</i> — Katherine Boo	5
<i>Burial Rites</i> — Hannah Kent	5
<i>Cat's Eye</i> — Margaret Atwood (from 2023)	^
<i>Do Not Say We Have Nothing</i> — Madeleine Thien	^
<i>Fahrenheit 451</i> — Ray Bradbury	64
<i>Frankenstein</i> — Mary Shelley	54
<i>Growing up Aboriginal in Australia</i> — Anita Heiss	8
<i>Growing up Asian in Australia</i> — Alice Pung	8
<i>Into Thin Air</i> — Jon Krakauer	^
<i>Island: The complete stories</i> (collection of short stories) — Alistair MacLeod	^
<i>March</i> — Geraldine Brooks	^
<i>Nineteen Eighty-Four</i> — George Orwell	55
<i>Persepolis : The story of a childhood</i> (graphic novel) — Marjane Satrapi	16
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> — Jane Austen	11
<i>Schindler's Ark</i> (also known as <i>Schindler's List</i>) — Thomas Keneally	5
Short stories by Frank O'Connor	^
Short stories by Katherine Mansfield	6
<i>Talking to My Country</i> — Stan Grant	11
<i>The Arsonist</i> — Chloe Hooper	^
<i>The Cellist of Sarajevo</i> — Steven Galloway	31
<i>The Color of Water</i> — James McBride	^
<i>The Great Gatsby</i> — F Scott Fitzgerald	131
<i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i> — Arthur Conan Doyle	9
<i>The Martian</i> — Andy Weir	5
<i>The Namesake</i> — Jhumpa Lahiri	^
<i>The Turning</i> (collection of short stories) — Tim Winton	61

Internal assessment

Plays and drama texts

Text	Number of schools
<i>As You Like It</i> — William Shakespeare	^
<i>Away</i> — Michael Gow	6
<i>Black Diggers</i> — Tom Wright	17
<i>Così</i> — Louis Nowra	9
<i>Counting and Cracking</i> — S Shaktidharan	^
<i>Inheritance</i> — Hannie Rayson	1
<i>Lady Windermere's Fan</i> — Oscar Wilde	4
<i>Switzerland</i> — Joanna Murray-Smith	^
<i>The 7 Stages of Grieving</i> — Wesley Enoch and Deborah Mailman	2
<i>The Appleton Ladies' Potato Race</i> — Melanie Tait	2
<i>The Crucible</i> — Arthur Miller	53
<i>The Drover's Wife</i> — Leah Purcell	14

Internal assessment

Film and television/multimodal texts

Text (title followed by director/creator)	Number of schools
<i>2001: A Space Odyssey</i> — Stanley Kubrick	^
<i>A Beautiful Mind</i> — Ron Howard	^
<i>Ali's Wedding</i> — Jeffrey Walker	5
<i>Amelie</i> — Jean-Pierre Jeunet	^
<i>Australian Story</i> (documentary series) — ABC	76
<i>Billy Elliot</i> — Stephen Daldry	11
<i>Blade Runner</i> — Ridley Scott	56
<i>Brooklyn</i> — John Crowley	11
<i>Cleverman</i> (TV series) — Wayne Blair and Leah Purcell	7
<i>Four Corners</i> (documentary series) — ABC	154
<i>Good Night, and Good Luck</i> — George Clooney	^
<i>Hero</i> — Zhang Yimou	^
<i>Hidden Figures</i> — Theodore Melfi	55
<i>Howl's Moving Castle</i> — Hayao Miyazaki	6
<i>JoJo Rabbit</i> — Taika Waititi	32
<i>Little Miss Sunshine</i> — Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris	29
<i>Little Women</i> — Greta Gerwig	9
<i>Mabo</i> (TV film) — Rachel Perkins	8
<i>Park Avenue: Money, power and the American dream</i> (documentary) — Alex Gibney	28
<i>Rear Window</i> — Alfred Hitchcock	8
<i>Reindeer in my Saami Heart</i> — Janet Merewether	^
<i>Sherlock</i> (TV series) — Mark Gatiss and Steven Moffat	8
<i>Stranger Things</i> season one (TV series) — the Duffer Brothers	27
<i>The Australian Dream</i> — Daniel Gordon	12
<i>The King's Speech</i> — Tom Hooper	6
<i>Tsotsi</i> — Gavin Hood	^

Internal Assessment

Poetry

Poet	Number of schools
Ali Alizadeh	73
Ali Cobby Eckermann	79
Bruce Dawe	109
Carol Ann Duffy	106
Emily Dickinson	103
John Donne	^
John Keats	48
Judith Wright	95
Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner	52
Kirli Saunders	50
Luka Lesson	65
Robert Browning	64
Robert Frost	122
Samuel Wagan Watson	69
Sylvia Plath	126
WB Yeats	48
Wilfred Owen	142

More information

If you would like more information, please email EnglishandLanguages@qcaa.qld.edu.au



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