

# Prescribed texts nominated by schools in 2025

## English and English as an Additional Language (EAL)

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The QCAA developed the prescribed text lists for the English, English as an Additional Language (EAL), and Literature 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 in the Prescribed text lists in the English senior syllabus webpages on the QCAA website.

The following tables set out the number of schools that selected each prescribed text for English and EAL in 2025. 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	25
<i>Othello</i> — William Shakespeare	95
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> — Jane Austen	18
<i>Macbeth</i> — William Shakespeare	340
<i>Never Let Me Go</i> — Kazuo Ishiguro	10
<i>The Dry</i> — Jane Harper	14
<i>The Yield</i> — Tara June Winch	7
<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i> — Anthony Doerr	9

## Internal assessment

### Novels and prose texts

Text	Number of schools
<i>After Darkness</i> — Christine Piper	^
<i>Behind the Beautiful Forevers</i> — Katherine Boo	^
<i>Burial Rites</i> — Hannah Kent	6
<i>Cat's Eye</i> — Margaret Atwood (from 2023)	^
<i>Fahrenheit 451</i> — Ray Bradbury	67
<i>Frankenstein</i> — Mary Shelley	56
<i>Growing up Aboriginal in Australia</i> — Anita Heiss	11
<i>Growing up Asian in Australia</i> — Alice Pung	13
<i>Into Thin Air</i> — Jon Krakauer	^
<i>Island: The complete stories</i> (collection of short stories) — Alistair MacLeod	^
<i>Macbeth</i> – William Shakespeare	7
<i>March</i> — Geraldine Brooks	^
<i>Jane Eyre</i> - Bronte	^
<i>Never Let Me Go</i> – Kazuo Ishiguro	17
<i>Nineteen Eighty-Four</i> — George Orwell	55
<i>Persepolis : The story of a childhood</i> (graphic novel) — Marjane Satrapi	18
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> — Jane Austen	12
<i>Schindler's Ark</i> (also known as <i>Schindler's List</i> ) — Thomas Keneally	6
Short stories by Frank O'Connor	6
Short stories by Katherine Mansfield	10
<i>Talking to My Country</i> — Stan Grant	6
<i>The Arsonist</i> — Chloe Hooper	7
<i>The Cellist of Sarajevo</i> — Steven Galloway	40
<i>The Color of Water</i> — James McBride	^
<i>The Dry</i> - Jane Harper	5
<i>The Great Gatsby</i> — F Scott Fitzgerald	124
<i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i> — Arthur Conan Doyle	6
<i>The Martian</i> — Andy Weir	8

Text	Number of schools
<i>The Namesake</i> — Jhumpa Lahiri	^
<i>The Turning</i> (collection of short stories) — Tim Winton	61
<i>The Yield</i> - Tara June Winch	^
<i>We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves</i> - Karen Joy Fowler	^

## Internal assessment

### Plays and drama texts

Text	Number of schools
<i>As You Like It</i> — William Shakespeare	^
<i>Away</i> — Michael Gow	^
<i>Black Diggers</i> — Tom Wright	10
<i>Così</i> — Louis Nowra	14
<i>Counting and Cracking</i> — S Shakthidharan	^
<i>Inheritance</i> — Hannie Rayson	^
<i>Lady Windermere's Fan</i> — Oscar Wilde	^
<i>Othello</i> – William Shakespeare	^
<i>Switzerland</i> — Joanna Murray-Smith	^
<i>The 7 Stages of Grieving</i> — Wesley Enoch and Deborah Mailman	^
<i>The Appleton Ladies' Potato Race</i> — Melanie Tait	^
<i>The Crucible</i> — Arthur Miller	63
<i>The Drover's Wife</i> — Leah Purcell	17

## 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	7
<i>Amelie</i> — Jean-Pierre Jeunet	^
<i>Australian Story</i> (documentary series) — ABC	87
<i>Billy Elliot</i> — Stephen Daldry	14
<i>Blade Runner</i> — Ridley Scott	67
<i>Brooklyn</i> — John Crowley	9
<i>Cleverman</i> (TV series) — Wayne Blair and Leah Purcell	8
<i>Four Corners</i> (documentary series) — ABC	178
<i>Good Night, and Good Luck</i> — George Clooney	^
<i>Hero</i> — Zhang Yimou	^
<i>Hidden Figures</i> — Theodore Melfi	45
<i>Howl's Moving Castle</i> — Hayao Miyazaki	^
<i>JoJo Rabbit</i> — Taika Waititi	37
<i>Little Miss Sunshine</i> — Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris	30
<i>Little Women</i> — Greta Gerwig	10
<i>Mabo</i> (TV film) — Rachel Perkins	^
<i>Park Avenue: Money, power and the American dream</i> (documentary) — Alex Gibney	32
<i>Rear Window</i> — Alfred Hitchcock	5
<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	26
<i>The Australian Dream</i> — Daniel Gordon	10
<i>The King's Speech</i> — Tom Hooper	5
<i>Tsotsi</i> — Gavin Hood	5

# Internal Assessment

## Poetry

Poet	Number of schools
Ali Alizadeh	93
Ali Cobby Eckermann	97
Bruce Dawe	119
Carol Ann Duffy	115
Emily Dickinson	101
John Donne	29
John Keats	49
Judith Wright	102
Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner	65
Kirli Saunders	56
Luka Lesson	74
Robert Browning	62
Robert Frost	132
Samuel Wagan Watson	71
Sylvia Plath	136
WB Yeats	39
Wilfred Owen	138

## More information

If you would like more information, please email [EnglishandLanguages@qcaa.qld.edu.au](mailto:EnglishandLanguages@qcaa.qld.edu.au)



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