

English Senior External Examination

Subject notice 2023

Background

The English General (Senior External Examination (SEE)) syllabus exists as a comparable alternative to the English General senior syllabus. It replicates the objectives and subject matter of the English General senior syllabus and uses versions of internal assessments that are adapted to suit the examination conditions of the SEE.

The SEE is developed and marked by the QCAA. In English, it contributes 100% of a candidate's overall subject result. The SEE consists of two assessments (papers), each of which is a written examination of three hours plus planning time.

Assessment

External assessment 1

External assessment 1 (EA1) assesses subject matter from Unit 3. It contains two sections:

- Section 1: Extended written response for a public audience
- Section 2: Persuasive written response.

Section 1 is comparable to Internal assessment 1 in the English General senior syllabus.

Section 2 is comparable to Internal assessment 2 in the English General senior syllabus.

External assessment 2

External assessment 2 (EA2) assesses subject matter from Unit 4. It contains two sections:

- Section 1: Imaginative written response
- Section 2: Analytical written response.

Section 1 is comparable to Internal assessment 3 in the English General senior syllabus.

Section 2 will use the paper set by the QCAA for the English and English as an Additional Language external assessment, and the responses will be marked together.

Notification

The QCAA has a responsibility to notify candidates of important information before the examination. This information, in conjunction with the English General (SEE) syllabus, guides candidates in their study of the course. In 2023, it is as follows:

EA1 Section 1

Extended written response for a public audience		
Concept	Prescribed text list	Genre for response
Courage	Candidates to select a text pair from the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The Color of Water</i> by James McBride and <i>The 7 Stages of Grieving</i> by Wesley Enoch and Deborah Mailman• <i>March</i> by Geraldine Brooks and <i>The Crucible</i> by Arthur Miller• <i>The Martian</i> by Andy Weir and <i>Billy Elliot</i> by Stephen Daldry	Literary essay for an educated audience

EA1 Section 2

Persuasive written response	
Issues for exploration in the media (candidates to select one)	Genre for response
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issues related to Ownership• Issues related to Censorship	Transcript for a speech

EA2 Section 1

Imaginative written response	
Prescribed text list	Genre for response
<p>Candidates to study the prescribed poems of at least one poet from the following options:</p> <p>Sylvia Plath</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Words'• 'Morning Song'• 'Mushrooms'• 'Poppies in October'• 'Resolve' <p>(All prescribed poems by Sylvia Plath are published in <i>Sylvia Plath's Selected Poems</i>, published in 2005 by Faber.)</p> <p>Carol Ann Duffy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'I Remember Me'• 'Talent'• 'Lovebirds'• 'Whoever She Was'• 'Lineage' <p>(All prescribed poems by Carol Ann Duffy are published in <i>Carol Ann Duffy: Collected Poems</i>, published in 2019 by Picador, an imprint of Pan Macmillan.)</p> <p>John Keats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'I Stood Tip-Toe Upon a Little Hill'• 'To Hope'• 'To a Friend Who Sent Me Some Roses'• 'To My Brothers'• 'Sleep and Poetry' <p>(All prescribed poems by John Keats are published in <i>The Complete Poetry and Selected Prose of John Keats</i>, published in 1951 by Random House.)</p>	Monologue

EA2 Section 2

Analytical written response	
Prescribed text list	Genre for response
<p>Candidates to conduct a close study of one of the texts prescribed for the English and English as an Additional Language external assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Burial Rites</i> by Hannah Kent• <i>Hamlet</i> by William Shakespeare• <i>Jane Eyre</i> by Charlotte Brontë• <i>Macbeth</i> by William Shakespeare• <i>Never Let Me Go</i> by Kazuo Ishiguro• <i>The White Earth</i> by Andrew McGahan• <i>The Yield</i> by Tara June Winch• <i>We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves</i> by Karen Joy Fowler	Analytical essay

Enquiries

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