

A-Level English Literature Mock exam Topic List – February 2026

Paper 1 (Component 1)

Richard III and Duchess of Malfi and Rossetti

Structure of the exam

2 hrs 30 minutes

Richard III 1 hour 15 minutes

Extract:

One question (no choice)

(Assessment objectives: AO1 Articulate informed, personal and creative responses to literary texts, using associated concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate written expression AO2 Analyse language, structure and form)

Whole play question (no choice)

(AO1 and AO5 are equally weighted for this section. The weightings for the Assessment Objectives in this part (b) question are:

AO1 – 50% %) • Excellent and consistently detailed understanding of texts and question; well-structured, coherent and detailed argument consistently developed; consistently fluent and accurate writing in appropriate register; critical concepts and terminology used accurately and consistently

AO5 – 50% • Judgement consistently informed by exploration of different interpretations of texts.)

- Revise the key characters in the play: Richard, Ann, Margaret, Buckingham, Elizabeth.
- Revise key events in the play.
- Revise key terminology.
- Revise critics
- Revise productions
- Look back in your book and revise the structure of an extract question.
- Look at your specific target from your last piece of work and think about how you will achieve this in the exam.
- Plan and complete sample papers and submit for marking.

Duchess of Malfi and Rossetti 1 hour 15 minutes

Pick one from a choice of 6 question. (Assessment objectives: AO1 Articulate informed, personal and creative responses to literary texts, using associated concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate written expression. AO3 Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received. AO4 Explore connections across literary texts. AO5 Explore literary texts informed by different interpretations.)

Compare the Rossetti Poetry with The Duchess of Malfi

- Revise key themes in both texts.
- Revise context for both texts.
- Practise developing a line of argument for example essay questions.
- Consider critics views on the texts and how attitudes towards the texts have changed over time.

Paper 2 (Component 2)

Dystopian

Structure of the exam

2 hr 30 minutes

Critical appreciation 1 hour 15 minutes

*(Assessment objectives: **AO2 is the dominant assessment objective for this section. The weightings for the Assessment Objectives in this question are:** AO2 – 75% Analyse language, structure and form AO3 – 12.5% • Consistently developed and consistently detailed understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written, as appropriate to the question. AO1 – 12.5 % • Excellent and consistently detailed understanding of texts and question; well-structured, coherent and detailed argument consistently developed; consistently fluent and accurate writing in appropriate register; critical concepts and terminology used accurately and consistently.*

Comparative essay 1 hour 15 minutes

Pick one from a choice of three questions. (Assessment objectives: AO3 (50%) • Consistently developed and consistently detailed understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written, as appropriate to the question. • Consistently developed and consistently detailed understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are received, as appropriate to the question. AO4 (25%) • Excellent and consistently detailed comparative analysis of relationships between texts. AO1 (12.5%) • Excellent and consistently detailed understanding of texts and question; well-structured, coherent and detailed argument consistently developed; consistently fluent and accurate writing in appropriate register; critical

concepts and terminology used accurately and consistently. AO5 (12.5%) • Judgement consistently informed by exploration of different interpretations of texts.)

Compare 1984 with 'The Handmaid's Tale'

- Revise key dystopian themes in both texts.
 - Revise context for both texts.
 - Revise your dystopian timeline.
 - Practise developing a line of argument for sample essay questions.
 - Consider critics views on the texts and how these link to the dystopian genre.
 - Annotate and then attempt critical appreciation questions.
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- To access past papers, in addition to the revision materials you are set by your teacher, see:
 - [AS and A Level - English Literature - H072, H472 \(from 2015\) - OCR](#)

