

# GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE:

Exam Guide And Book List (2025)

**EXAM  
GUIDE**



**BOOK  
LIST**

**MAY  
2025**

**Irem,**  
Content Specialist  
at [FindTutors.co.uk](https://www.findtutors.co.uk)

As students gear up for the academic year, effective preparation for **GCSEs becomes essential**. A well-structured study schedule is key, and many find private tutoring invaluable for support and guidance.

To help you succeed, we've created a comprehensive PDF guide that provides essential information about the 2025 GCSE English Literature exam, including exam structures, key dates, and a curated reading list from various exam boards.

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# 12 MAY

## **AQA**

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel  
Duration: 1 hour 45 minutes

## **Edexcel**

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel  
Duration: 1 hour 45 minutes

## **OCR**

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel  
Duration: 1 hour 45 minutes

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# **EXAM GUIDE**

What You Need to Know About  
GCSE English Literature in 2025

# 13 MAY

## **WJEC/Eduqas**

Component 1: Shakespeare and Poetry

Duration: 2 hours

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## **EXAM GUIDE**

What You Need to Know About  
GCSE English Literature in 2025

# 20 MAY

## **AQA**

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

Duration: 2 hours 15 minutes

## **Edexcel**

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

Duration: 2 hours 15 minutes

## **OCR**

Paper 2: Modern drama and literature  
from 1900 to the present day

Duration: 2 hours 15 minutes

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# **EXAM GUIDE**

What You Need to Know About  
GCSE English Literature in 2025

# 20 MAY

## **WJEC/Eduqas**

Paper 2: Prose and Unseen Poetry

Duration: 2 hours

## **CCEA**

Paper 2: The Study of Drama and Poetry

from 1900 to Present

Duration: 2 hours

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# **EXAM GUIDE**

What You Need to Know About  
GCSE English Literature in 2025

Title	Author	Exam Boards
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde	Robert Louis Stevenson	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
A Christmas Carol	Charles Dickens	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
Great Expectations	Charles Dickens	AQA, OCR, Pearson
Jane Eyre	Charlotte Brontë	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
Frankenstein	Mary Shelley	AQA, Pearson
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
The Sign of Four	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle	AQA
The War of the Worlds	H. G. Wells	OCR, Eduqas
Silas Marner	George Eliot	Pearson, Eduqas

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# BOOK LIST

## 19th Century Novels

Your 2025 GCSE English Literature Reading List: Key Books to Explore

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Exam Boards</b>
Macbeth	William Shakespeare	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
Romeo and Juliet	William Shakespeare	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
The Tempest	William Shakespeare	AQA, Pearson
The Merchant of Venice	William Shakespeare	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
Much Ado About Nothing	William Shakespeare	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
Julius Caesar	William Shakespeare	AQA
Twelfth Night	William Shakespeare	Pearson, Eduqas
Othello	William Shakespeare	Eduqas

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# BOOK LIST

## Shakespeare

Your 2025 GCSE English Literature Reading List: Key Books to Explore



<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Exam Boards</b>
Lord of the Flies	William Golding	AQA, Pearson, Eduqas
Animal Farm	George Orwell	AQA, OCR, Pearson
Anita and Me	Meera Syal	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
Pigeon English	Stephen Kelman	AQA
My Name is Leon	Kit de Waal	AQA
Never Let Me Go	Kazuo Ishiguro	OCR
The Woman in Black	Susan Hill	Pearson, Eduqas
Coram Boy	Jamila Gavin	Pearson
Boys Don't Cry	Malorie Blackman	Pearson, Eduqas
Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit	Jeanette Winterson	Eduqas

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# BOOK LIST

## Modern Prose

Your 2025 GCSE English Literature Reading List: Key Books to Explore

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Exam Boards</b>
An Inspector Calls	J.B. Priestley	AQA, OCR, Pearson, Eduqas
Blood Brothers	Willy Russell	AQA, Pearson, Eduqas
DNA	Dennis Kelly	AQA, OCR
A Taste of Honey	Shelagh Delaney	AQA
Princess & The Hustler	Chinonyerem Odimba	AQA
Leave Taking	Winsome Pinnock	AQA, OCR, Eduqas
Hobson's Choice	Harold Brighouse	Pearson
Journey's End	R.C. Sheriff	Pearson
The Empress	Tanika Gupta	Pearson
Refugee Boy	Benjamin Zephaniah	Pearson
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time	Mark Haddon/Simon Stephens	Eduqas
The History Boys	Alan Bennett	Eduqas

# BOOK LIST

## Modern Drama

Your 2025 GCSE English Literature Reading List: Key Books to Explore

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