

Memo

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

13 November 2024

Senior secondary

Number: 054/24

Revised prescribed text lists for English, English as an Additional Language, and Literature — 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029

Purpose

To inform schools that the updated prescribed text lists for the General senior syllabuses for English, English as an Additional Language (EAL), and Literature are available via [QCAA Portal](#) and the QCAA website at www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/senior-subjects.

Background

The senior syllabuses for English, EAL, and Literature are supported by lists of prescribed texts. These lists are to be used with students in Units 3 and 4 of their studies and are subject to a process of refreshment.

Consultation and research for refreshment included:

- a review of text selections currently being made by schools in the Prescribed Lists application (app) in the [QCAA Portal](#) over the last three years
- feedback from practising teachers through an online survey
- feedback from the MyQCE Student Reference Group
- a review of text selections in other jurisdictions.
- endorsement by chief assessors.

The refreshed prescribed text lists are for implementation with Year 12 students in 2026.

Information

The prescribed texts have been approved by the QCAA as suitable for study in Units 3 and 4 in English, EAL, and Literature, and were selected in accordance with the following criteria and guidelines.

Criteria for the text list

The text list as a whole will:

- meet the syllabus requirements
- reflect the cultural and social diversity of the Australian context and student cohorts

- provide a range and balance of texts and writers with respect to time, place and gender
- encourage critical and creative engagement
- include texts that provide affirming perspectives
- consider broad community standards and expectations in the context of a senior secondary study of texts.

Criteria for inclusion of texts

Texts selected for the list will:

- have merit in genre and style
- provide opportunities for sustained intensive study and challenge
- provide opportunities for student engagement.

Guidelines for text selection

- Texts include novels, non-fiction works, plays, poetry, and film and television programs.
- No single text is prescribed — schools have the opportunity to choose texts from the lists that are suitable for their contexts and cohorts.
- Schools can engage with writers from different times, places and cultures, and of varied outlook and gender.
- The text lists include a balance and range of established and new texts.

In Term 1, 2025, the QCAA will release a set of annotations that will provide key information about the texts to assist schools in making decisions for their contexts and cohorts.

Schools will register their text choices in the Prescribed Lists app in the [QCAA Portal](#) for Units 3 and 4 for 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029 using the prescribed text lists for those years.

Access to syllabuses and prescribed text lists

The refreshed prescribed text lists are available via the:

- [QCAA Portal](#) > Syllabuses app > Syllabus subject, e.g. English > View resources
- QCAA website at www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/senior-subjects.

What you need to do

Share this information with teachers of General English, EAL, and Literature to ensure they use the refreshed prescribed text lists for 2026–2029 planning.

Finding out more

Please email Kylie Wilson-Tucker (Acting Learning Area Manager, English and Languages) at Kylie.Wilson-Tucker@qcaa.qld.edu.au, or phone (07) 3120 6128.

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