



An Chomhairle Náisiúnta Curaclaim agus Measúnachta  
National Council for Curriculum and Assessment

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## Junior Cycle English Text List

(For the student cohorts 2014-17, 2015-2018, 2016-2019  
and 2017 - 2020)



## Junior Cycle English Text List

(For the student cohorts 2014-17, 2015-18, 2016-19 and 2017-20)

The language skills being developed by students in junior cycle English are for the most part unconstrained skills that need to be frequently revisited and reinforced. Therefore, care will be needed to find a balance between choosing a sufficiently broad range of texts and providing learners with a variety of language experiences and opportunities to develop the range of skills envisioned in the learning outcomes. In support of this aim two lists of texts are provided:

- as a guide for first year an indicative list of texts from which teachers and students may choose or substitute text/s of their own choosing
- for second and third year there is a prescribed body of texts from which teachers must select, although they may add to these lists if they wish.

The list for first year refers to specific texts only in the case of the novel. The purpose of this is simply to suggest the kinds of texts suitable for study during first year.

The list for second and third year refers to specific texts in the case of novel, drama and film. Other texts are referred to by genre or type only and teachers will have freedom to choose specific examples.

The following guidelines should be used to inform choice of texts.

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| First Year | A studied novel, with on-going, sustained reading of novels throughout the year |
|            | A variety of drama extracts to suit appropriate learning outcomes               |
|            | A variety of non-literary texts including texts in oral format                  |
|            | A number of short stories   |
|            | At least 10 poems   |

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Second and Third Year | <p>From the list of prescribed texts students must study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two novels</li> <li>• Two drama texts.</li> </ul> <p>Note 1: An extract from a play or extracts from one or more plays may be used as one of the drama texts. The extracts may be</p> |
|-----------------------|---|

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <p>chosen from outside the list of prescribed texts. The extract or extracts selected by schools should provide students with a broad experience of the dramatic form.</p>  |
|  | <p>Note 2: Students intending to take the Final Assessment at Higher Level should study the full text of one of the five prescribed Shakespearean dramas listed below during second and/or third year.</p>  |
|  | <p>A variety of non-literary texts including texts in oral format</p>   |
|  | <p>A film chosen from the prescribed list of texts<br/> or A biopic<br/> or A screen documentary<br/> or A screen travelogue</p> <p>Note 3: Visual/screen texts are envisaged here. Print and/or audio biographical, documentary and travel texts may still be explored but fall into the category of 'non-literary texts, including texts in oral format'.</p> |
|  | <p>A selection of poetry (a minimum of 16 poems over the two years)</p>   |
|  | <p>A number of short stories</p>  |

## Texts for first year

### Novel

|  |  |
|--|--|
| ALMOND, David                          | Skellig  |
| BABBITT, Nicole                        | Tuck Everlasting                               |
| CAREY, Anna                            | The Real Rebecca                               |
| COLFER, Eoin                           | Artemis Fowl                                   |
| DOYLE, Roddy                           | Wilderness                                     |
| GAIMAN, Neil                           | Coraline                                       |
| GRISHAM, John                          | Theodore Boone: Half the Man, Twice the Lawyer |
| HENRY, April                           | Girl Stolen                                    |
| HINTON, Nigel                          | Buddy  |
| LANDY, Derek                           | Skulduggery Pleasant                           |
| McKENZIE, Sophie                       | Girl, Missing                                  |
| MORPURGO, Michael                      | Private Peaceful                               |
| PALACIO, R.J.                          | Wonder   |
| PAULSEN, Gary                          | Nightjohn                                      |
| PULLMAN, Philip                        | The Scarecrow and his Servant                  |
| SACHAR, Louis                          | The Boy Who Lost His Face                      |
| SHAN, Darren                           | Cirque Du Freak                                |
| TAYLOR, Theodore                       | The Cay  |
| TOLKEIN, J.R.R.                        | The Hobbit                                     |
| TRINITY COMPREHENSIVE<br>WRITING GROUP | In Pieces                                      |

## Texts for second and third year

### Novel

|                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| BLACKMAN, Malorie  | Noughts and Crosses           |
| BOYNE, John        | The Dare                      |
| BRONTË, Charlotte  | Jane Eyre                     |
| CATHER, Willa      | My Antonia                    |
| CONNOLLY, John     | The Book of Lost Things       |
| CROSSAN, Sarah     | The Weight of Water           |
| GLEITZMAN, Morris  | Once                          |
| GOLDING, William   | Lord of the Flies             |
| HINTON, S.E.       | The Outsiders                 |
| JOHNSTON, Jennifer | Shadows on our Skin           |
| KIERNAN, Celine    | Into the Grey                 |
| LEE, Harper        | To Kill a Mockingbird         |
| MITCHELL, Jane     | Chalkline                     |
| MULLIGAN, Andy     | Trash                         |
| NESS, Patrick      | The Knife of Never Letting Go |
| NICHOLSON, William | The Wind Singer               |
| ORWELL, George     | Animal Farm                   |
| PORTIS, Charles    | True Grit                     |
| STEINBECK, John    | Of Mice and Men               |
| SWINDELLS, Robert  | Stone Cold                    |

### Drama

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| BREEN, John       | Alone It Stands  |
| FRIEL, Brian      | Lovers (Winners and Losers)                                  |
| GOGOL, Nikolai    | The Government Inspector                                     |
| HILL, Susan       | The Woman in Black (adapted for stage by Stephen Mallatratt) |
| LAURENTS, Arthur  | West Side Story  |
| MORPURGO, Michael | War Horse (adapted for stage by Nick Stafford)               |

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| O'CASEY, Sean        | The Shadow of a Gunman                 |
| ROSE, Reginald       | Twelve Angry Men                       |
| RUSSELL, Willy       | Blood Brothers (musical or stage play) |
| SHAKESPEARE, William | A Midsummer Night's Dream              |
|                      | Henry IV, Part 1                       |
|                      | Much Ado About Nothing                 |
|                      | The Merchant of Venice                 |
|                      | Romeo and Juliet                       |
| SHAW, George Bernard | Pygmalion                              |
| WILDE, Oscar         | The Importance of Being Earnest        |

## Film

|                    |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| BENIGNI, Roberto   | Life Is Beautiful           |
| CARO, Niki         | Whale Rider                 |
| CHADHA, Gurinder   | Bend It Like Beckham        |
| JENNINGS, Garth    | Son of Rambow               |
| LAUGHTON, Charles  | The Night of the Hunter     |
| LINKLATER, Richard | School of Rock              |
| MIYAZAKI, Hayao    | Spirited Away               |
| SHERIDAN, Jim      | In America                  |
| SPIELBERG, Stephen | ET                          |
| ZEITLIN, Benh      | Beasts of the Southern Wild |