

Super-Curricular Guide: English



What Does UCAS Say...?

Entry Requirements:

A levels – to get onto a degree in this subject area you will usually need a minimum of two A levels, with three A levels, and A – B grades required for the most popular courses. Entry requirements range from CCC to AAB, with the universities and colleges most commonly asking for ABB. English A level is usually required. Other useful subjects to hold for English degrees include any humanities subject – such as history, geography, or drama.

In addition to A levels or equivalent, you will also need five GCSEs (A – C) including science, English, and maths.

English courses are hugely popular, so universities are looking for:

- evidence that you are well informed and passionate about the subject – for example, if you are applying to a literature course you could discuss your favourite writer or genre, or your favourite novel and why you like it
- a proven enthusiasm for the subject, which could be demonstrated by:
- relevant work experience/shadowing
- your own blog
- a discussion of an essay or project you enjoyed writing
- an ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing
- the capacity to think critically and creatively



Read!

1. The Great Gatsby, by F. Scott Fitzgerald

2. The Picture of Dorian Gray, by Oscar Wilde

3. Wuthering Heights, by Emily Brontë

4. 1984, by George Orwell

5. Great Expectations, by Charles Dickens

6. The Kite Runner, by Khaled Hosseini

8. The Lord of the Rings, by J. R. R. Tolkien

9. To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee

10. The Catcher in the Rye, by J. D. Salinger

12. Frankenstein, by Mary Shelley

14. To the Lighthouse, by Virginia Woolf

15. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, by Lewis Carroll

16. Lord of the Flies, by William Golding

<https://oxfordsummercourses.com/articles/books-for-english-literature-students-to-read/>



Read!

Poetry:

Simon Armitage

WH Auden

William Blake

Evan Boland

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Lord Byron

Geoffrey Chaucer

ST Coleridge

Emily Dickinson

Carol Ann Duffy

TS Eliot

Seamus Heaney

Ted Hughes

John Keats

Philip Larkin

John Milton

Wilfred Owen

Sylvia Plath

Christina Rossetti

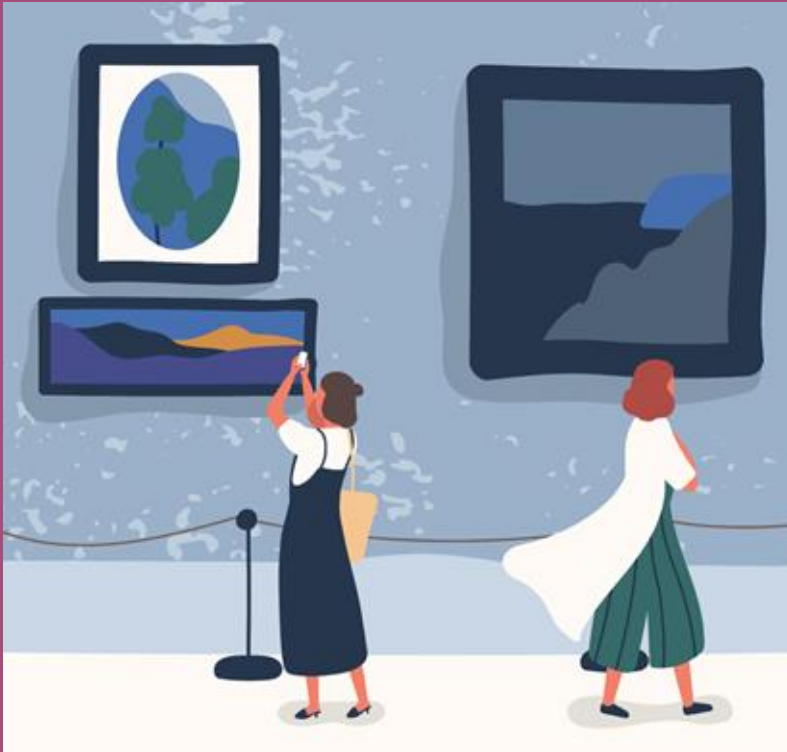
Jacob Sam-La Rose

Siegfried Sassoon

Percy Shelley

Alfred Lord Tennyson

William Wordsworth

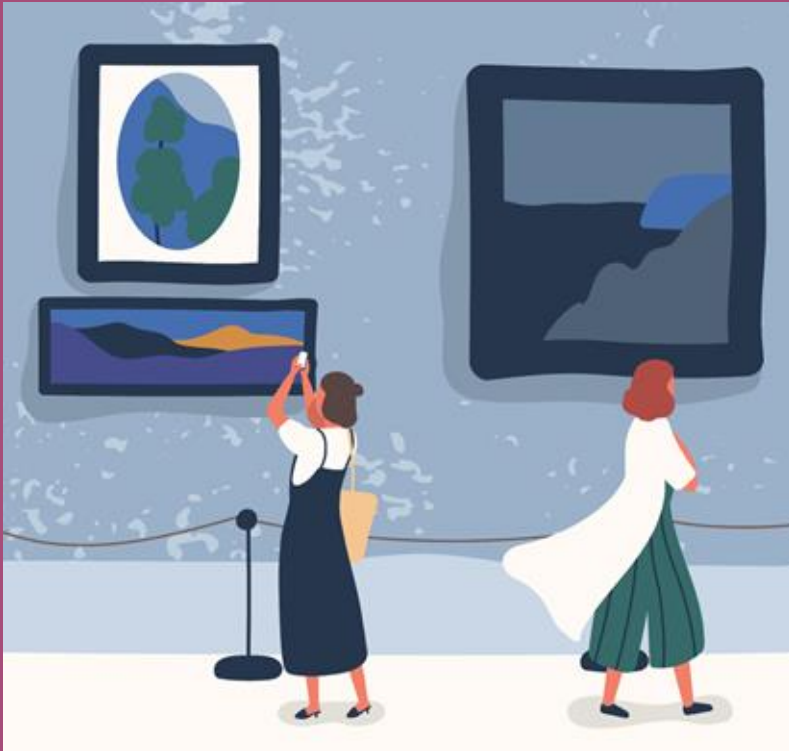


Visit!

The British Library

For research, inspiration and enjoyment

<https://www.bl.uk/>



Visit!



Visit Shakespeare's Globe for as low as £5 to see classic plays on in a site full of history!

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/whats-on/>

Evening events

Experience the V&A after hours with our programme of talks, courses and special events. From evening classes to film screenings, to our monthly Friday Lates – a night at the Museum can take you anywhere.

V&A Friday Evenings for music, film and contemporary art workshops

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/whatson/programmes/evening-event>



Listen!



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b03srddf>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qtnz>



<https://www.theparisreview.org/podcast>



Experience!

Create a scrapbook of interesting articles and examples of language use in different contexts!

Practice thinking about perspective by writing a section of novel you are reading from a different character's perspective. Trial changing idiolect and structural patterns to a different character too!

Write an article on either a topic you have studied this year as part of your course or one you are interested in outside of the course!



<https://nottinghampoetryfestival.com>

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Keep a Super-Curricular Activities Record for Personal Statement and Interviews

- What did you do?
- What was interesting, significant and relevant?
- How was your perception or view of the subject matter changed?
- What did you agree or disagree with and why?
- What further questions were raised?
- What could you do to explore these questions further?
- What skills or understanding were developed?

Learning Terminology

Learning Terminology

A big part of the English Language and Literature A level is the new terminology you need to know.

Please take the time to try and learn as much as you can from the glossaries available [HERE](#).

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