

NOV  
26  
2018

## English in Action: Drama and Poetry pre-1900

For A-level students of the OCR specification

Expert speakers will explore the literary, historical and social perspectives of this OCR A-level option, offering comprehensive strategies for approaching set texts and providing students with invaluable insights and helpful guidance to help them achieve success in the examination. Students will enjoy relevant and lively sessions on Shakespeare's plays, on comparing texts across time and genre and on contexts in Jacobean theatre and pre-1900 poetry. This programme will explore a range of relevant and fascinating themes which can be applied across all set texts, addressing different interpretations of these literary texts. We are delighted that Dr Anna Beer from the University of Oxford will chair the day and give an invaluable session on exam technique.

- Comparing texts: poetry and drama
- Interpreting Shakespeare's characters
- Nineteenth-century poetry and drama: texts in cultural context
- Gender, rank and status
- Exam technique



Emmanuel Centre, London  
9 – 23 Marsham Street  
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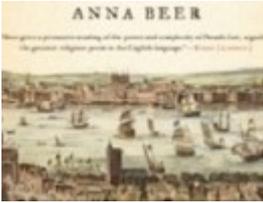


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# English in ACTION

## Comparing texts: poetry and drama / [Anna Beer](#)



This lecture will focus on the themes of sexuality and conflict, drawing on Milton and Marlowe, and highlighting contextual and cultural influences. She will explore connections between the texts and provide invaluable advice for writing a comparative essay.

Author, lecturer, biographer and A-level examiner Dr Anna Beer is Visiting Fellow of Kellogg College, Oxford University. She has published widely and also contributed to a key OCR text book.



## Interpreting Shakespeare's characters / [Nick Hutchison](#)



Drawing on the set texts, Nick Hutchison will explore Shakespeare's use of language and dramatic effects, considering how his plays have been interpreted by different audiences over time and stimulating students' grasp of how he presents characters in their chosen play.

Nick Hutchison is an actor, director and lecturer who has directed Shakespeare's plays across the globe. He lectures for Shakespeare's Globe and at universities worldwide and on Jacobean Theatre for LAMDA and RADA.



## Nineteenth-century poetry and drama: texts in cultural context / [Simon Avery](#)



In this session Simon Avery will consider how Rossetti's 'Goblin Market' (1862) and Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House* (1879) engage with a range of cultural contexts, including contemporary ideas about the family, gender roles, sexuality and the role of literature

Dr Simon Avery is Reader in nineteenth-century literature and culture at the University of Westminster, where he teaches courses on fiction and poetry from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



## Gender, rank and status / [James Knowles](#)

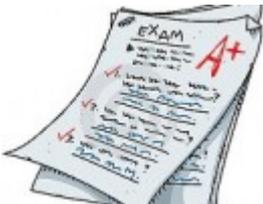


Discover contexts and comparisons between the set texts, focusing on gender, rank and status in pre-modern societies and drawing on Chaucer and Webster. Students will be able to apply what they have learned to their own chosen texts.

Professor James Knowles specialises in early modern literature and culture (1500-1700) and has published widely on early modern drama, especially Jonson, Marlowe, Marston, Middleton, and Shakespeare.



## Exam technique / [Anna Beer](#)



Anna Beer will provide invaluable hints and tips on tackling the exam, including how to extract guidance from the questions and how best to address the Assessment Objectives.

Author, lecturer, biographer and A-level examiner Dr Anna Beer is Visiting Fellow of Kellogg College, Oxford University. She has published widely and also contributed to a key OCR text book.



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