STUDYWALKS · COURSE SYLLABUS

English Literature — High School Course with CLEP Preparation

English Literature follows British writing from Beowulf to the present, and teaches you to read a passage closely enough to place it.

CREDIT LABEL	HOURS GOAL	STUDYWALKS LEARNING HOURS	SUGGESTED OFFLINE HOURS
1.0 credit	**120 h**	**25.5 h**	**94.5 h**
high school, with the study plan	the 1.0-credit convention	measured runtime plus assessment time	reading, review and writing

25.5 h StudyWalks (5.8 h of lessons, 12.6 h of lectures, 7.3 h of quizzes and exams) + **94.5 h** suggested offline study = **120 h**. 644 lessons in 20 units; prepares for the CLEP English Literature exam.

High school credit is granted by the homeschool parent under the state's rules. StudyWalks supplies the record: hours, scores and this syllabus. The credit label is a suggestion; the parent makes the final call.

Course contents

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
1	**Reading a Poem: Sound, Meter and Form** Voice, Tone and the Line · Meter · Rhyme and Sound · Stanzas and Fixed Forms · Method and Traps	40	49 min (2 parts)
2	**Reading for Meaning: Figure, Tone, Style, Drama and Narrative** Figures of Speech · Tone and Style · The Kinds: Satire, Pastoral, Tragedy, Comedy · Narration and the Prose Forms · Criticism and the Question Types	38	50 min (2 parts)
3	**Old English Literature** The Setting: England, the Scop and the Line · Beowulf · The Shorter Poems	18	23 min
4	**Geoffrey Chaucer** The Language and the Man · The Canterbury Tales: Frame and Portraits · The Tales, the Narrator and the Verse	20	25 min
5	**Middle English Beyond Chaucer** Romance and Sir Gawain · Song and Stage · Visionaries and Kinds	16	21 min
6	**The Sixteenth Century** Humanism and Utopia · The Sonnet and the Defence · Allegory and the Stage	22	26 min
7	**William Shakespeare** The Life, the Kinds and the Sonnets · Comedies and Histories · The Tragedies and the Romance · Craft, Lines and Method	26	32 min
8	**Donne, Jonson and the Early Seventeenth Century** The Age and the Metaphysical Poets · Jonson and the Cavaliers · Women, Prose and the Jacobean Stage	18	22 min

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
9	**John Milton** The Early Poems and the Public Prose · Paradise Lost	14	19 min
10	**The Restoration** The Return and Dryden · Behn and the Stage · Other Voices and the Methods	18	23 min
11	**The Eighteenth Century** The Augustans and Swift · Pope and Two Women Poets · The Novel and Johnson · The Later Century · Three Procedures and the Capstone	34	39 min (2 parts)
12	**The First Romantics** What Romanticism Names · Blake and His Contemporaries · Lyrical Ballads and Wordsworth · Coleridge and the Others · Categories and Methods	50	54 min (2 parts)
13	**The Second Romantics and Romantic Prose** Byron · Shelley and Keats · The Novel and Its Makers · Essayists and Categories · Five Procedures · Endings, Matching and the Capstone	52	56 min (2 parts)
14	**Victorian Poetry** The Age and Tennyson · The Brownings · Arnold, Brontë and the Pre-Raphaelites · Hopkins and the Late Century · Four Procedures · Themes, Matching and the Capstone	50	53 min (2 parts)
15	**Victorian Fiction, Prose and Drama** The Novel, Dickens and the Brontës · Thackeray, Gaskell, Eliot and the Later Novelists · The Prose Arguers · Late Writers and Great Questions · Four Procedures · The Century's End	52	55 min (2 parts)
16	**Modernism** The Break and Conrad · Yeats and Joyce · Woolf, Lawrence, Forster, Mansfield and Eliot · Late Eliot, the War and the Movements · Five Procedures · Errors, Settings and the Capstone	50	55 min (2 parts)
17	**After Modernism: Britain and Ireland** The Thirties Poets · Orwell and the Novelists · The Stage and the Poets · The Later Novel and Poetry · Four Procedures · Errors, Forms and the Capstone	44	47 min (2 parts)
18	**Commonwealth and Postcolonial Writing in English** After Empire, and Africa · The Caribbean and India · Canada, Australia and New Zealand · Connecting Ideas · Three Procedures · Errors, Kipling and the Capstone	34	38 min (2 parts)
19	**Reading Criticism and Identifying Periods** The Critics From Sidney to Woolf · Schools and Two Procedures · The Period Signatures · The Last Signatures · Five Procedures and the Capstone	30	37 min (2 parts)
20	**Capstone and Course Close** The Exam and Its Clock · The Six Periods in Review · The Genres, the Chronology and Two Walk-Throughs · Description, Gaps, Credit and After	18	32 min

Assessment and grading

- **Unit quizzes.** 20 quizzes, 10 questions each, checked as the student goes, each answer with the lesson to review. Untimed; retakes are unlimited.
- **Mid exam.** 50 questions on units 1–10, drawn fresh each time and scored at the end with a breakdown by content area. Untimed; retakes are unlimited.
- **Final exam.** 95 questions, 90 minutes, on the whole course. Scored 20–80; 50 passes (63 of 95 correct, about 66%). Retakes are unlimited with a 24-hour wait, each a fresh draw.

Suggested composite grade

Part	Weight
Unit quizzes (average of best scores)	20%
Mid exam (best score)	20%
Final exam (percent correct)	60%

Suggested letter scale

Letter	Composite
A	90–100
B	80–89
C	70–79
D	60–69
F	below 60

Suggested; the parent sets the grade. A passing final is the completion standard for the course record.

Study plan

The 94.5 offline hours are spread over the units in proportion to each unit's StudyWalks time. For each unit: read the matching sections of *British Literature I: Middle Ages to the Eighteenth Century and Neoclassicism, British Literature II: Romantic Era to the Twentieth Century and Beyond; English Literature: Victorians and Moderns; Milton, Introduction to Theory of Literature, Modern Poetry*, review the unit quiz misses, and write a one-page unit summary. Log the time as you go.

Unit	Title	StudyWalks	Offline, suggested	Unit total
1	Reading a Poem: Sound, Meter and Form	1 h 10 min	6 h	7 h 10 min
2	Reading for Meaning: Figure, Tone, Style, Drama and Narrative	1 h 10 min	6 h	7 h 10 min
3	Old English Literature	33 min	2 h 50 min	3 h 23 min
4	Geoffrey Chaucer	35 min	3 h	3 h 35 min
5	Middle English Beyond Chaucer	30 min	2 h 35 min	3 h 5 min
6	The Sixteenth Century	38 min	3 h 15 min	3 h 53 min
7	William Shakespeare	45 min	3 h 50 min	4 h 35 min
8	Donne, Jonson and the Early Seventeenth Century	32 min	2 h 45 min	3 h 17 min
Lessons and lectures		**18 h 20 min**	**94 h 30 min**	**112 h 50 min**
Quizzes, mid exam and final (stated time)		**7 h 18 min**	**—**	**7 h 18 min**

Unit	Title	StudyWalks	Offline, suggested	Unit total
9	John Milton	26 min	2 h 15 min	2 h 41 min
10	The Restoration	33 min	2 h 50 min	3 h 23 min
11	The Eighteenth Century	57 min	4 h 55 min	5 h 52 min
12	The First Romantics	1 h 20 min	6 h 50 min	8 h 10 min
13	The Second Romantics and Romantic Prose	1 h 24 min	7 h 15 min	8 h 39 min
14	Victorian Poetry	1 h 19 min	6 h 45 min	8 h 4 min
15	Victorian Fiction, Prose and Drama	1 h 23 min	7 h 10 min	8 h 33 min
16	Modernism	1 h 22 min	7 h 5 min	8 h 27 min
17	After Modernism: Britain and Ireland	1 h 11 min	6 h 5 min	7 h 16 min
18	Commonwealth and Postcolonial Writing in English	57 min	4 h 55 min	5 h 52 min
19	Reading Criticism and Identifying Periods	53 min	4 h 35 min	5 h 28 min
20	Capstone and Course Close	42 min	3 h 35 min	4 h 17 min
Lessons and lectures		**18 h 20 min**	**94 h 30 min**	**112 h 50 min**
Quizzes, mid exam and final (stated time)		**7 h 18 min**	**—**	**7 h 18 min**

Unit times are the unit's lecture runtime plus its lessons at the course's measured average lesson length; totals can differ from the learning hours by rounding.

Sources

- **Anchor:** Bonnie J. Robinson and Laura Getty, editors. *British Literature I: Middle Ages to the Eighteenth Century and Neoclassicism*; Bonnie J. Robinson, editor. *British Literature II: Romantic Era to the Twentieth Century and Beyond*. University of North Georgia Press, with Affordable Learning Georgia. CC BY-SA 4.0
- **Witness:** James Sexton. *English Literature: Victorians and Moderns*. BCcampus. CC BY 4.0
- **Witness:** Open Yale Courses: John Rogers, *Milton* (ENGL 220); Paul Fry, *Introduction to Theory of Literature* (ENGL 300); Langdon Hammer, *Modern Poetry* (ENGL 310). CC BY-NC-SA 3.0
- **Witness:** The Nobel Prize: laureate biographical and bibliography pages (facts only).
- **Witness:** Poetry Foundation: poet pages and glossary of poetic terms (facts only).
- **Witness:** The Booker Prizes: author pages (facts only).
- **Witness:** Wikipedia, for corroborating facts the other sources do not cover. CC BY-SA 4.0
- **Primary texts:** Project Gutenberg, for works first published before 1931. Public domain in the US

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