

Welcome to Level 2 English:

Guilt and the Search for Redemption

With Miss Macdonald 2017

Context

Have you ever backed into your parent's car or "borrowed" that \$20 off your little brother or sister? You know how guilty you feel afterwards and then you work really hard to make it up to them? People have any number of reasons for redeeming themselves but guilt seems to be the leading cause. Understanding motivations and intentions lets us know more about the people and the world around us. This year, we will look at extended, visual and short texts all dealing with the idea of guilt and redemption. You will complete tasks, discussions and assessments based around this idea. I really hope you will enjoy this theme and it will inspire you to consider the people and world around you from a new perspective.



Course Rationale

The Level 2 English course at Mount Aspiring College is, for many students, a culmination of over a decade of learning in the areas of language and communication. By this stage, the students will be very sophisticated in their approach to the use of

English, and the Level Two NCEA courses are designed to enable them to further develop their critical thinking faculties and to begin to find their own voice.

As ten Level Two NCEA credits in Reading and Writing are a prerequisite for University Entrance, there is a continued emphasis on consolidating the students' skills in the mechanics of the language (accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar are essential components of a number of the Level 2 Achievement standards). As well as this, we aim to develop the students' ability to express themselves, their personal responses to texts, and ideas with fluency and persuasiveness.

Each teacher selects novels, plays, stories, poetry, films and other primary material both to suit the interests and needs of the students in their classes, and about which they are personally passionate. We strive to challenge, motivate and inspire our students by exposing them to literature that is original, relevant and of a high standard.

Assessment

The course will be assessed using a range of NCEA assessment tools which will be selected from the table on the following pages. In contrast to other NCEA Subjects at

Mount Aspiring College, the English Department does not pre-determine the assessments that will be run for each class during any given year. This decision is made in consultation with parents and students and is guided by the following principles:

- Ample opportunity is given to students to achieve the New Zealand Universities’ “Literacy” criteria, both through internal and external assessments.
 - All areas of learning in English should be assessed throughout the year.
- Assessment should happen only once a student has developed the requisite knowledge and skill to tackle the task effectively.
- The opportunity to gain enough credits in English to continue to Level 3 at Mount Aspiring College (16 Credits) is guaranteed.

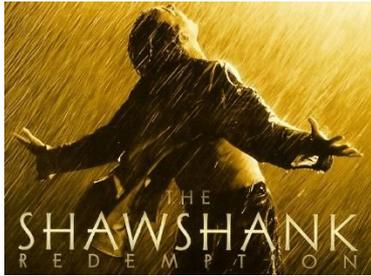
Remember: The literacy requirement for University Entrance is achieved by gaining 10 credits from English. Tertiary institutions such as Otago University have implemented changes so that students intending to enrol into most university courses will be divided into one of two categories - Preferential Entry or Competitive Entry. If a student has achieved NCEA Level 2 with a Merit or Excellence endorsement they would have gained Preferential Entry. This then guarantees a place at the university provided that University Entrance is gained at NCEA Level 3.

Specific Standards Being Assessed:

Over the course of this year, you will sit two internals: your writing portfolio and your speech. At the end of the year, you will sit two papers in your external exam. Both will be essays. One essay will be on a novel we have studied in class and the other on the film we will study in class. Below is a breakdown of the assessments for this year. Next to each one, please write yourself a goal of the grade you want to aim for in that assessment.

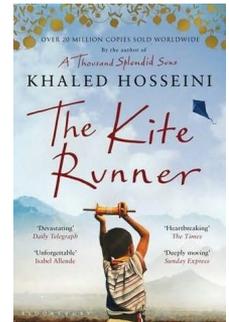
Assessment Number	NCEA Title	Number of Credits	Internal/ External	Goal
AS 91098 (2.1)	Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence <i>Literacy credits for: Reading + Writing</i>	4	External	
AS 91099 (2.2)	Analyse specified aspects(s) of studied visual text(s), supported by evidence. <i>Literacy credits for: Writing</i>	4	External	
AS 91101 (2.4)	Produce a selection of crafted and controlled writing <i>Literacy credits for: Writing</i>	6	Internal	
AS 91102 (2.5)	Construct and deliver a crafted and controlled oral text.	3	Internal	
Total Credit's Available: 17		Overall Grade Goal:		

Core texts we will look at this year:



Extended Written Text: The Kite Runner
(Khaled Hosseini)

Extended Visual Text: The Shawshank
Redemption (Frank Darabont)



We will also be studying a range of supporting texts, both visual and written. These are likely to be short video clips, short stories and poems. The idea is that the majority of texts we study will all link in with the theme of “Guilt and the search for redemption”.

Reassessment Opportunities

During assessment teachers can validly make suggestions about areas where further development is needed (this is acceptable in the ‘hands on’ phase), but constructive feedback should not compromise the authenticity of students’ work.

In the final phases of the assessment (‘hands off’ phase), it is the student’s responsibility to polish their work to a publication standard.

The Achievement Standards offered in this course may be resubmitted (this is at the teacher’s discretion). However, if a student does not achieve in their resubmission attempt, then a reassessment opportunity may be offered to students. This opportunity will only be offered to students who have shown a reasonable initial effort and who can demonstrate that further learning has occurred since the initial assessment opportunity.

All reassessments are composed of an entirely different assessment task. These will be completed during a time that is organised by the department. The English Department has the right to set final dates for submissions and these will be clearly stated by your classroom teacher.

Late Work

Work submitted late for the internal assessment Standards will not be marked. You may have the opportunity to gain the credits through reassessment, if available. If you have a genuine reason why you are unable to submit work by the due date, then you are able to apply for an extension. However, this should occur prior to the due date, not after it. Absence from school due to sickness is not normally regarded as an acceptable reason for the non-submission of assessed work. Alternative arrangements, electronic or otherwise should be made in this event.

Feedback

Will be given in class, on your work and in Kamar. You can talk about your progress and draft work with your teacher during class time or by organising a one on one meeting. Your teacher will respond to your emails during office hours (9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday) so please ensure you don't leave questions about your assessment work until the last minute as a response outside office hours is unlikely.

Submission of work

Teachers will only accept hard copies of students' work. Electronic copies will no longer be accepted. When submitting your work you need to follow the guidelines below:

1. In the first instance hand it to your teacher
2. If they are unavailable, hand it into the office or another English Department member
3. The work must be signed and dated to verify when it was submitted.

Authenticity Statement

The English Department has an Authenticity Statement, which students are to sign when submitting an assessment. This signifies that the work is the student's own and safeguards students from the dangers of plagiarism.



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

ASSESSMENT AUTHENTICITY STATEMENT

This Authenticity Statement is to be confirmed and signed, by all students and their teacher, when submitting an English internal assessment

Name of School: MOUNT ASPIRING COLLEGE, ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Student Name: _____

Year Level: _____ Year: _____

Assessment title: _____

Student:

- I understand that all the work I submit for assessment must be my own.
- I have read and understand the School's assessment requirements and the consequences of submitting material for assessment that is not my own.
- I understand that I must not receive undue assistance or the unauthorised help of others in the preparation of my assessment work.

- I understand that I must acknowledge in an appropriate manner all information and sources of assistance used in my assessment work.
- I will not allow other students to access or copy any of my assessment work.

Student Declaration:

I hereby declare that I have read the above statement and that all the material I submit for assessment is entirely my own and meets all of the School's assessment requirements.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Student

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Teacher