

AS/A2

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ENGLISH GUIDES



HOW TEXTS WORK

Adrian Beard

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HOW TEXTS WORK

‘A brilliant series – an absolute gift for teachers! This superb series makes clear tangible terminology and implicit meanings which to many students seems foreign. The books’ methods and tactics are enjoyable and workable for both students and teachers, and the clear, evaluative and reflective models will enable students to obtain the necessary reflection in their own written responses.’

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About the Series Editor

Adrian Beard was Head of English at Gosforth High School, Newcastle upon Tyne. He now works at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne and is a Chief Examiner for AS and A2 Level English Literature. He is co-series editor of the Routledge Intertext series, and his publications include *Texts and Contexts*, *The Language of Politics*, and *The Language of Sport* (all for Routledge).

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PREFACE

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The AS/A2 specifications in English are governed by assessment objectives (or AOs) which break down each of the subjects into component parts and skills. These assessment objectives have been used to create the different modules which together form a sort of jigsaw puzzle. Different objectives are highlighted in different modules, but at the end of AS and again at the end of A2 each of the objectives has been given a roughly equal weighting.

Particular assessment objectives that are focused on in this book are as follows.

English Literature

AO1: in writing about literary texts, you must use appropriate terminology

AO3: you must show how writers' choices of form, structure and language shape meanings

AO4: you must provide independent opinions and judgements, informed by different interpretations of literary texts by other readers

AO5: you must look at contextual factors which affect the way texts are written, read and understood

English Language and Literature

AO1: you must show knowledge and understanding of texts gained from the combined study of literary and non-literary texts

AO2: in responding to literary and non-literary texts, you must distinguish, describe and interpret variation in meaning and form

AO3: you must respond to and analyse texts, using literary and linguistic concepts and approaches

continued