

**ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH**  
**SYLLABUS FOR HIGHER SECONDARY FIRST YEAR COURSE**

**Background**

The course is intended to give students a high level of competence in English with an emphasis on the study of literary texts. The course will provide extensive exposure to a variety of rich texts from world literature as well as Indian writings in English, including classics. It also aims at developing a sensitivity to the creative and imaginative use of English in students and giving them a taste for reading with delight and discernment.

**Objectives**

**The general objectives at the initial stage are: -**

- I. To provide extensive exposure to a variety of writings in English, including some classics to develop a sensitivity to a literary and creative use of the language.
- II. To further expand the learner's vocabulary through the use of dictionary, thesaurus, and encyclopedia
- III. To develop a taste for reading
- IV. To critically examine a text
- V. To develop proficiency in English both in receptive and productive skills.

**At the end of the course, the learner**

- I. grasps the global meaning of the texts, its gist and understands how its theme and sub-themes relate.
- II. relates to the details provided in the texts. For example, how the details support a generalization or the conclusion either by classification or contrast and comparison.
- III. comprehends details, locates and identifies facts, arguments, logical relationships, generalizations, conclusion in the texts
- IV. draws inferences, supplies missing details, predicts outcomes, grasps the significance of particular details and interprets texts.
- V. assesses and analyses the attitude and bias of the author
- VI. infers the meaning of words and phrases from the context; differentiates between apparent synonyms and appreciates the nuances of words.
- VII. appreciates stylistic nuances, the lexical structure --- its literal and figurative uses and analyses a variety of texts.
- VIII. identifies different styles of writing like humorous, satirical, contemplative, ironical and burlesque
- IX. can produce text-based writings (writing in response to questions or tasks based on prescribed as well as 'unseen' texts)
- X. develops the advanced skills of reasoning, inferring, analysing, evaluating, and creating.
- XI. develops familiarity with the poetic uses of language including features of the language through which artistic effect is achieved.

**Methods and Techniques**

The techniques used for teaching should promote habits of self-learning and reduce dependence on the teacher. The multi-skill, learners-centered, activity-based approach already recommended for the

previous stages of education, is still in place, though it will be used in such a way that silent reading of prescribed selected texts for comprehension will receive greater focus as one of the activities. Learners will be trained to read independently and intelligently, interacting actively with texts and other reference materials (dictionary, thesaurus, encyclopedia etc.) as necessary. Some pre-reading activity will generally be required, and course books should suggest those activities. It is important to remember that every text can generate different reading strategies.

Students should be encouraged to interpret texts in different ways while presenting their views. Some projects may also be assigned to students from time to time.

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One paper

Three hours

Marks 100

#### Unit wise distribution of Marks and Periods:

Unit no	Topic	Marks	Periods
Unit- I	Prose	45	90
Unit-II	Poetry	25	40
Unit- III	Grammar And Composition	20	35
Unit- IV	Drama	10	15
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>180</b>

#### Distribution of course content [Unit Wise]

##### Selected Prose (Marks - 45)

- |                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The Suitor and Papa      | Anton Chekov        |
| 2. Life and Learning        | George Bernard Shaw |
| 3. The Queen of The Village | Jim Corbett         |
| 4. On Saying Please         | A.G. Gardiner       |
| 5. How it happened          | Arthur Conan Doyle  |
| 6. The Captive              | Harekrishna Deka    |

##### Selected Poetry (Marks - 25)

- |                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. When Autumn Came              | Faiz Ahmed Faiz     |
| 2. Caged Bird                    | Maya Angelou        |
| 3. Lines Written in Early Spring | William Words Worth |
| 4. The Divine image              | William Blake       |
| 5. The Light of other Days       | Thomas Moore        |

##### Drama

1. An Inspector Calls – J.B. Priestly

##### Grammar

Pair of words (Marks - 04)

Identifying Nouns and Adjectives (Marks - 05)

Tenses Using conditionals (Marks - 05)

##### Composition

Precis (Marks - 06)

**Weightage to Questions**

Type of question		No Of questions	Marks
LA type	5 marks	5	25
SA Type	3 marks	6	18
	2 marks	12	24
VSA Type	1 mark	20	20
	½ marks	26	13
	Total	65 nos.	100 marks

**Weightage to objective**

Objective	Marks	%
Knowledge	20	20%
Understanding	30	30%
Application	50	50%

**Prescribed Textbook:** Seasons: An Anthology of Prose and Poetry

**Prescribed Drama:** An Inspector Calls – J.B. Priestly