



Highfields State
Secondary College

Semester 1 Course Overview

Faculty: English

Subject: English - General

Year level: 12

Course Outline

In this unit, students explore connections between texts by examining representations of the same concepts and issues in different texts. Over the course of the semester, they will engage with a novel, poetry, films, documentaries and a range of media texts as they consider how the textual constructions of the same concepts and issues in different texts resonate, relate to, and clash with one another. By examining texts in relation to other texts, students are offered opportunities to explore how connections between texts contribute to meaning making. They will also explore creative responses to literary texts.

Analysis may include, for example:

- investigating how a reader's understanding and interpretation of one text is expanded and deepened when considered in relation to another text/other texts
- discussing how readings and responses to texts may change over time and in different cultural contexts, e.g. how a novel or poem written in the 1950s may be interpreted in similar or different ways when read by an audience in 2025
- investigating the ways media texts (such as documentaries) have the power to reflect or challenge social and cultural perspectives and how this is achieved.

Semester 1, Term 1: Textual Connections / Term 2: Close Study of Literary Texts	
Term 1: Conversations about concepts in texts	Term 2: Creative response to literary texts
<p>(Note: The IA2 persuasive speech is taught and assessed in Term 4 of the previous year)</p> <p>Context In this unit, students study Ray Bradbury's <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>, Ridley Scott's cult classic film, <i>Blade Runner</i> and a number of short films. They will focus on the nature of humanity and explore how these texts represent concepts of materialism, alienation and the pursuit of happiness. They will write a feature article that explores the enduring status of Bradbury's novel and its connection with another text studied in this unit.</p> <p>IA1: Extended response — written response (1000 – 1500 words)</p> <p>Task Students are to write a feature article suitable for publication in <i>Voiceworks</i>, analysing the representation of a key concept across both Bradbury's <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> and another text studied in this unit. They will choose one of the following concepts to focus your analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• materialism• alienation• the pursuit of happiness• a concept of your choice (negotiated with teacher). <p>(Note: the draft and final submission for this task are due early in Term 2)</p>	<p>Context In this unit, students explore the world and human experience by engaging with literary texts from diverse times and places. They explore how these texts build a shared understanding of the human experience and through this become part of a cultural heritage. This unit includes the close study of a range of poetry to allow students to extend their experience of the world. In the culminating phase of the unit, students will produce a creative response in the form of a short story, using their choice from a short list of poems studied over the term.</p> <p>IA1: Examination — imaginative written response — written response (800 – 1000 words)</p> <p>Students given the exam one week prior to commencement of final sitting dates. They will have three class lessons of preparation under exam conditions. Final sitting will occur over two consecutive lessons, with no prep materials brought into the class and teachers collecting all materials between sessions one and two. Total sitting time is two hours plus fifteen minutes planning time.</p> <p>Task Students are to write a short story that draws on the perspectives, concepts, identities, times or places represented in one of the poems they have studied.</p>