



## ATAR LITERATURE VS ENGLISH

Where students have achieved a minimum average of 60% or 60% in the examination they have the choice of selecting either Literature or English. The mark is there also to indicate that students achieving at or below this benchmark may find **ATAR English** or **Literature** challenging.

There are a number of misconceptions regarding Literature and English. Hopefully, the following table will help to compare and contrast the two courses. Both are rigorous courses and students should select either one based primarily on their **interest and passions** (the more engaging course for them). And secondly their **skills** (which areas they are stronger in).

Interest is the key factor. We do not believe in an elitist approach when comparing the two subjects as both courses are challenging.

At Santa Maria College, we provide an additional distinction of keeping drama and poetry solely to the Literature Course, as we believe in working smart rather than overloading students with text types. The English ATAR Course at Santa already covers: novels, short stories, images, film, persuasive articles and expository text excerpts.



## Basic differences between English and Literature

	ENGLISH	LITERATURE
<b>TEXT TYPES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Varied text types. Typically at Santa Maria we cover the following: feature films, novels, short stories and feature articles (as well as other text types).</li> <li>At Santa Maria to differentiate the two courses we do not cover poetry and drama. There is, however, plenty of fiction reading.</li> <li>Text types required to be covered are both <b>visual</b> as well as <b>written</b>.</li> <li>It also covers both <b>expository texts</b> as well as <b>narrative text</b> types</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students cover fiction</li> <li>Students must cover three text types and engage with all three in their exams: <b>Poetry, Prose</b> and <b>Drama</b></li> </ul>
<b>SKILL SET</b>  (both courses deal with seen and unseen text types)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emphasis on analysis of visual texts as well as written texts</li> <li>Writing skills are both <b>analytical, creative</b> and <b>persuasive</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emphasis is primarily <b>analytical</b> rather than creative.</li> </ul>
<b>EXAM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students need to respond to both <b>unseen visual</b> and <b>written</b> texts</li> <li>Students engage with an <b>in-depth text studied</b> (we cover novels, short stories and feature films)</li> <li>Students also write a <b>persuasive</b> or <b>creative</b> piece</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students have an unseen text with which to provide a reading (essay). They chose which to answer from the prose, poetry and drama exert)</li> <li>The second section requires students to answer two questions regarding texts studied in-depth.</li> <li>Students must cover all three genre: prose, poetry and drama in their exam.</li> </ul>