

**GONVILLE AND CAIUS COLLEGE
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To First-Year Undergraduates starting out on the English Course:

Welcome to Caius, and to the English Course, and congratulations on having got here after long toil. Your first days at Cambridge will be full of new activities and arrangements and maybe some problems also, and you will be supplied with enough information to sink several battleships. You will find it hard to digest all the advice and instructions that you are given, and you may begin to wonder if you will be able to keep up.

Well, don't despair. Even if you forget most of what you are told, enough will sink in gradually, and as you glide into the run of things you will find that the pattern of a working week begins to take shape and make sense.

With this brief letter I am enclosing various sets of notes to help you take your first steps in the English course. You will also receive from one of the offices a request that you all come to see me quite soon, for an introductory talk. Please try to scan through these notes before you come to this meeting, so that the outline (at least) of what they contain can be more or less familiar to you; and please bring these notes to the meeting so that you can ask any questions which might help you to see the wood for the trees. Then over the next few weeks you will be able to re-read them from time to time, as the details begin to come clear.

I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Yours ever,

(J.H. Prynne)
Director of Studies in English