

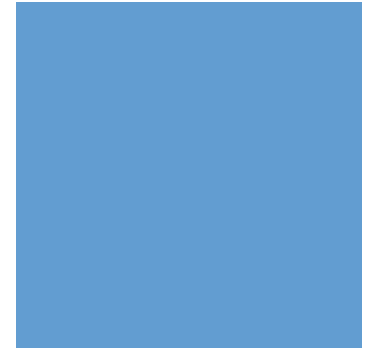


GCSE English Language

GCSE English Literature

- Exam Board
- Course Overview
- Key Dates
- Revision Strategies
- Resources to use at home

EXAM BOARD



- **AQA English Language (8700)**
- **AQA English Literature (8702)**
- Any resources you use must be for **AQA** English and English Literature
- The **AQA** website has some useful past paper questions

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE OVERVIEW



Unit 1: Explorations in Creative Writing and Reading

1 hour 45 minutes

2nd June 2020

External Exam: Worth 50% of the final GCSE English Language grade

[Section A: Reading](#)

- Four questions on one unseen fiction text
- There will be one multiple choice and three extended writing questions

[Section B: Writing](#)

- One extended *creative* writing question. This will be marked out of 24 for content and out of 16 for technical accuracy.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE OVERVIEW



Unit 2: Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives

1 hour 45 minutes

5th June 2020

External Exam: Worth 50% of the final GCSE English Language grade

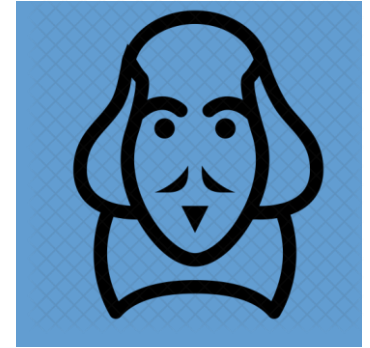
Section A: Reading

- Four questions on one unseen non-fiction text
- There will be one multiple choice and three extended writing questions.

Section B: Writing

- One extended *non-fiction* writing question. This will be marked out of 24 for content and out of 16 for technical accuracy.

ENGLISH LITERATURE COURSE OVERVIEW



Unit 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

1 hour 30 minutes

13th May 2020

External Exam: Worth 40% of the final GCSE English Literature grade

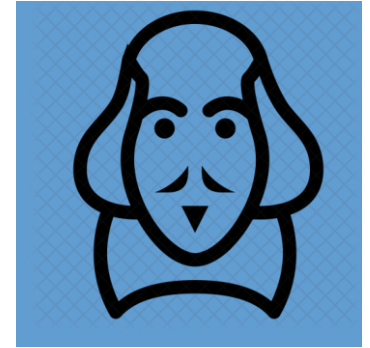
[Section A: Shakespeare](#)

- One question on the play studied (*Macbeth*). Students will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and the play as a whole.

[Section B: 19th Century Novel](#)

- One question on *A Christmas Carol*. Students will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then the novel as a whole.

ENGLISH LITERATURE COURSE OVERVIEW



Unit 2: Modern texts and poetry

2 hours 15 minutes

21st May 2020

External Exam: Worth 60% of the final GCSE English Literature grade

Section A: Modern Texts

- Students will answer one essay question on *An Inspector Calls*

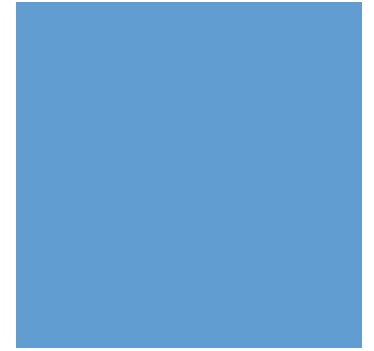
Section B: Comparative Poetry

- Students will answer one question which asks them to compare two poems. One poem will be printed: the other will not.

Section C: Unseen Poetry

- Students answer one question on an unseen poem followed by another question asking them to compare this to a second unseen poem.

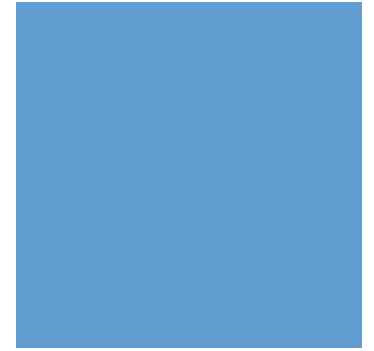
ENGLISH LITERATURE TEXTS



- All English Literature exams are closed text: this means that pupils will not have their copy of their text with them.

**Any questions regarding the
AQA English and English
Literature course?**

Mock Exams



- Student will sit each of the English Literature and English Language mock exams

English Language Mock Exams

- English Literature Paper 1: December mocks
- English Literature Paper 2: December Mocks

English Language Mock Exams

- English Language Paper 1: February 2020
- English Language Paper 2: 31st March 2020
- It is imperative that students treat their mock exams as if they were their actual exams.

Revision

- **English Language**



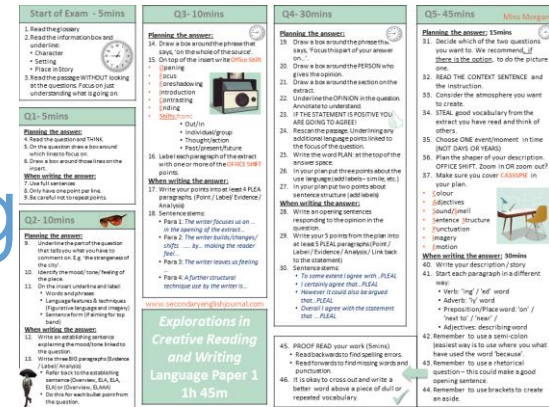
English Language **Reading**: Easily Addressed Targets



- **The exam requires pupils to read and respond to short texts very quickly**
- Reading a range of texts – not necessarily novels – will help pupils to grow more confident when reading short texts
- **The exam requires pupils to answer a range of questions with a very limited amount of time**
- Knowing the **specific** requirements of each question and how long they have to complete their response is crucial to their success
- **The difficulty many pupils face with the English Language exam is the time restraints**
- Practicing reading short texts and planning responses to these texts will help pupils grow more confident when approaching the exam.

English Language Reading Revision

- The internet is a great resource but you need to know what you are looking for:
 - Knowledge Organisers
 - BGS Google Classroom contains pupil's lessons and revision resources
 - Flipboard, BBC news and The Guardian for free reading material
 - BBC Bitesize for AQA English Language
 - Mr Bruff AQA English Language videos



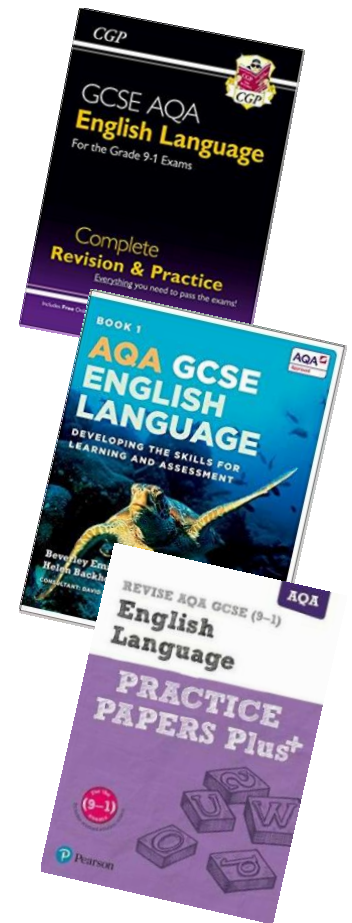
English Language **Writing**



- The writing part of the exam is worth 50% and offers pupils the opportunity gain valuable marks
- Students can use resources such as Knowledge Organisers to practice writing in **form** (newspaper/ letter/ blog) and **purpose** (argue/ persuade/ explain)
- **Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG)**
 - Students should revise punctuation: particularly colons and semi colons. YouTube is a great resource for this.
 - Students can also revise frequently [misspelt words](#)
- Students should write responses based on past paper questions (see AQA website) or in response to articles they have read
- Students should **imitate** things they read: they are demonstrating skills and not necessarily originality

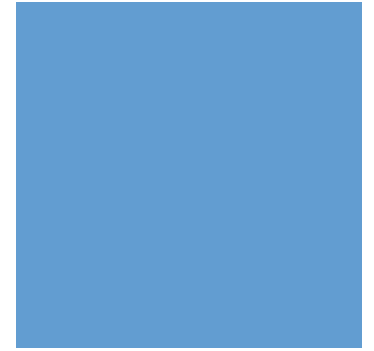
Revision Guides

- There are a range of revision guides and even flash cards you can purchase if you wish however ensure you buy them for **AQA** English Language. Some recommendations are:
 - CGP English Language for Grade 9-1 Exams
 - AQA GCSE English Language: Student Book: Developing the skills for Learning and Assessment (Oxford)
 - Revise AQA GCSE (9-1) English Language Practice Papers (Pearson)



Revision

- **English Literature**



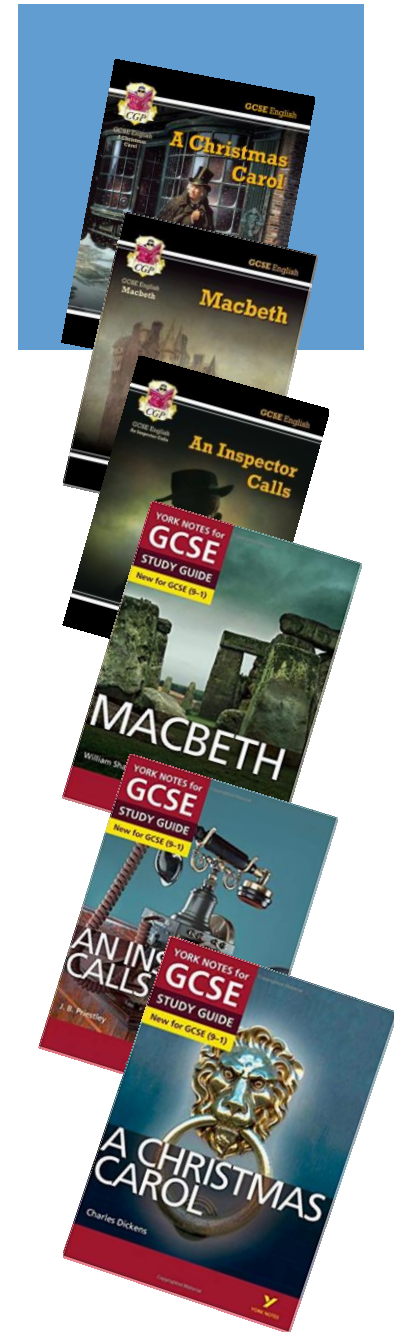
English Literature Targets



- **The exam requires students to complete the exam WITHOUT copies of the text requiring them to learn quotations**
- Students should re-read the exam texts to re-familiarize themselves with the texts: **re-reading the texts is not revision**
- Students should learn **quotations** rather than try to remember whole sections of texts or even whole poems
- Students should begin revision by identifying the ten most important quotations for **key characters** and **themes**: before long it will become apparent that valuable quotations reappear over and over
- Create flash cards or mind-maps of key quotations linked to themes: these can be used for making links across texts/ between poems
- Plan responses to a range of questions rather than write whole answers.

English Literature Revision Guides

- There are a wide range of revision guides for the texts studied available
- You most likely already have a set of the CGP revision guides
- The department also recommends York Notes for the texts studied.



English Literature **FREE** Resources

- There are a wide range of English Literature resources available online
 - Spark Notes
 - Spark Notes: No Fear Shakespeare
 - GCSE Bitesize
 - LitCharts
 - Schmoop
 - Universal Teacher
 - Mr Bruff (YouTube)
 - Genius



*sparknotes



 LitCharts®

shmoop

Know the exam



Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Focus	Question	Requirement	Marks	Timing	Sources
Reading time 5 minutes – HIGHLIGHT interesting language features as you read...					
Reading	1	Four things you learn	4	5	Source A (opening)
	2	Language analysis	8	10	Source A (extract)
	3	Structure	8	10	Source A (whole text)
	4	Language analysis Evaluates	20	30	Source A (second ½ of extract)
Writing	5	Describe: picture	24: content 16: <u>SPaG</u>	45 min	N/A
	OR 5	Describe: written prompt	24: content 16: <u>SPaG</u>	45 min	N/A

Paper 2: Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives (non-fiction extract)

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Source A: 20th or 21st Century

Source B: 19th Century

Focus	Question	Requirement	Marks	Timing	Sources
Reading	1	Four facts	4	5	Source A (opening)
	2	Summarise differences with quotes	8	15 (reading time inc)	Source A and Source B
	3	Language analysis	12	15	Source B
	4	Compare language	16	25	Source A and Source B
Writing	5	Argue or persuade	24: content 16: <u>SPaG</u>	45 min	N/A

English Literature

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th century novel

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Focus	Question	Requirement	Marks	Timing	Sources
Section A: Shakespeare <i>Macbeth</i>	1	- Explore the focus of the extract analysing the language - Explore the focus of the extract elsewhere in the play	30 marks + 4 <u>SPaG</u>	52 min	Extract Remembered quotes from elsewhere in the play
Section B: 19 th Century novel <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	7	- Explore the focus of the extract analysing the language - Explore the focus of the extract elsewhere in the play	30 marks	52 min	Extract Remembered quotes from elsewhere in the novel

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

Time: 2 hours 15 minutes

Focus	Question	Requirement	Marks	Timing	Sources
Section A: <i>An Inspector Calls</i>	1 or 2	Essay style answer exploring theme, character or dramatic devices	30 marks + 4 <u>SPaG</u>	45 min	CLOSED TEXT
Section B: Poetry (Power and Conflict)	26	Compare language used in two poems from the anthology	30 marks	45 min	CLOSED TEXT One poem will be reprinted in exam, one will not
Section C: Unseen	27.1	Language analysis of unseen poem	24	30 min	Poem printed in exam
	27.2	Compare similarities and differences in unseen poems	8	15 min	Poem printed in the exam