

English Language and Literature GCSE

Overview:

LANGUAGE		LITERATURE	
Paper One – 1 hour 45 minutes 2nd June AM	Paper Two – 1 hour 45 minutes 5th June AM	Paper One – 1 hour 45 minutes 13th May AM	Paper Two – 2 hours 15 minutes 21st May AM
List four things (4)	True/False (4)	Shakespeare - <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> (30 + 4)	Priestley - <i>An Inspector Calls</i> (30 + 4)
Language analysis (8)	Summary (8)	Dickens - <i>A Christmas Carol</i> (30)	Poetry Anthology (30)
Structure analysis (8)	Language analysis (12)		Unseen poetry (24)
Evaluation (20)	Comparison of perspectives (16)		Unseen poetry comparison (8)
Creative writing (40)	Persuasive writing (40)		

Useful Resources

REVISION GUIDES

(All of the suggestions below are available to buy, either online or in high street bookshops):

- GCSE AQA **English Language** - CGP - ISBN-10: 1782943692
- **An Inspector Calls** – CGP - ISBN 10: 1841461156
- **Much Ado About Nothing** – Hodder Education – ISBN 10: 1471853632
- **A Christmas Carol** (Grade 1-9 GCSE English Text Guide) – CGP - ISBN-10: 1782943099
- **Poetry Guide (Love and Relationships)** – AQA – ISBN- 10: 1782943625
- **Poetry Guide (Power and Conflict)** – AQA – ISBN - 10: 1782943617

ONLINE RESOURCES

- ‘mrbruff’ YouTube Channel – Language and Literature Revision and Resources
- Genius.com (annotated versions of Literature texts)
- Poetry Podcasts – Available on Dane Court shared Google Drive

CLASS TIME / REVISION SESSIONS / PPEs

We aim to finish teaching all course content by February half term. Following that, during **lesson time**, we will revisit all texts and necessary skills for both GCSEs. In March, students will be moved into sets, organised by ability, for both Literature and Language.

Online resources, past papers and revision notes will be made available to all Year 11 students.

After Easter, there will be optional **revision classes** during lunchtimes and after school. These drop-in sessions were very popular, and extremely beneficial, last year. English teachers will run a carousel of revision classes, focusing on particular texts, and students may choose which ones to attend.

If you have any questions, please contact Sally Jellett, Head of English: jellett@danecourt.kent.sch.uk.

GCSE English - Additional Tasks:

Pupils:

- Write three or four short (400 word) pieces of **creative writing** on a range of subjects. Seek feedback from peers, parents or teachers. A **study group** will help add extra culpability.
- Create a bank of sophisticated **vocabulary** (spelt correctly), and effective **language techniques** that you might use for creative writing.
- Write short (400 word) pieces of **persuasive writing** on a range of issues. Write at least one in the style of a letter, one as an article and one as the words of a speech.
- Carefully plan varied and inventive ways to **structure** both creative and persuasive pieces.
- Review rules for using the full range of **punctuation** and **sentence forms**.
- **Re-read** each of the four literature texts (*A Christmas Carol*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *An Inspector Calls*, *15 poems*).
- For the three longer texts, make a flow-chart type diagram of the **major plot points**. Put these somewhere visible at home.
- Decide which **key moments/quotations** you can analyse in most detail. Copy them onto cue cards and learn them.
- Choose from these cards at random. **Practise** coming up with as many points about each moment/quotation as possible.
- Make a list of all the likely **questions** for each of the four texts. Look through your cue cards and decide which **references** are most relevant for each question.
- Ensure you have access to **past and practice papers** for each of the four exam papers (two English Language, two English Literature). Print these at school if necessary.
- Ensure you have access to the **level 9 answers** to some of these papers. Print at school if necessary.
- **Read and annotate** the level 9 answers. Make notes for your own guidance.
- Complete additional **practice essays**. Seek feedback from peers, parents and teachers.
- If writing speed is a weakness, do some of these **essays against the clock**. See how many words you can write in ten minutes and then try to beat it. Unfortunately, writing or typing slowly can be a disadvantage - particularly in literature - so do all you can to improve on the physical labour of English exams.

Parents:

- Look over the list above, and plan a **manageable timetable** to help pupils work on some of these tasks.
- If feasible, clear a **space** at home for pupils to be able to do some of these tasks free from distractions.
- If possible, ensure that work on these tasks is done **regularly** and at the same time each evening or week.
- Ask pupils to **explain** the rules for using particular pieces of punctuation, or encourage them to **teach you** sophisticated words they have learnt.
- Once pupils have made their cue cards, use them to check how many **references** they have learnt, or ask them how many **points** they can make about cue cards selected at random.
- A single opinion piece of writing accounts for 25% of the final English Language grade. If possible, regularly buy a **broadsheet newspaper** and direct pupils to the opinion/comment/column section within. Alternatively, print interesting looking opinion pieces from these newspapers' websites.