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# Parental Revision Evening: *GCSE English Language and English Literature (AQA)*



North East  
Learning Trust



# Welcome!

- What will the exams look like?
- What does revision look like in English?
- How can I help as a parent?
- Revision resources in student folders AND on Teams page areas (11En1, 11En2, 11En3, 11En4, 11En5)

# AQA English Language

- *Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (80 marks)*



Section A (Reading)



Extract and questions



Section B (Writing)



Creative or original piece  
– stimuli (prompt/image)



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# AQA English Language

- *Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives [80 marks]*



Section A (Reading)



Two extracts and questions



Section B (Writing)



Writing to argue – opinion piece



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# AQA English Literature – Paper 1 (64 marks)



**Section A: Shakespeare - Romeo and Juliet**  
30 marks (an extract and a question)  
+ 4 marks for SPaG



**Section B - 19th-century novel: A Christmas Carol (an extract and a question)**  
30 marks



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# AQA English Literature – Paper 2

## (96 marks)



### Section A

Modern prose/drama: An Inspector Calls – (no extract) a choice of questions  
30 marks + 4 SPaG



Section B: Power and Conflict Anthology Poetry - comparison of two poems: 30 marks



Section C: Part 1: unseen poem essay  
24 marks



Part 2: unseen poetry comparison  
8 marks



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11En.1 (2021/22)



11En.3 (2021/22)



11En.4 (2021/22)



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13

General

Posts

Files

+

KT

K Turner 2/16, 8:2

11En.3 (2021/22)

Documents > General > <b>Class Materials</b>			
	Name ▾	Modified ▾	Modified By ▾
	MAR MOCKS REVISION	January 17	K Turner
	Nov Mocks Revision	October 4, 2021	K Turner
	Revision Videos	January 20	K Turner

	Name ▾	Modified ▾	Modified By ▾
	A Christmas Carol	January 17	K Turner
	An Inspector Calls	January 17	K Turner
	Paper 2 Language	January 17	K Turner

# What makes good revision?



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# GCSE English Language: reading

- **Knowledge organisers** *are helpful in reminding you of timings for each question, marks available for each question/section, paragraph structures for a particular question and things to write about within that question – this includes key terminology you need to know.*
- *Flash cards, look, cover, write, check, quiz yourself/question generation, just a minute*



# GCSE English Language: reading

- **Practice papers** – often the best form of revision with English Language is to do practice questions under timed conditions.
- For example, Paper 1, question 2 requires us to write for around 10-12 minutes...
- Give yourself 10 minutes reading time (just like you would in the exam) before setting a timer and giving it a go.
- The more you expose yourself to the realistic timings of the exam and what the question asks of you, the more confident you will feel about tackling it for real.



# GCSE English Language: reading

- *Consider what your 'wobbliest' question is and perhaps focus on that for your revision session for English that day.*
- *Look at examples and WAGOLs in your book, including those we've written together in lessons. Why are they good? What makes them worthy of credit? How can you begin replicating it in your own answers?*
- *Compare your work with these and consider what your next steps are.*



# GCSE English Language: writing

- *You'll be tested on your fiction and non-fiction skills across the two papers.*
- *It's important you know the paragraph structures and sentence types you've been taught really well.*
- *You should practise using these in paragraphs and longer pieces of writing – plenty of practice questions available in your revision folder on Teams*
- *You have access to the 'Toolkit Booklet' for both topics...*
- *Fiction: '**Whispering winds and dense fog...**'*
- *Non-Fiction: '**Envisage this: John – exhausted and disillusioned...**'*



# A typical revision hour of English Language

5pm-5.20	<p>Use flash-cards to recap the demands of Paper 1 Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Look, cover, write, correct the contents of each flash-card for questions 1-4.</li><li>• Summarise the key things for each question in your own words as a consolidation activity.</li></ul>
5.20-5.40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use the Descriptive Writing toolkit booklet to remind yourself of the sentence types you learned to ensure you vary these in your answers.</li><li>• Choose an image from the internet of an interesting scene e.g. carnival or a market place.</li><li>• Write the formulas out for four that you're still 'wobbly' with and have a go at two each.</li><li>• Read them out. How do they sound?</li><li>• Use a thesaurus to find synonyms to improve any poor vocabulary you used.</li></ul>
5.40-6pm	<p>Read and annotate the two texts from an example Paper 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify: what's going on/the topic/key things described in detail e.g. types of boards/type of boats/the setting, any language techniques/effect.</li><li>• Keep your notes short and concise.</li><li>• Time yourself strictly – ten minutes for each text.</li></ul>

# GCSE English Literature

- *Romeo and Juliet*
- *A Christmas Carol*
- *An Inspector Calls*

*Poetry Anthology* – What is each poem about? What are the main themes?

- *Unseen Poetry*

*Do you know the basics?*

*Plot, character, what they're like, if and how they change/develop?*

*Terminology*

*PETREDC structure*

*A personal response to the poem*





# GCSE English Literature

- *Spend time learning a secure amount of quotations for each set text – practise makes permanent!*
- *You should be able to recall a minimum of 10 quotations per text.*
- *You should try and **categorise these in to plot, themes, characters, and how these cross-over, as well as what to say about them.***

*Choose carefully!*



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# GCSE English Literature

- *Build your confidence with writing at length...*
- *Do you know how to begin each part of our PETREDC? Learn sentence starters until you know them to help you speed up your writing to fit the demands of the exam timings.*





# GCSE English Literature

- ***Always** have an exam question in mind when revising for Literature.*
- *Planning and writing – timing yourself – is one of the most effective revision strategies*
- *You could create a ‘lucky dip’ bag e.g.*
- *‘Eric’ from one bag and ‘Generation gaps’ from another*



# A typical revision hour of English Literature

5pm-5.30	<p>Choose a text to revise e.g. <i>A Christmas Carol</i> and select an exam question to focus your revision on. This could be from a revision guide, the internet or your exercise book from a previous lesson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Re-read the extract that goes with it and (if you can) spend 5 minutes annotating it for examples linked to the question, as well as any techniques/impact you can think of.</li><li>• Using your quotation booklets and any exercise book notes relevant to the question, make an essay plan for it. Remember, aim for a line of argument if you can.</li><li>• Try and generate some ideas out loud first if putting them on paper is daunting. E.g. How does Dickens explore the theme of family? 'I know the Cratchits are an example of a close family with strong bonds. I also know that Scrooge has family who want to be around him but he rejects them. He also had unpleasant experiences as a child.'</li><li>• Keep going until you have four or five ideas.</li><li>• Begin adding quotations to your ideas from the extract and elsewhere in the novella. Now, add some context – what does Dickens want us to realise/think/feel about family? Is the Victorian Era relevant? Royal family links/Christmas Spirit etc.</li><li>• Finally, try and add some other themes your ideas link to. E.g. Community, social change etc.</li></ul>
5.30-5.45	<p>Take your chosen quotations and write them out again on a separate piece of paper and explode each of them in as much detail as you can. Time yourself strictly on each one (3-4 mins). Look for: techniques/key word choices, meanings and connotations including alternative meanings that still link together, reader impact.</p>
5.45-6pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Now, practise writing the introduction and first one/two paragraphs of your essay. Leave a few minutes to read through what you've accomplished. Read it aloud. How does it sound. Can you make any tweaks? Write yourself a small target for the next time you come to revise this text.</li></ul>



# Useful links/info

- *Mr Bruff (English teacher/YouTube videos)*
- *BBC Bitesize for some revision of the basics for Literature*
- *Seneca Learning*
- *English Intervention – 3-4pm (see your teacher for which nights)*
- *Revision folders*
- *Speak to your English teacher if you need any further help.*



# Mix it up...

- *Quiz/elaborate*
- *Summarising chapters/key scenes and moments*
- *'Blind and timed' annotation of taught extracts*
- *'Exploding quotations' quickly*
- *Regular question/paper practice*
- *Replicating the demands of the exam – timings and expectations*
- *Re-writing previous essays to improve them, based on feedback*

-Creating a timetable in relation to revisiting of the topics

Materials around the house- where can the visual resources be viewed regularly? What kind of study space is this happening in?

## Misconceptions around Revision

Don't waste time making notes look too pretty

Don't just copy knowledge out in lists or spider diagrams- there needs to be processing and reflection

Don't think doing it once is enough- Do therefore check over materials after completion- transfer can sometimes allow for error in content and spelling- don't undo the good work already done.



# Quick-wins and practical starting points

- Make best use of lessons and the teacher time we have left
- Complete all homework tasks set
- Establish a revision timetable – in-school frees, especially, need using productively
- Identify any barriers to revision and try and address these – phone in the bread-bin?!

# Quick-wins and practical starting points

- Re-read the set texts (audiobooks, film versions are helpful, too!)
- Find all previous exercise books and ensure they are organised
- Organise your notes/exercise books into Papers and Sections – file-dividers and post-it tabs
- Speak to us if you have resources missing, intervention and extra support



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# How can parents help?

- Support them with EASI/homework and establishing and maintaining a healthy revision timetable
- Ask what revision students have scheduled each week – get them to talk you through what they are doing and why and then show you some of their revision.
- Focus on meaningful, manageable chunks of revision. So, 45 mins of solid focused revision and then 15 to 20 mins of walking the dog, watching the TV, listening to music, is much more effective than being locked in a room for 2 and a half hours being passive.
- Help by listening and answering questions. A really effective way to learn is to explain something to somebody else – this knowledge and ideas stick in the mind.





# THANK YOU!



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