

Revision ideas for your English exams.

1 The best way to learn is to teach! Set up a study group, play “Just a minute” or talk to people at home about your exams! Explain to others what they have to do to be successful in each question. This is the best way to remember something!

Create your own Cue Cards to help you revise. For literature, these could be per character, theme or Stave/Act/Poem. For Language, this could be your acronyms (GOMASSIVE/STOPSEC/DAFORRESTY) or key information per question. Ask others to test you or self-test yourself.



3 Practise your extended writing. Ask your teachers for questions or use google images to find an image that you could use as a stimulus for creative or narrative writing. Pause a favourite film or TV show and use this as a stimulus too! Visit www.writingexercises.co.uk too for ideas.

Read, Read and Read! Reading is the best way to broaden your vocabulary and it will allow you to take inspiration from other writers. Reading can also be relaxing for you. Select a favourite passage to analyse. Re-read your literature texts.



5 Working with a partner – complete an exam question or whole exam paper together. Work together to write full mark answers. Speak to your teachers for guidance.

Use your knowledge organisers every week to build good foundations. Remember you can turn this information into flashcards, use a whiteboard to ‘blurt’ what you recall or use look, cover, check.



7 YouTube is full of English Language and Literature videos – Mr Bruff is a firm favourite with year 11s.

Check out websites including <https://padlet.com/MrDowling>, <https://www.sparknotes.com/>, <https://www.shmoop.com/>, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zr9d7ty>, <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/english-revision/gcse-aga/>.



9 Complete past papers and questions. Use teacher feedback to practise the questions you are weakest on.

Order the AQA English Language and Literature revision guides and work books.

https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/english?sort=best_selling&quantity=36&page=1&view=grid¤tFilter=Subject_274&filter_exam%20board=ExamBoard_14



General English Information

Students are preparing for four English exams. Two make up their English Language GCSE and two make up their English Literature GCSE.

Paper 1: Creative reading and Writing. Students will have a fiction extract to read. Section A will assess their ability to read and understand the extract. This includes being able to analyse the language and the structure of the text. They then need to produce their own piece of creative writing.

Paper 2: Writer's viewpoints and Perspectives. Students will have two non-fiction extracts to read. Section A will assess their ability to read and understand the extracts. They need to compare the writers' viewpoints in the texts too. They then need to produce their own piece of non-fiction writing.

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Paper 1: Romeo and Juliet and Jekyll and Hyde (115: A Christmas Carol.) They will answer one question on each text. The question will ask them to refer to an extract that is printed and the whole text itself. They will need to comment on the methods used by both writers, the historical and social context of both texts as well as demonstrate a clear understanding of the text. They are unable to take copies of the text in to the exam so we are giving them quotations to learn.

Paper 2: An Inspector Calls, Power and Conflict Poetry and Unseen Poetry. Section A will assess their understanding of An Inspector Calls. Within their response, they need to show an understanding of Priestley's methods, the ideas within his play and its context. Section B will assess their understanding of 15 poems they've studied and their ability to compare two of them. Section C will assess their ability to analyse an unseen poem and then compare it to a second unseen poem.

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