

# <u>4055 English</u> Language - Wider Revision

### Suggested revision techniques for the 'Reading' questions

 Read and annotate a variety of quality newspaper and magazine articles as well as autobiographies.

 Read nineteenth century writing so you are used to the language and the syntactical structures (often compound-complex).

• Use highlighters to find quotations.

 Annotate in the margin focussing on words and phrases, language devices, sentence structures and how the text is structured.

 Put notes and posters around the room as reminders of key terms and their effects.

• Revise grammatical terms, writing definitions and examples so you can use subject terminology accurately.

 Use the reading questions, which are always the same wording for any article or extract you find, and practise using the key skills.





#### Suggested revision techniques for the 'Writing' questions

 Practise planning in 5-minute slots – this will allow you to make a range of points or structure a story.

 Write short, focused plans for articles, stories and the opening of stories you have read and try describing photographs.

- Read the question carefully, annotate the purpose, audience, and form.
- Timing practise handwriting full answers in the set time.
- Prepare and try out sample sentence starters using argue and persuade devices.

• Build your own descriptive vocabulary bank. Try to ensure that it includes complex examples.



## **GCSE English Literature**

## **General Revision**

• Choose and learn quotations that reveal how characters are presented and how themes develop.

- Revise the context of the texts you have studied.
- Re-read texts and class notes go through and highlight important quotations/ points.
- Choose key moments or scenes and closely analyse these; consider which themes or ideas are being depicted here and name the methods

the writer is using.

- Draw the characters or settings and label them with quotations.
- Make up rhymes or songs to help you remember the key moments in the plot.
- Download the audio versions of the texts and listen to them on long journeys or before you go to sleep.
- Go and see Blood Brothers, Romeo and Juliet, Doctor Jekyll and Mr Hyde at your nearest theatre!

#### Poetry – Boosting your grade

You will be assessed on poetry from the Power and Conflict cluster. You are asked to compare these poems as well as analysing and comparing unseen poems.

- Read and re-read the poems from your cluster.
- Make cue cards of the key ideas and themes from each poem.
- Create a table, comparing your poems by theme.
- Learn key quotations thinking about language, structure and form and linking them to theme.
- Revise the context of each poem.
- Revise poetic terms and their definitions create a glossary.
- Complete practice essays in timed conditions, including planning and checking.
- To prepare for the unseen section, practise analysing poems from the other cluster in your anthology in 10 minute slots.



You need to know:

- The key points / ideas in the poem
- The themes and tone of the poem
- The author's intention when writing the poem
- The context the poem was written in
- The language techniques used and the form of the poem
- The structure
- · The poems which have similarities
- The feelings expressed

#### Advice for students

## Paper 1: Jekyll and Hyde/A Christmas Carol and Romeo and Juliet

- . Know the texts. You must have read them both a number of times.
- Answer the question. Underline key words and ensure you have read the question accurately.

• Annotate the extracts, identifying key words and phrases that answer the question. Also consider the methods used by the writer.

• You must demonstrate your knowledge of the wider text by 'pointing' to particular moments. If you use a direct reference they must be relevant and you must say something useful about it.

• Appreciate the big themes and ideas of the text. Think about what the writer wanted their audience to understand after watching the play or reading the novel.

• Include methods in your response. Methods also include analysis of structure or characterisation rather than just language.

• Link your comments on contextual factors / ideas to the text. Remember that context informs, but should never dominate your reading of the text. The text comes first.

#### Paper 2: Blood Brothers, Conflict Poetry and Unseen Poetry

As with Paper 1, plus:

• Using the writer's name can help you to think about the text as a conscious construct and will keep reminding you that the author deliberately put the text together.

• Read the unseen poem and make sure you get a sense of the overall point first. Select three or four key things to focus your attention on.

• Manage your time effectively. Don't spend too much time on the final question as it is only worth 8 marks. Remember that this task asks you to compare methods, so make sure you focus your attention on the similarities / differences between what the two poets have done to make meaning.







## How to help your child

• Reading is vital – prompt them to READ all the Literature texts and a wide range of non-fiction texts for English Language – provide opportunities for reading.

- Encourage them to read another nineteenth century novel.
- Listen to their writing reading aloud draws attention to style and structure.
- Study guides are a useful support once they know the text.
- Spelling and grammar activities will prompt them to check and to use subject terminology.
- Focus on writing skills, planning and improving vocabulary encourage them to use a thesaurus.

#### Websites and study guides can provide them with the basic information:

Lit Charts:

- <u>http://www.litcharts.com/lit/a-christmas-carol</u>
- http://www.litcharts.com/lit/dr-jekyll-and-mr-hyde

#### **BBC Bitesize:**

<u>http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/z98jmp3</u>

#### Spark Notes:

<u>http://www.sparknotes.com/sparknotes/</u>

#### GCSE Pod:

<u>https://www.gcsepod.com/</u>

#### Mr Bruff:

<u>https://mrbruff.com/</u>

#### PIXL LIT App

- https://englishapp.pixl.org.uk/
- Vocabulary Builder App
- <u>https://magoosh.com/vocabulary-builder/</u>

