



GCSE English

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.



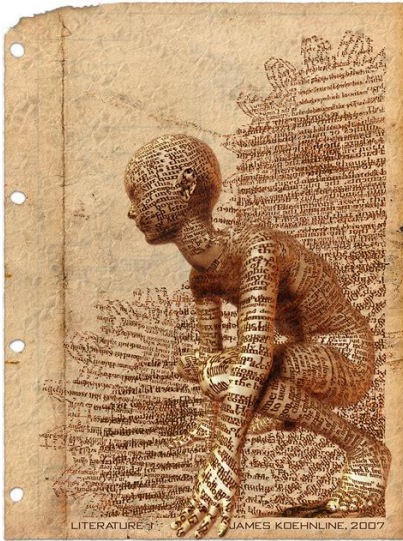
Suggested revision techniques for the 'Writing' questions



- 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.

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- 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.



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:

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

BBC Bitesize:

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

Spark Notes:

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

GCSE Pod:

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

Mr Bruff:

- <https://mrbruff.com/>

PIXL LIT App

- <https://englishapp.pixl.org.uk/>

Vocabulary Builder App

- <https://magoosh.com/vocabulary-builder/>

