



ENGLISH

Mr M Wilson – Head of English



GCSE English Literature

Paper 1 – Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel (40%)

- Macbeth
- A Christmas Carol

Paper 2 – Modern texts and poetry (60%)

- An Inspector Calls
- Poetry anthology: Power and Conflict
- Unseen poetry



How to revise English Literature

Knowledge

- Re-read the texts
- Use knowledge organisers
- **Create** plot summaries
- **Create** character profiles
- Find quotations
- Teach a friend/parent

Exam technique

- **Create** 10-minute essay plans
- **Practise** writing essay introductions
- **Practise** writing topic sentences
- Use example responses
- Write a timed essay
- Rewrite previous assessments

Things you can do at home to help

- Ask about the texts they're studying – for example:
 - Who are the characters in *Macbeth*?
 - What is the plot of *An Inspector Calls*?
 - Name the key moments in *A Christmas Carol*?
 - What are the writer's messages in *Macbeth*?
 - Tell me 3 quotes from *An Inspector Calls*.
- Watch film versions together and ask students how different they are from the book.
- Ask about themes in the texts and discuss how relevant they are today.
- Use flashcards to test them on their knowledge.



GCSE English Language

Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Writing (50%)

- A – Reading (Fiction)
- B – Writing (Descriptive / Narrative writing)

Paper 2 – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (50%)

- A – Reading (Non-Fiction)
- B – Writing (Article, speech or letter)



How to revise English Language

Practice is everything!

- **Read** as much as possible
- **Write** as much as possible
- **Practise** common spellings and punctuation
- Use past papers and mini mocks
- **Practise** timed answers
- Use terminology/vocabulary flashcards

Things you can do at home to help...

- Watch the news – help your child form a reasoned opinion on issues in today's world.
- Have a conversation over dinner about anything: fast fashion, artificial intelligence, net zero, hobbies...
- Encourage your child to write regularly and keep a writing notebook with ideas, images and descriptions.

What do we do in school to support?

- Lunchtime drop-in sessions ahead of mocks and final exams
- After-school revision programme — starting after Christmas
- Provide past-papers and mini-mocks with teacher feedback on request
- Bite-sized revision activities will be distributed to all students
- Pre-exam briefings

Resources

- Student course notes
- Knowledge organisers
- Core texts (Literature)
- CGP Revision Guides and Workbooks
(available from the library)
- English SharePoint site
- Online - www.physicsandmathstutor.com –
yes, for English!
- Past papers

Equipment

- Pen
- Highlighters

The internet and social media

The internet can be great for resources...

...but beware of distractions and doom-scrolling!

Do not use AI to generate essay answers: students must learn how to answer questions themselves.