

Striving for Excellence



Preparing for Examinations in GCSE English Language & English Literature



GCSE English Language and English Literature

Two separate courses = two separate GCSEs

No tiering

100% examination

Mixture of unseen texts, fiction and non-fiction, closed book plays, novel and poetry.

Graded 9 - 1



English Language Paper 1

The text will always be fiction, from either the 20th or 21st century

- Question 4 is heavily weighted (20 marks!) - timing is crucial
- Q5 is a writing task - writing to describe/narrate
- SPaG - worth 20% of their total mark



English Language Paper 2

- The 2 texts will always be non-fiction - from two different centuries.
- Question 3 and 4 are heavily weighted - timing is crucial
- Q5 is a writing task - writing from a viewpoint
- SPaG - worth 20% of their total mark



English Literature Paper 1

Macbeth

Closed book but given an extract.

Two part question.

SPaG awarded 4 marks in Macbeth.

Skills being assessed are exactly the same for most of the literature paper.

The Sign of Four



English Literature Paper 2

An Inspector Calls

Power & Conflict Poetry

Unseen Poems

Closed book

Memorise comparison connectives for poetry question.

Contextual information about the poetry and the play.

Theatrical aspects – impact on audience (An Inspector Calls)

Personal responses – have an opinion – this is highly rewarded.



Revision Strategies

Flash cards – memorising language and structural devices, comparative connectives, poetic devices

Sentence stems to help develop their ideas

Spelling tests

Punctuation exercises

Practice exam questions

Reading! Especially high quality journalism and other types of non-fiction



Key Dates

English Literature

Paper 1 May 22nd

Paper 2 May 26th

(The final week before half term)



Key Dates

English Language

Paper 1 June 6th

Paper 2 June 12th

(The first week after half term - there WILL be a booster session on during the half term holiday)



Revision sessions

Every Monday lunchtime - pupils will be informed by their English teachers where the session will be.

These sessions will increase to include an after school session on a Monday as we approach the exams.