



GCSE English Language



GCSE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AOs SYMMETRY GRID

Paper 1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5: Writing
	A01 List 4 things... Identify explicit information Identify explicit ideas 4 marks	A02 How does the writer's use of language... Explain, comment on, analyse 8 marks	A02 How does the writer structure... Explain, comment on, analyse 8 marks	A04 To what extent do you agree? Evaluate texts critically 20 marks	A05/A06 Descriptive or narrative writing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communicate clearly• Organise information• Use a range of vocab and sentences• Accurate spelling and punctuation 40 marks
Paper 2	A01 True/false statements... Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas 4 marks	A01 Write a summary... Synthesis of explicit and implicit ideas and information 8 marks	A02 How does the writer's use of language... Explain, comment on, analyse 12 marks	A03 How the writers present... Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, and how they are conveyed 16 marks	A05/A06 Students write about their own views As above 40 marks

Notice the progression through the questions/Assessment Objectives:
The questions are structured to build student resilience and support their exploration of the texts.
In Section B, students are given the opportunity to craft their own writing.

GCSE English Language Paper 1 and Paper 2 texts

Paper 1

The unseen text on Paper 1 will be an extract from literature prose fiction (such as novels and short stories) and will focus on:

- openings
- endings
- narrative or descriptive passages
 - character development
 - atmospheric descriptions
- and other appropriate literary aspects.

The text will be from either the 20th or 21st century.

Paper 2

The two unseen texts on Paper 2 will be taken from non-fiction and literary non-fiction, such as:

- high-quality journalism
 - articles
 - reports
 - essays
- travel writing
 - accounts
 - sketches
 - letters
 - diaries
- autobiography and biography

One text will be from the 19th century and the second from either the 20th or 21st century.

How to help to students prepare for the GCSE English Language exam: Reading

Ask them to **summarise** content from their reading.

Read a **range** of novel openings/endings.

Using newspaper/magazine articles ask them to explain **how this writer views the topic?**

Ask them to explain to you, *'How has the writer crafted this'?*

Check their understanding of 19th century historical context: British Empire, Life in Victorian Britain, Working Life, etc

Encourage them to **re-write previous answers** and use the mark scheme for help.

How to help students prepare for the GCSE English Language exam: Writing

Give them an image and ask them to create a **story** inspired by it.

Give them a title and ask them to write a **description** based on it.

Debate! Ask how they feel about issues in the news. Encourage their reasoning skills.

Ask them to rewrite a novel opening/film opening from another character's point of view.

Vocabulary! Challenge them to learn 10 new words a week and use them in conversations.

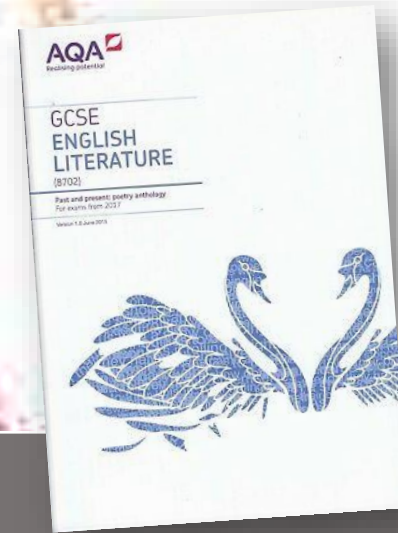
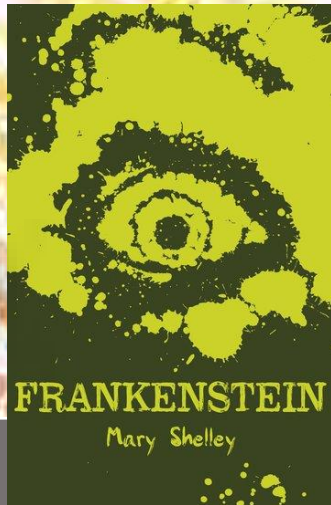
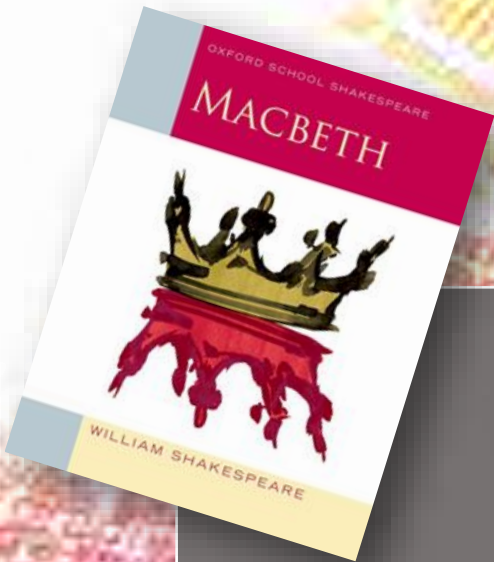


GCSE English Literature

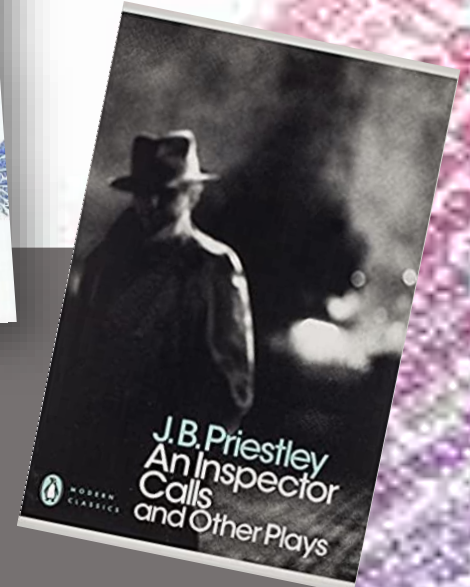


GCSE English Literature set texts

Paper 1



Paper 2



Students will need to know:

- The plot of each of their set texts
- Key quotes as it is a closed book exam
- Themes/characters/other features
- How to form an interpretation based on an exam question
 - How to write an extended essay response

How to help students to prepare for their GCSE English Literature exam:

Write **key quotes** on Post It notes/Posters and place them around the house.

Ask them to explain the **plot** and the **author's message** or a **fact about the context**.

Watch a **film adaptation** and talk about how it differs from the original text.

Ask them to **teach you about a theme or a character**.

Recap their recent lessons/CAPs together. Ask them '*How can you improve?*'

Encourage them to **re-write previous answers** and use the mark scheme for help.

Useful Websites and Revision Guides

Websites

GCSEPOD.com

Litcharts.com

BBC Bitesize

Sparknotes.com

Nofearshakespeare.com

CGP Guides

Range from £2-£5 from Amazon
Short Revision Tasks and Content
Visual, easy to follow format
Longer answer example essays



Other revision guides are good to use as long as they are for the AQA new specification from 2017 onwards.

All students should re-read their set texts prior to the exams in May/June.

Not a keen reader?

Short extracts/scenes are best.

Encourage students to follow along using an audio version or clips on YouTube.

Walton High

English Language & English Literature Revision Guides are available on Firefly to download.

Students can also access our 'Build the Skills' section for more revision tasks and resources to use at home.



Please visit
aqa.org.uk
for more information