

## English Department – Information for Parents

### English in Years 10 and 11

#### 1. What is the Exam Board?

- AQA English Literature
- AQA English Language

#### 2. Length and Content of Exams

### GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

#### Paper One

- 1 hour 45 minutes
- 40% of total marks
- 2 sections ('Macbeth' and 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde')
- Same approach for both sections – extract to analyse and reference to whole text

#### Paper Two

- 2 hours and 15 minutes
- 60% of total marks
- 3 sections ('An Inspector Calls', 'Power and Conflict Poetry', 'Unseen Poetry')

### GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

#### Paper One

- 1 hour and 45 minutes
- Section A - 40 marks for reading (25%), 4 Questions
- Section B - 40 marks for writing (25%), 1 Question

#### Paper Two

- 1 hour and 45 minutes
- Section A - 40 marks for reading (25%), 4 Questions
- Section B - 40 marks for writing (25%), 1 Question

### Revision Ideas for Students and Parents

#### Read and Re-Read Literature Set Texts

To best prepare for any Literature question, students should have a solid understanding of the set texts. The only way to achieve this is by **re-reading** the text from **cover to cover**.

Students have already read the texts in full in lessons but they must revisit them in depth.

Encouraging your children to read a Chapter or Act a night from the novel and plays and a poetry pair a week would be a great starting point.

#### Annotations

For both Literature and Language Section As, students will need to comment on the effect of language and **how the writer shapes meaning through the words, phrases and devices used**. They have been doing this consistently throughout the course, as shown by these slides.

#### The Moodle and Show My Homework

Choose a section from any examination – Literature or Language – and watch the accompanying videos or read the accompanying material on the new TGAT Moodle. Alternatively, access the many fantastic online resources currently online. Please see section 4 of this sheet for a list of recommended websites. Mr Bargh will also put a number of resources on Show My Homework for students to access nearer the exam periods.

### Attempt Exam Style Questions

Students can obtain exam style questions from a number of sources. Please see below for ideas:

- Buy CPG exam papers on Parent Pay and collect from English office in Oak/Maple
- Obtain 'mini mocks' from class teachers
- Re-attempt trial exam material, building on the targets previously set
- Try to re-create the conditions of the exam when working at home. Students should work in silence to produce a handwritten response, without assistance, in the time allowed in the exam. Maybe even temporarily confiscate their smart phone!
- Self-assess work produced against the marking criteria

### Revision Materials

Complete tasks from the revision materials independently. Independent revision tasks might include:

- Reading tasks
- Writing tasks
- Analysis tasks
- Comparative responses
- Basic skills: spelling, punctuation, grammar
- Recapping plot
- Exploring character
- Exploring quotations
- Linked material via Show My Homework

## 3. Useful Websites and Resources

### GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

#### Specification

- <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>

#### Paper 1

##### Macbeth:

- YouTube channel – Stacey Reay: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AnhH1xDyB4&list=PLQE65hp6MwUow497ZCodoHZ-12m51jGLr>
- Bitesize: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zwws39q>
- Animated Tales to revise plot: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfnUg2\\_0FOY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfnUg2_0FOY)
- Full film, starring Patrick Stewart: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cF4fVMXOFpc>

##### Jekyll and Hyde:

- YouTube Channel – Stacey Reay: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=crmBlSz6-O4&list=PLQE65hp6MwUoGHyD4beVIRr-AqLouL0Qz>
- Revision Podcast – Mr Salles: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJwe2viOphU&list=PLQovVw7yuGiK9zhWW8GH\\_d9gwKtehucfy](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJwe2viOphU&list=PLQovVw7yuGiK9zhWW8GH_d9gwKtehucfy)
- YouTube channel – Mr Bruff: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZ2icGAORKQ&list=PLtXi1Rm50tWXOTbwNDzpfFG1nBTfE0Tg1>
- Bitesize: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z83qxsg>
- Sparknotes: <https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/jekyll/>
- Shmoop: <http://www.shmoop.com/jekyll-and-hyde/>

#### Paper 2

### **An Inspector Calls:**

- YouTube Channel – Stacey Reay: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=if0v8TJ3Fzg&list=PLQE65hp6MwUqRTTU7tGg1NgmChVf5wBrZ>
- Bitesize: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zxmb4j6>

### **Conflict Poetry:**

- YouTube Channel – Stacey Reay: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0cSHySLZGk&list=PLQE65hp6MwUpYVZu7ilsOKjS-rjpNfKD9>
- YouTube Channel – Mr Bruff: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9h\\_csKEwxg&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cAO64IBHZTFwTz2X0DD\\_Cxk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9h_csKEwxg&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cAO64IBHZTFwTz2X0DD_Cxk)

### **Unseen Poetry:**

- YouTube channel – Mr Bruff: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ODEYFSx18dA>
- YouTube channel – GCSE Revision: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNMKyEKySNk>
- Wildern English: <https://wildernenglish.wordpress.com/2012/04/03/five-steps-to-analysing-an-unseen-poem/>
- Miss Ryan: <https://missryansgcseenglish.wordpress.com/category/english-literature/unseen-poetry/>
- Poems to practice with: <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/public/poetrycompetition/article3229711.ece> or <http://www.poemhunter.com/poems/>

## **GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

### **Specification**

- <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>

### **General**

- Bitesize: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zr9d7ty>
- Mr Bruff – YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ch-XgnluOf4&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cAltMxkEvJXCxqT-ZzFqAN>

### **Paper 1 – Section A: Literary Fiction**

- YouTube channel – Stacey Reay: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Cx5xwWh5N4&list=PLQE65hp6MwUq6099hTU4sGSHLVVKAcPdX>

### **Paper 2 – Section A: Non Fiction**

- YouTube channel – Stacey Reay: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LABviX6HIPk&list=PLQE65hp6MwUp5mWyl94yUPkelK-x3eydM>

### **Section B: Writing**

- Select an image and then plan and write a description inspired by it. <http://edition.cnn.com/2017/01/05/travel/best-drone-photos-2016-dronestagram/>
- Teacher in my pocket YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBIFn8TcluE&list=PLB56F3A80A3E34644>