

# Welcome

Year 11 GCSE Information Evening

English Language & English Literature



# The New GCSEs: Key Changes

- Fully linear structure (no coursework component)
- All students will sit the same exam across all abilities
- Closed book examinations
- New 9-1 grading scale with 9 being the top level
- Level 5 equivalent of old C+ grade.

# GCSE Qualifications 2018-19

- English Language
  - English Literature
  - Spoken Language Endorsement
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- The exam board is AQA
  - Specification codes:  
English Language 8700  
English Literature 8702

## Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

### What's assessed

#### Section A: Reading

- one literature fiction text

#### Section B: Writing

- descriptive or narrative writing

### Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

### Questions

#### Reading (40 marks) (25%)

– one single text

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

#### Writing (40 marks) (25%)

1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

+

## Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

### What's assessed

#### Section A: Reading

- one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

#### Section B: Writing

- writing to present a viewpoint

### Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

### Questions

#### Reading (40 marks) (25%)

– two linked texts

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

#### Writing (40 marks) (25%)

1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

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## Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language

### What's assessed

(A07-A09)

- presenting
- responding to questions and feedback
- use of standard English

### Assessed

- Teacher set throughout course
- Marked by teacher
- Separate endorsement (0% weighting of GCSE)

# GCSE English Language

- Changes to subject criteria
- Reading – 50% of the GCSE - Students are required to answer questions on unseen 19th, 20th and 21st century texts.
- These texts must cover fiction, non-fiction and literary non-fiction across the two English Language exams.
- Writing - 50% of the GCSE - SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar to include vocabulary) has an increased weight of 20%

# English Language Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading & Writing

## What's assessed:

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

80 marks

50% of GCSE

## Section A: Reading

one literary prose fiction text (20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> Century)

## Questions

**Reading (40 marks) (25%)**– one single text

1 short form question (4 marks) testing understanding and inference

2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks) analysing language and structure

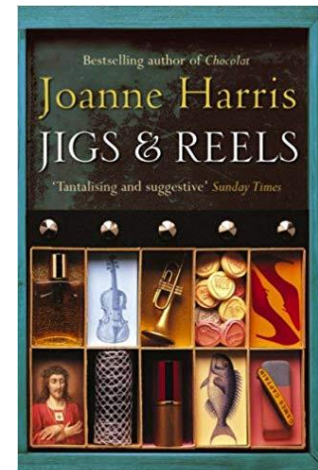
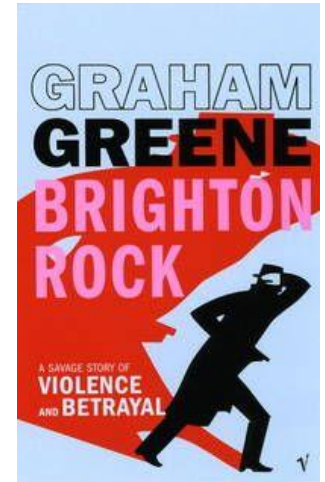
1 extended question (1 x 20 marks) critical evaluation and analysis

## Section B: Writing

descriptive or narrative writing

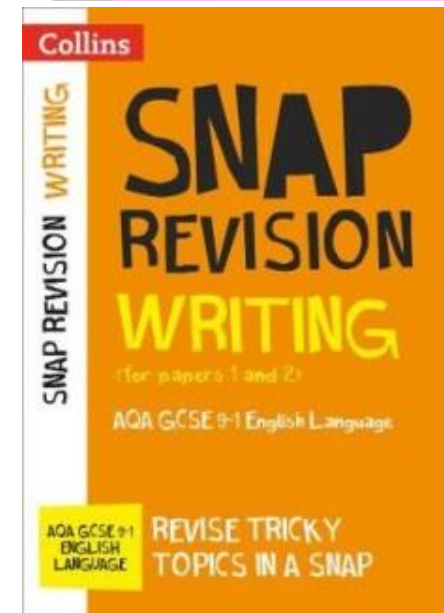
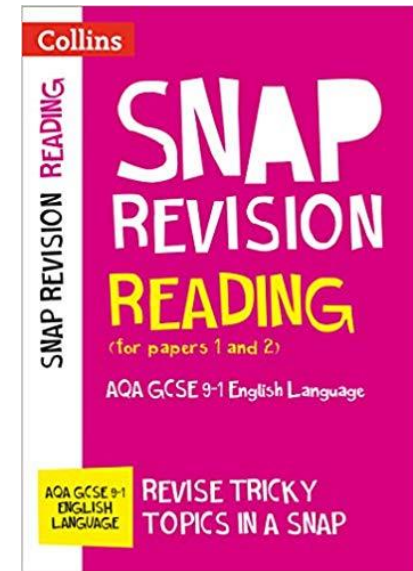
**Writing (40 marks) (25%)**

1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)



# How you can help students prepare at home

- There are many revision guides available as well as a range of free online resources.
- The English Department have distributed a number of revision guides to students; these are also provided for their use in Prep time.
- Reading independently is key: encourage your child to read regularly and widely.
- When they read, encourage them to read actively considering writers' language choices and the impact of these.
- Encourage regular writing practise and help to proof read work – spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Also ask them what they have been studying in their English lessons.



# English Language Paper 2: Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives

## **What's assessed:**

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

80 marks

50% of GCSE

## **Section A: Reading**

one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text (One from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century)

## **Questions**

**Reading (40 marks) (25%)** – two linked texts

1 short form question (4 marks) testing understanding

2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks) Summary and comparison; analysing language

1 extended question (1 x 16 marks) Comparing viewpoints and uses of language

## **Section B: Writing**

writing to present a viewpoint

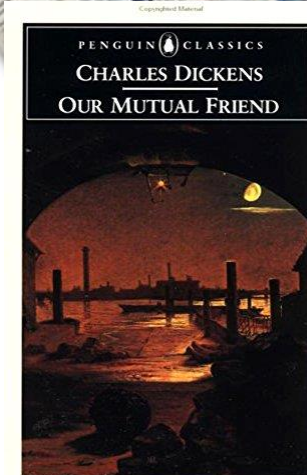
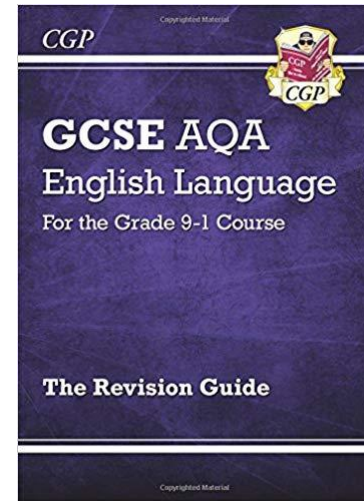
**Writing (40 marks) (25%)**

1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)



# How you can help students prepare at home

- As with Paper 1, reading is key.
- Students are strongly encouraged to read a range of non-fiction: newspapers and magazines; autobiographies; famous speeches.
- Students can prepare for this exam by reading articles and summarising them and, again, considering the impact of writers' language choices.
- Independently reading a 19<sup>th</sup> Century novel will also help students get to grips with Victorian ideas and language, while also helping them prepare for the English Literature exams.
- Encourage regular writing practise and help to proof read work – spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Again there is a range of revision resources out there and online.



# English Literature

Assessment of English Literature consists of two Exams:

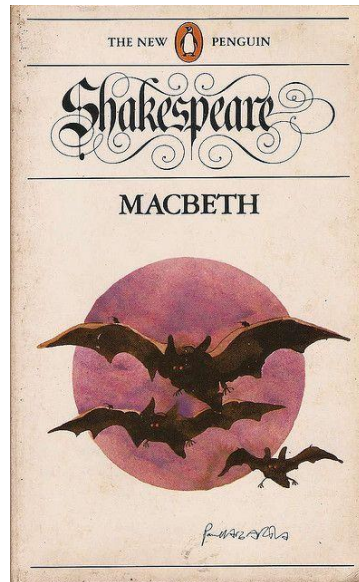
Paper 1: Shakespeare and the Nineteenth Century Novel

For this exam, students will study Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' and 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens.

The exam is extract based but students must also show understanding of the texts as a whole.

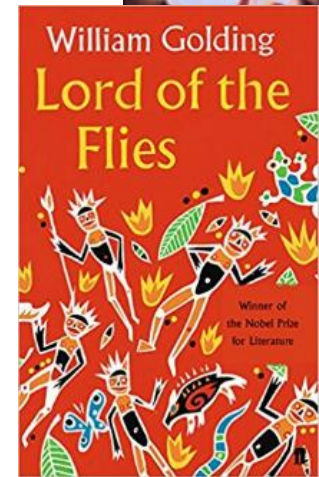
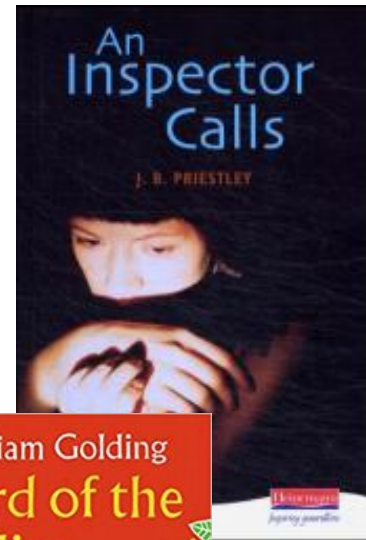


PENGUIN CLASSICS  
CHARLES DICKENS  
*A Christmas Carol*  
and Other Christmas Writings



## Paper 2: Modern texts and Poetry

- **Section A Modern texts:** students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.
- **Section B Poetry:** students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.
- **Section C Unseen poetry:** Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.



# English Literature: Assessment

## Paper 1

Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes

64 marks

40% of GCSE

## Paper 2

Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes

96 marks

60% of GCSE

- AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:
  - maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response
  - use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.
- AO2: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.
- AO3: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.
- AO4: Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation

# How you can help students prepare at home

The surest way to succeed is for students to get to know the set texts inside out. Encourage them to do this and ask them regularly about their reading including quotations they have learnt

There are also many resources to help with revision and consolidation

Please take the handout for ISBN numbers, study guides and website links .

Encourage regular writing practise and help to proof read work – spelling, punctuation and grammar

Start revision early: encourage them to create and follow a revision timetable

Any questions?