

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE EXAMS

English Literature Exam

Component 1 (40%) - 2 hour exam

Section A – Shakespeare

Task 1: 1x extract question

Task 2: 1x essay question

Section B – Poetry (Anthology)

Task1: 1 x analysis (poem provided)

Task 2: 1 x Comparison between the poem from task 1 and another poem (not provided)

Component 2 (60%) – 2 hour 30 minute exam

Section A – An Inspector Calls

1 x essay question: based on the given **extract** and **linked** to elsewhere in the play

Section B – A Christmas Carol

1 x essay question: based on the given **extract** and **linked** to elsewhere in the play

Section C – Unseen Poetry

Task 1: 1 x analysis of unseen poem

Task 2: 1 x comparison between poem from task 1 and another unseen poem

English Language Exam

Component 1 (40%) 1 hour 45 minute exam

Section A – Reading

5 questions

1x Fiction text (20th Century)

Section B - Writing

1x Narrative writing task

Component 2 (60%) 2 hour exam

Section A – Reading

6 questions

2 x Non fiction text
(1x 19th and 1x 21st Century)

Section B - Writing

2 x transactional writing task

English Literature GCSE

Wednesday 17th May 2023 – Component 1 English Literature examination
Macbeth and Poetry Anthology

Wednesday 24th May 2023 – Component 2 English Literature examination
An Inspector Calls, A Christmas Carol and Unseen Poetry

Macbeth

- Know the plot, characters and themes
- Memorise important **quotes** for each character and theme
- Revise the *extract* and *essay* answer structures

Poetry Anthology

- Know all **19 poems** by heart (they will not be given the anthology in the exam)
- Know the **context** information for each of the **19 poems**
- Revise the *analysis* and *comparison* essay structures

An Inspector Calls

- Know the plot, characters and themes
- Memorise important **quotes** for each character and theme

A Christmas Carol

- Know the plot, characters and themes
- Memorise important **quotes** for each character and theme
- Know important **context** information about the Victorian era, Dickens' motives and political views.

Unseen Poetry

- Know a range of **poetic techniques**
Eg. Simile, metaphor
- Know the SMILES structure for analysing poetry

Useful Revision Strategies for Literature



POST-IT Quotes

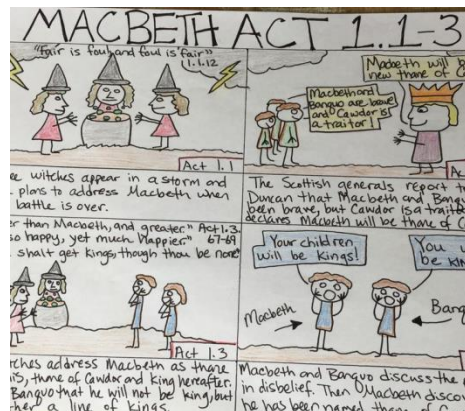
Copy down important quotes from the plays, poems and novels – Place them on a wall and spend a week committing them to memory.



POEM ON A PAGE

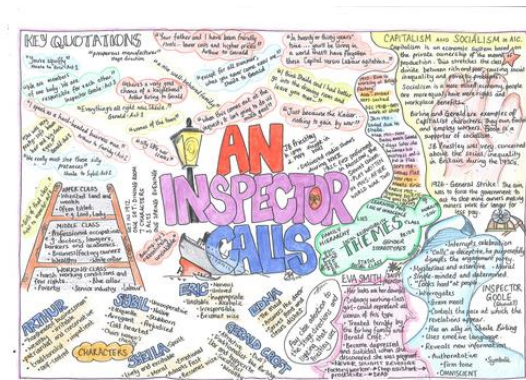
Write down:

- the FIRST and LAST line of the poem
- Context information
- Translate the main ideas of the poem into images



STORYBOARD

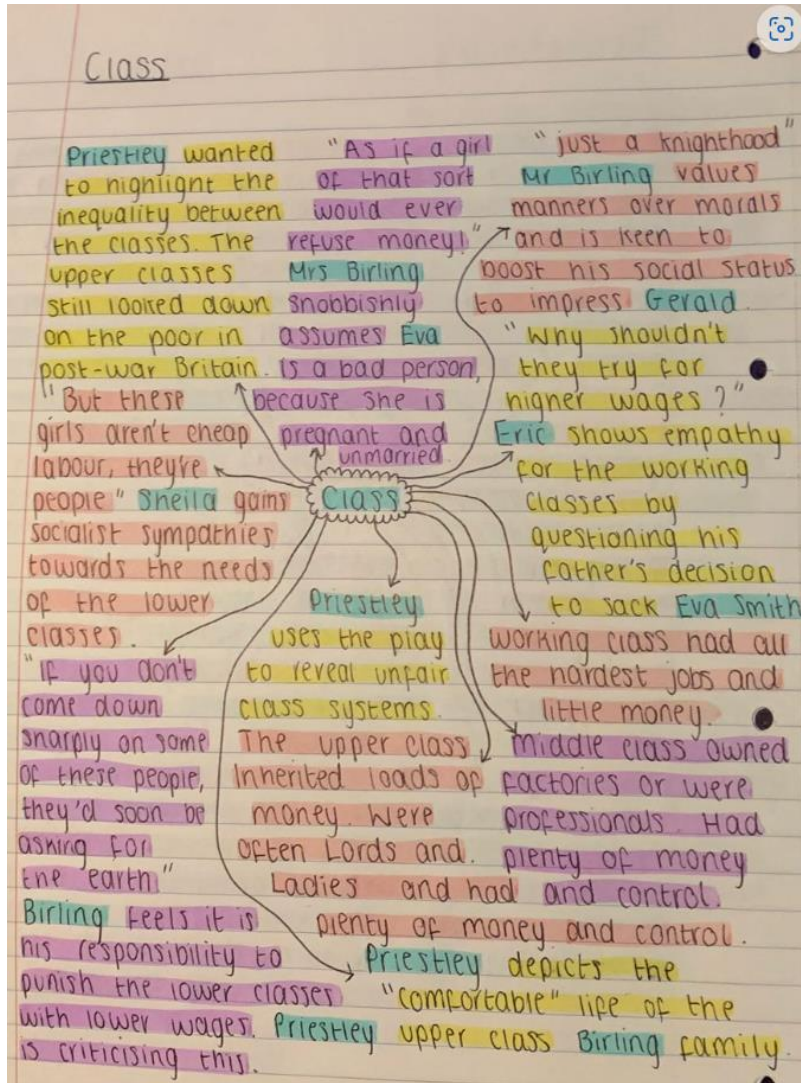
Translate the plot of each play or novel into a comic strip with a brief summary of what happened beneath



SUMMARY SHEET

Summarise the plot, characters and themes on one sheet

Useful Revision Strategies for Literature



NATURE/FAITH

■ HAWK ROOSTING

Hawk Roosting

First person narrative
 Hawk is controlling the poem
 emphasis on the hawk's powerful features

Symbolises its powerful position over the rest of nature
 Hawk is at peace because it knows its power
 his dreams are already his reality
 only rhyming couplet
 emphasises his perfect kills

I sit in the top of the wood, my eyes closed.
 Inaction, no falsifying dream
 Between my hooked head and hooked feet:
 Or in sleep rehearse perfect kills and eat.
 Thoughts about killing even when asleep
 reflects violence

The convenience of the high trees!
 The air's buoyancy and the sun's ray
 Are of advantage to me;
 And the earth's face upward for my inspection.

It sounds as if nature was designed to suit the hawk
 arrogant
 sounds sinister
 harsh consonance sounds emphasise the hawk's grip

My feet are locked upon the rough bark.
 It took the whole of Creation
 To produce my foot, my each feather:
 Now I hold Creation in my foot

his prey is literally in his feet
 here is the top of creation

Or fly up, and revolve it all slowly
 I kill where I please because it is all mine.
 There is no sophistry in my body:
 My manners are tearing off heads -

pushes slow down the pace of the poem
 The hawk seems relaxed and confident
 oxymoron juxtaposes politeness with extreme violence to shock the reader

The allotment of death.
 For the one path of my flight is direct
 Through the bones of the living.
 No arguments assert my right:

violent imagery of the hawk and its prey
 frequent use of negative statements suggests hawk is rejecting society's rule
 doesn't care as long as he gets what he wants

The sun is behind me.
 Nothing has changed since I began.
 My eye has permitted no change,
 I am going to keep things like this

The hawk has had power throughout its whole existence
 1 line sentences in the last stanza gives the statements a matter-of-fact tone

poem begins and ends with
 TED HUGHES "I" reflects hawk's arrogance

CONTEXT

- TED HUGHES grew up in the countryside
- has many poems about nature and the natural world
- He has several poems where the 'Hawk' appears
- many think that the hawk is an allegory for human nature

FORM/STRUCTURE

- facist tone
- themes of nature and violence
- quatrains all the way through
- dramatic monologue

English Language GCSE

Monday 5th June 2023 – Component 1 English Language examination

Fiction reading questions

Narrative (story) writing

Monday 12th June 2023 – Component 2 English Language examination

Non-fiction reading questions

Transactional (non-fiction) writing

Component 1

Reading

- Know what to include in a 'good' answer
- Know how to **embed quotes** from a text
- Know relevant subject **terminology** eg. Adjectives, personification

Writing

- Know the four parts of a story
- Have a bank of stories to pull ideas from

Component 2

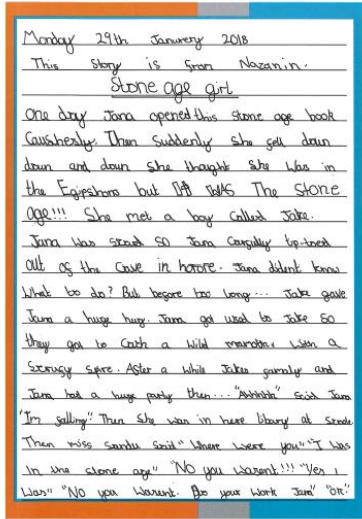
Reading

- Know what to include in a 'good' answer
- Know how to **embed quotes** from a text
- Know relevant subject **terminology** eg. adjectives, personification
- Know how to use **context clues** from the text to understand unfamiliar words

Writing

- Know how to **format / layout** the transactional writing tasks
- Know the **persuasive writing techniques**

Useful Revision Strategies for Language



Collection of stories

Create a collection of stories written for different titles.



WILFs

Memorise the success criteria for each question type



Know the different formats

Create a revision mat that has the different layouts for each of the 7 transactional writing tasks

7 study techniques

THAT WORK FOR ANY SUBJECT

1. Condensing



- Useful for information-heavy, essay-based subjects

- Reduces temptation to mindlessly copy everything down

HOWTO: CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO SUMMARISE A PARTICULAR CHAPTER/TOPIC/PAGE WITHIN A LIMITED SPACE, SUCH AS A SIDE OF A4, OR A CERTAIN NUMBER OF SENTENCES. REPEAT AND SEE HOW FAR YOU CAN CONDENSE THE INFORMATION

- Use this to remember information & understand difficult concepts!



2. Flashcards

- Great for remembering definitions, dates, facts etc.

- If stuck, give yourself a few minutes to think about the answer before checking

- MAKE THEM YOURSELF OR USE A WEBSITE SUCH AS [GURLET](https://www.gurlet.com)



* ADD VISUAL ELEMENTS TO FACILITATE MEMORISATION!

3. Memory maps

- This is essentially taking notes without any guidance

HOWTO: Write down a few clues on a plain sheet of paper. THEN, SET A TIMER AND WRITE DOWN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN AROUND EACH HEADING, MAKING LINKS AND NOT USING ANY RESOURCES. ALTERNATIVELY, DO THIS W. OUT A

TIMER AND SIMPLY WRITE 'TO FAILURE' (when you can't remember anything else)



4. (Pretend to) teach someone

→ THIS IS THE ULTIMATE TEST OF YOUR UNDERSTANDING

- If none of your friends/family are willing to be volunteers, simply pretend to teach a class or an audience.

- Try to find a person who is unfamiliar w. your subject/topic



5. Practice questions and essays

→ APPLY YOUR KNOWLEDGE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. Get your hands on past papers/questions and practice in exam conditions when you can.

→ Get someone else to mark your work or practice honestly when doing it yourself.



7. Visualisation/association

- Associate difficult contents with familiar objects (pictures or words).

- **THE JOURNEY:** assign facts, arguments etc to different points in a real or imagined journey

FACILITATES RECALL OF ABSTRACT INFORMATION

6. Pomodoro technique

- developed by Francesco Cirillo

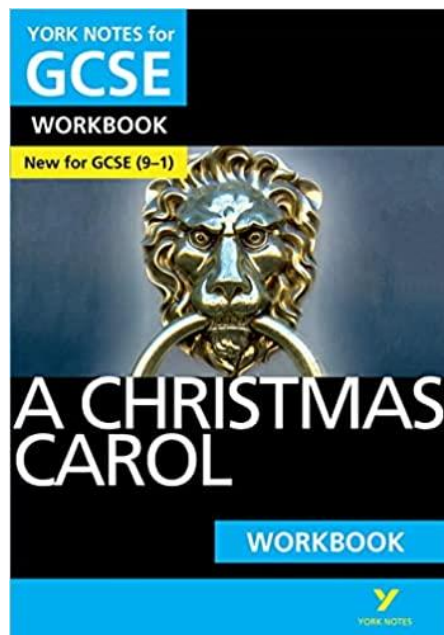
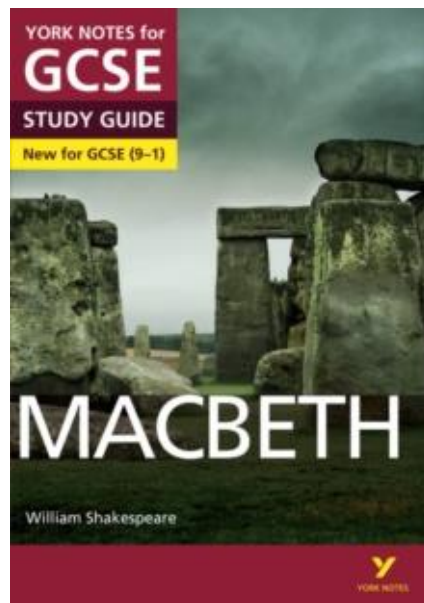
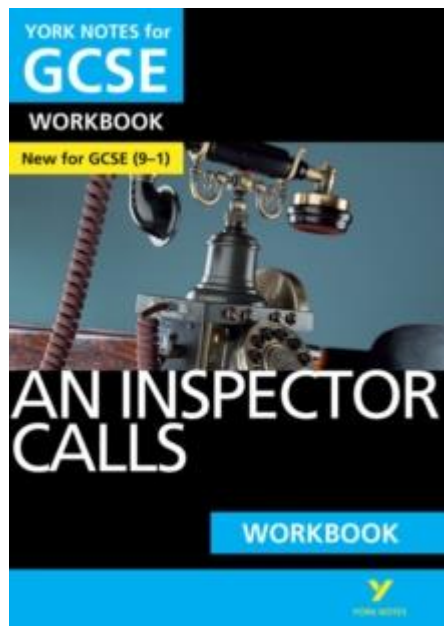
- work for 25 minutes;
5 minute break



REPEAT x4 BEFORE TAKING A LONGER BREAK (25-80 minutes)

- Try this if you struggle w. procrastination and getting stuck on hard tasks

against your 'notes/resources' (alternatives)



★★★★★ 897



