

# Subject: English Literature

## Exam Board:

AQA

## Text Books/Resources:

GCSE English Literature AQA Complete Revision Guide

GCSE English Literature AQA Macbeth Revision Guide (CGP)

GCSE English Literature AQA A Christmas Carol/Frankenstein/Jekyll & Hyde Revision Guide (CGP)  
(depending on text taught)

GCSE English Literature AQA Blood Brothers/Lord of the Flies/An Inspector Calls Revision Guide (CGP) (depending on text taught)

It is highly recommended that students have a copy of the texts that they are studying to read, annotate and refer back to during their revision period.

The students should have access to their own annotated anthology with their poems on it.

## Websites:

GCSE bitesize (general Literature revision)

The PiXL Lit App – your child will already have their log ins for this website. The School ID is **TD1262** and your child's username is their last name and their password is their first name.

<https://www.sparknotes.com/nofear/shakespeare/macbeth/> - for modern translation of Macbeth.

The AQA website has specimen exams/mark schemes to practice and to better understand the assessment criteria.

## Assessment details:

### **Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th century novel, 1h 45m, 15th May**

Students are all studying Macbeth and will be given a short extract to work from and students should refer not only to the extract but also to the play as a whole. The question could be about a particular character or theme and students need to ensure they can discuss the context of the times the play was written in and about.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century novel also gives students a short extract. Students need to refer not only to this extract but also to the play as a whole. The question could be about a particular character or theme and students need to ensure they can discuss the context of the text the play was written in and about.

### **Paper 2 Modern texts and poetry 2h, 15m, 23rd May**

The modern text question **DOES NOT** give students an extract and students will be given the option of choosing one question from two offered. The question could be about a particular character or theme and students need to ensure they can discuss the context of the times the text was written in and about.

Students will have studied either Love and Relationships OR Power and Conflict clusters. Students will be given one poem in full from their chosen cluster and will be asked to compare it to another poem within the cluster. As this is closed book, the second poem is of their choosing and therefore they will not have this in written print in the exam.

Students will also have to analyse unseen poetry, and compare two unseen poems. Students will need to use their skills of analysing poetry in order to identify the writer's ideas within the two poems. It is crucial students talk about the writer's use of techniques and methods.

**Further Topic Details:****Paper 1:****Macbeth**

Ensure that you **understand the plot**, know **quotes** from across the text, be able to explore **characters** and **themes**. Watching several versions of the play will help better understand interpretations and the major themes. Familiarising yourself with some of the most important scenes and revising the meaning of them will help analysis of the extract.

**The 19<sup>th</sup> century text (A Christmas Carol/Frankenstein/Jekyll & Hyde)**

Ensure that you **understand the plot**, know **quotes** from across the text, be able to explore **characters** and **themes**. Researching the historical/social context of the time will help you to better understand the influences that 19<sup>th</sup> century Britain had.

**Paper 2:****Lord of the Flies**

Ensure that you **understand the plot**, know **quotes** from across the text, be able to explore **characters** and **themes**. Researching the historical/social context of the time will help you to better understand the wider intentions/influences of the writer.

**Poetry**

For the poetry your child needs to be able to COMPARE the poems – In Section B they will be given one poem from their anthology to COMPARE it to one from memory. In Section C they will be presented with two new poems and will have to interpret and compare them. Students can read poems themselves and ask themselves question to practise the process of analysis for unseen poetry.

- Get them to show you their PixlLit App. You can keep a track of how many 'points' they score as they complete the different sections.
- Test your son or daughter on quotes from each of the texts.
- Ask them to tell you who and what the main characters/events are.
- Ask them to explain the plot to you.
- Ask them to explain why the writer uses particular methods to develop a character or a theme.
- Encourage them to write essay plans for key characters and themes, then test them on the content.
- Watch a film version of the texts and then ask them if they think it is a good interpretation. Please be careful that your child does not reference the film though as they will lose marks for this.

**Contact Details:**

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