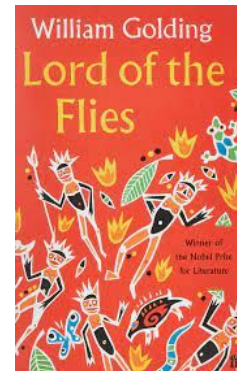
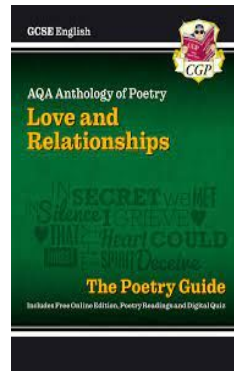
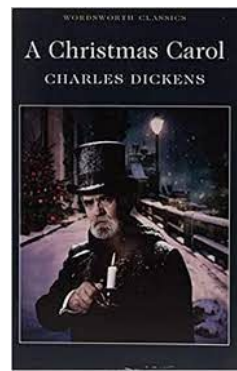
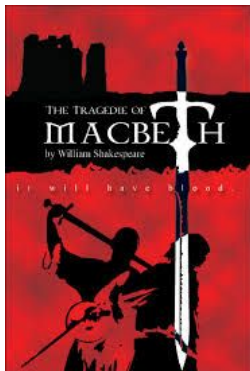


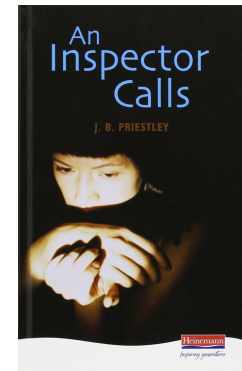


Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening

English Language and Literature



or



Succeeding in English = organised revision



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Structure of the GCSEs Grades 1-9

- ✓ 2 separate GCSEs
- ✓ Language has 2 papers
- ✓ Literature has 2 papers





GCSE English Language Paper 1

One extract usually a page long – C20th fiction

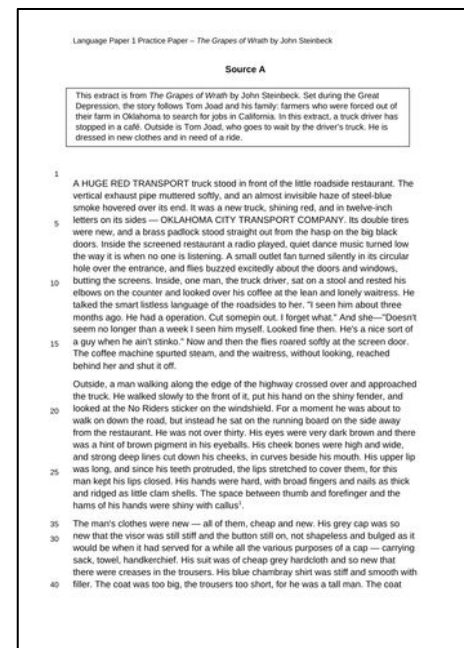
1 hour 45 minutes

80 marks - 50% of the qualification

Students answer 4 reading questions before completing a creative writing task.

Section A Q1-4 40 marks 1 hour

Section B Q5 40 marks 45 minutes



**This is the exam
where readers of
books have the edge
- make reading part
of your revision
relaxation.**



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GCSE English Language Paper 1

Section A **40 marks** **1 hour**

Questions focus primarily on:

- ✓ Q1: Extracting explicit information and ideas **4 marks** **5 minutes**
- ✓ Q2: Language analysis – need to analyse the effects of the writer's choice of language. Make points and explore them using good quotations and sophisticated use of subject terminology. The language features they pick out could include things like: metaphors, similes, alliteration, onomatopoeia, personification, sentence forms and the use of specific types of words or phrases. (What has the writer included? Why? How does it affect the reader?) **8 marks** **10 minutes**
- ✓ Q3: Structure Analysis – How and why does the writer change focus? How does the writer change the atmosphere, perspective, setting etc to create an impact on the reader? **8 marks** **10 minutes**
- ✓ Q4: Personal response to the text, evaluating an opinion given about the text.
20 marks **25 minutes**

10 minutes reading time



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GCSE English Language Paper 1

Section B **40 marks** **45 minutes**

Question 5 gives a choices of 2 writing tasks - most likely a description or a narrative. (But it could be two narratives or two description choices)

- ✓ Need to plan - the plan should include ideas they are going to write about, English language techniques and punctuation types they are going to include

Other tips:

- ✓ Use all five senses - sensory language
- ✓ Vary sentence structures
- ✓ Move from a general detail and zoom right into the object
- ✓ Start wide descriptively, and slowly move into the scene
- ✓ Show not Tell
- ✓ Use carefully chosen verbs – think carefully about the nuance of it, does it fit the emotion?
- ✓ Refer to the consequence of the action, not the action itself...e.g “The curtains billowed wildly in the open window.” INSTEAD OF “It was windy.”





Two extracts, both usually a page long – C20th/21st non-fiction and C19th non-fiction

80 marks - 50% of the qualification

English Language paper 2 explores non-fiction writers' viewpoints and perspectives.

Section A consists of 4 questions, that require analysis of two linked sources across different time periods and genres.

Section B consists of a single big question where the student needs to write their own text for a specified audience, purpose and form. They will need to provide their own perspective on a task related to the theme that was introduced in section A.

Section A Q1-4 40 marks 1 hour

Section B Q5 40 marks 45 minutes



Source: A



GCSE English Language Paper 2

Section A 40 marks 1 hour

Two extracts on a similar topic/theme.

Questions focus primarily on:

- ✓ Q1: The focus will be on a small part of source A and the students are asked to select four true statements from a selection of eight.
4 marks 5 minutes
- ✓ Q2: Students are asked to write a summary of the differences or similarities between something/ someone in source A and something/ someone in source B. **No language analysis.** Identify 3-4 differences or similarities (focused on what is in the specific question), summarise each of the differences in turn, with quotations, and explore perceptive inferences from both texts. To get top marks you need to examine what the writers imply about the issue. 8 marks 10 minutes





GCSE English Language Paper 2

Section A **40 marks** **1 hour**

Two extracts on a similar topic/theme.

Questions focus primarily on:

- ✓ Q3: Language Analysis - need to analyse the effects of the writer's choice of language. Make around four points and explore them using good quotations and sophisticated use of subject terminology. The language features they pick out could include things like: metaphors, similes, alliteration, onomatopoeia, personification, sentence forms and the use of specific types of words or phrases. **12 marks** **13 minutes**
- ✓ Q4: The question will always ask the students to "compare how the writers convey their different perspectives/attitudes about..." something specific to the sources. They need to perceptively compare their different perspectives or attitudes, and most importantly, compare the methods the writers use to convey their different perspectives or attitudes. They can analyse any methods, including both language and structure. **16 marks** **18 minutes**

15 minutes reading time



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GCSE English Language Paper 2

Section B **40 marks** **45 minutes**

Question 5 provides an opportunity to show the examiner how they can write effectively to explain their point of view on a specific issue. There will be a statement on an issue related to those discussed in section A. The task will be to write in a specific form, for a specific audience, to present their point of view on the issue. They might be asked to write a newspaper article, letter or speech, amongst other forms. The marks are allocated specifically, with **24 marks available for content and organisation** and **16 marks for technical accuracy** (spelling, punctuation and grammar).

- ✓ Things to remember for this question:
- ✓ match style of writing to the purpose and audience of the task;
- ✓ plan your answer first;
- ✓ leave the full 45 minutes to complete the task fully
- ✓ use ambitious vocabulary, language and structural features to present viewpoint





So what can you do at home?

There is no excuse for not revising for the Language exam. Students often say they can't revise for English language but they can.

Literally anything that is aimed at older students or adults, can be a revision resource: *Newspapers, random pages of novels, letters* etc...

Read the text and pick out 4 pieces of information.

Or

Ask yourself, "How has the writer used language/structure to make the reader interested and engaged?"

Or

Use a picture as a stimulus for a descriptive or narrative piece **lasting 45 mins**





Revision Help

Use the booklets from school and redo the papers.

SNAP Revision books by Collins Education are cheap, cheerful and do the job well. Especially the language ones.

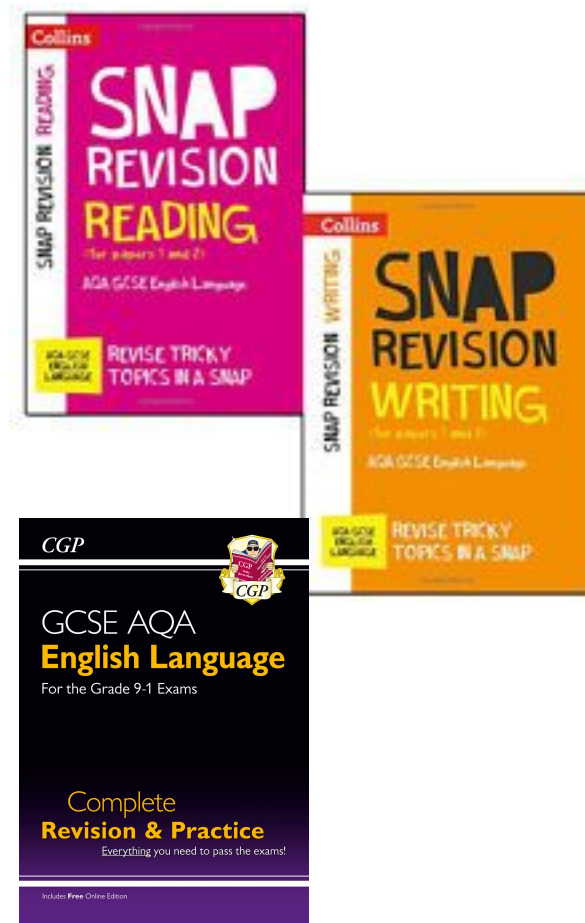
CGP also do a detailed guide

Online Help:

[GCSE English Language - AQA - BBC Bitesize](https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/gcse/english/language/aqa)

Mr. Bruff revision videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff/search?query=Language>



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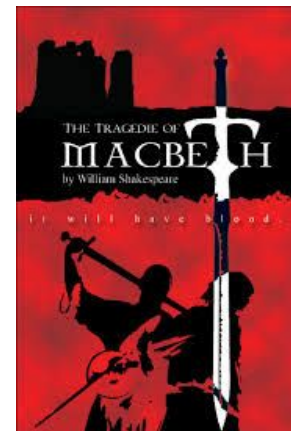
GCSE English Literature - 160 marks

Two Papers

- ☐ **Paper 1** 64 marks 1 hour 45 minutes

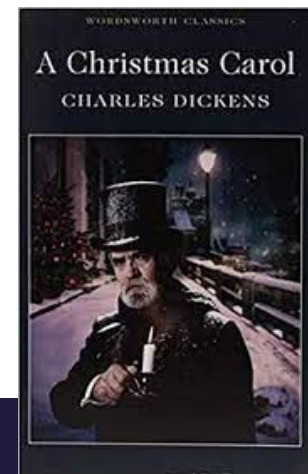
Section A: Macbeth

Compulsory question, using extract and knowledge of play.
34 marks (4 of these are for SPAG)



Section B: A Christmas Carol

Compulsory question using extract and knowledge of novel.
30 marks (SPAG not tested)





GCSE English Literature - 160 marks

Two Papers

- **Paper 2** 96 marks 2 hours 15 minutes

Section A: Inspector Calls/Lord of the Flies

One question from choice of 2 (no extract)

34 marks (4 SPAG)

Section B:

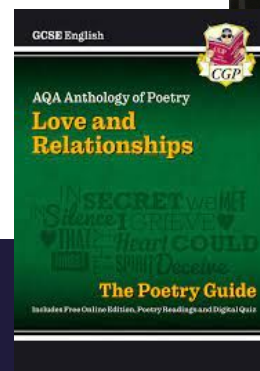
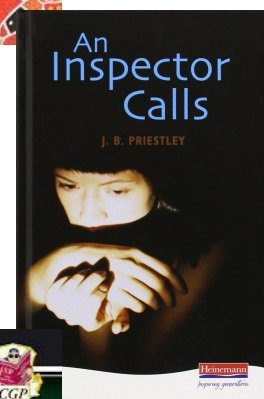
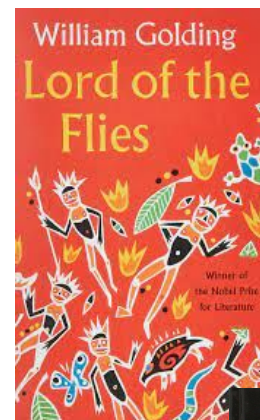
Compare printed poem with one you remember

30 marks (no SPAG)

Section C

Part 1: unseen poem essay 24 marks + 4 marks

Part 2: unseen poetry comparison 8 marks



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Key issues and some solutions

❑ Students not knowing/remembering the **WHOLE** texts well enough

Re-reading is key. Read and read again. Films can help but be wary with changes.

❑ Quotation learning

Key quotations all around the house. Bedroom, fridge door and toilet are prime locations. Look, cover, check – classic spelling test.

❑ Not transferring the analytical writing skills from the language paper

Reassuring yourself. You can and have already done it before.

❑ Not enough fluidity in linking context to analysis

Know the contextual information well. Don't include it all at the end of a paragraph as a bolt on. Being aware that you should be answering the exam question not simply 'dumping' all you can remember on the page.

❑ Shakespearean language (**Macbeth**)

Remember it is meant to be performed. Most of the issues, conversations he writes about could be happening today! Focus on what you do understand and read around it - knowing the plot well will help.





Revision Help

Use the booklets from school - answer exam questions.

SNAP Revision books by Collins

CGP also do a detailed guide

Lightbulb revision guides offer detailed essay style analysis

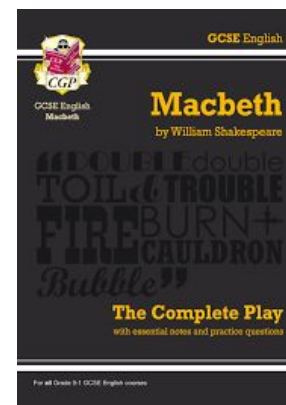
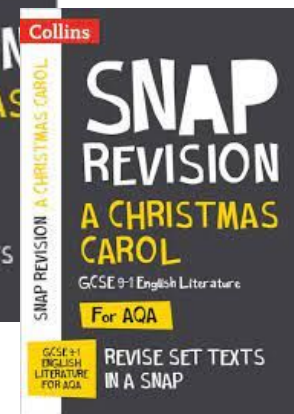
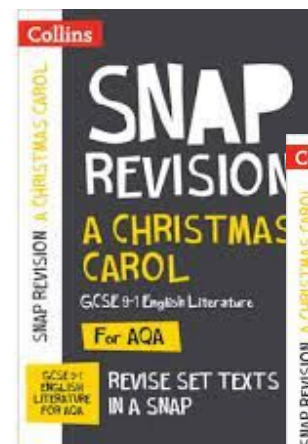
Online Help:

BBC Bitesize for all the literature texts

[Lord of the Flies - GCSE English Literature Revision - AQA - BBC Bitesize](#)

Mr. Bruff revision videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff/search?query=Macbeth>



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Concluding thoughts

Parents please:

- 1) Encourage your child to be revising. Help them to create a **revision timetable**. If they are a worrier, then make sure they are taking breaks in between revising.
- 2) Help to set up systems whereby revision is possible e.g. quotations around the house, pop quizzes each morning, seeing performances (live/cinema), online or book study guides
- 3) Help them to improve any perceived weaknesses eg punctuation - help with proofreading.
- 4) Encourage attendance at any offered revision sessions - use session 6

