



# Working Together



- **As the exams draw closer, it is vital that we work together to support your child in their studies and ensure they have all the necessary resources and guidance to succeed.** We have a dedicated team of teachers in the English department who are committed to providing the highest quality education and support to our students, and we will be working closely with them to monitor their progress and identify any areas that need improvement.
- **It is crucial that your child takes responsibility for their studies and develops good study habits.** This includes setting realistic goals, managing time effectively, and seeking help when needed. Encourage them to make use of the resources available to them and to engage actively in their own education.

## English Literature

### Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

- Section A: Shakespeare - *Macbeth*
- Section B: The 19th-century novel – *A Christmas Carol*

### Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

- Section A: Modern texts – *An Inspector Calls*
- Section B: Poetry – *Power and Conflict*
- Section C: Unseen poetry

## English Language

### Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

- Reading (25%) – one single unseen text
- Writing (25%) – writing to describe or narrate

### Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

- Reading (25%) – two linked texts
- Writing (25%) – writing to argue and/or persuade

# The Basics

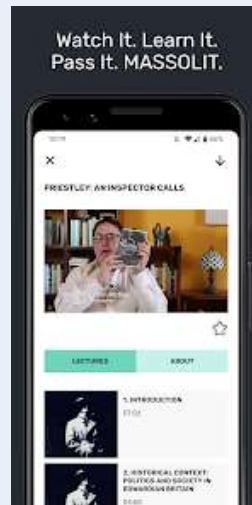
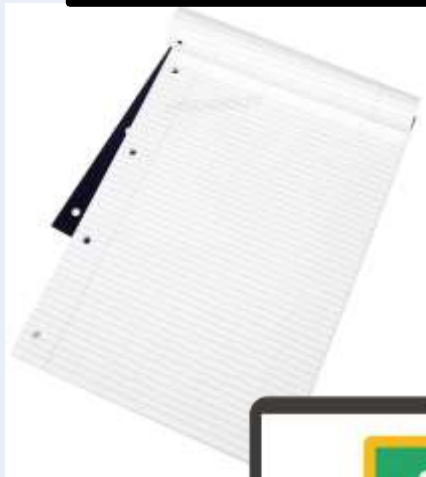
- **Exam board: AQA.** You can access past papers and the mark schemes on the website. Links to past papers are also available on your Google Classroom and we will be providing some paper copies for students who would benefit from them.
- **Know the papers.** You will be taking four exam papers altogether - ensure you know the timings for them. Know how many questions you have to answer, what type of questions you will be asked and how long the exams are.
- **Past papers** - it is vital that you can use all the information from class and your own revision by translating this knowledge into using practice papers to test your exam technique. This means turning off your music / social media etc. This will help you get used to working under exam conditions.

# The Basics for English Revision



- The class teacher!
- Past lessons on Google Classroom / class work
- A consistent framework to approaching Language and Literature essays (essay and paragraph framework)
- Create and use flashcards / mind maps
- Access to the Literature films via Google Classroom
- Year 11 homework booklets
- Practise completing essay plans, introductions, whole essays. Past papers are uploaded onto Google Classroom
- Purchase the core texts and revision guides from ParentPay
- [Massolit videos](#). (There are tutorials on each Act and background of the play)
- The internet! Youtube ([Mr Salles](#), [Mr Bruff](#)), [Physics and Maths Tutor](#) ...
- **Read, read, read!** 😊

# What equipment do you need?



# English Language Frameworks

## Question information

- The question is worth 8 marks
- You should spend about 10 minutes on this task.
- You should explore 2 to 3 quotations in detail.
- You are assessed on the following areas:
  - Select evidence
  - Analyse the effects of writers' choices of language
  - Use subject terminology

## Methods

- Word choice (dynamic verb, adjectives ...)
- Lexical set
- Imagery
- Phrases
- Simile
- Metaphor
- Personification
- Zoomorphism

## Paper 1 Question 2: Language Focus

### Scaffold for longer quotations (phrases/image/simile)

The writer uses **[method]** **[quotation]** to **[inference based on question focus]**. The use of the **[zoom in on word/very short phrase]** creates an image of **[what does it make you think of/connotations]** suggesting that **[link to the question]**. It is almost as if **[higher level inference]**.

### Model Level 4 answer (single quotation)

The writer uses the description, 'seemed to occupy the whole seat, sprawling awkwardly,' to present Hartop as selfish and self-centred. The use of the verb phrase, 'sprawling awkwardly,' creates an image of Hartop actively spreading himself out, even though it causes him discomfort, suggesting that he is dominating the space. It is almost as if he is bullying his family into submission.

# English Literature Framework

... presents ... as

Make your **point**- link it to the question and mention the writer to show you know they are crafting it.

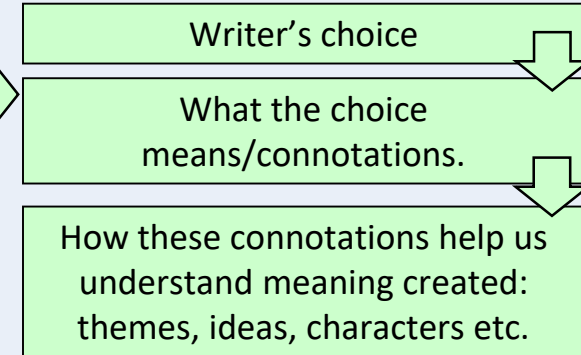
... demonstrated / shown when...

Use **evidence** to support your view- short, embedded quotations are often best.

This suggests/ implies ...

**Explore** how and why the evidence reveals the point you are making

In particular / Furthermore / Finally, the [insert technique or word-class]..... has connotations of / highlights ... revealing that ...



This argument / claim / thesis is further supported by...

This articulates / demonstrates / reveals...

**Zoom out** and link to the writer's ideas and context- what are the writer's intentions/ what are they trying to show us?

Perhaps the ...'s intentions here are to... / Perhaps the writer is trying to suggest/ challenge .....

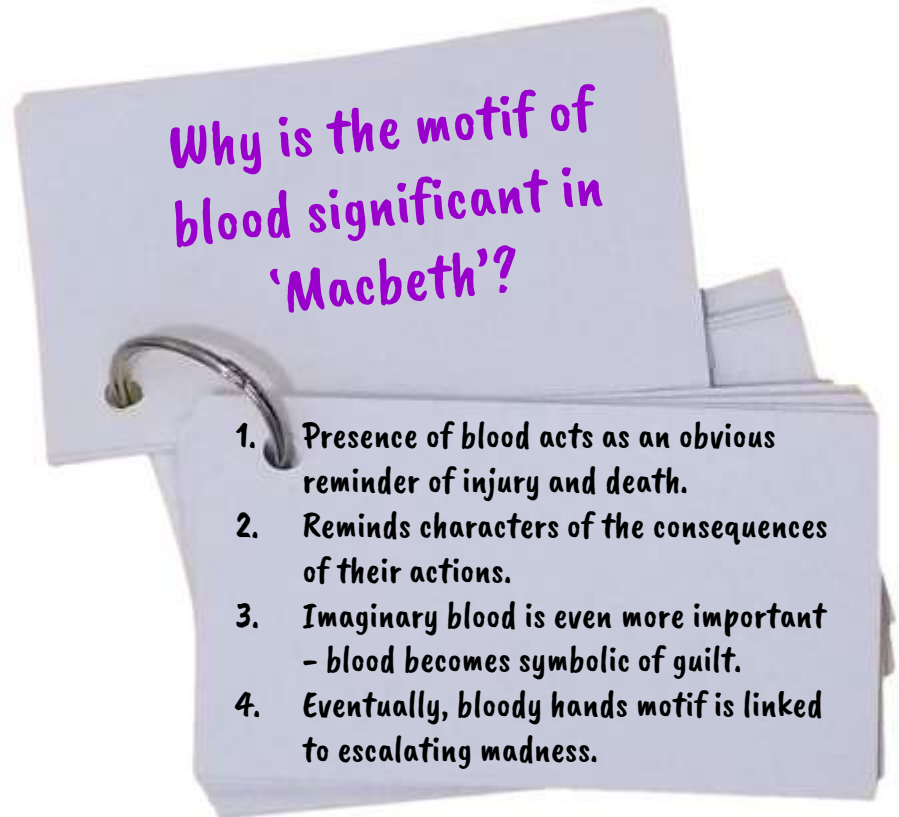


# Flashcards

Flashcards are a simple and excellent revision tool. This is the one technique that we encourage students to do most.

## How to make:

- Write a topic title / question in large on one side of the card.
- Summarise all the key points on the other side.
- Double check the answer(s) after a decent pause - you don't want to remember something that's incorrect by mistake!



# Flashcards

## How to use:

- Pick out a card and look at the topic title. Try to remember and write down everything you need to know.
- Check how much you have remembered by looking at the back of the card after a decent pause.
- Try testing your child using the flashcards and give them time to digest the question before answering. If they get the answer right, don't discard the card – they need to keep repeating it again and over time.

Why is the motif of blood significant in 'Macbeth'?

1. Presence of blood acts as an obvious reminder of injury and death.
2. Reminds characters of the consequences of their actions.
3. Imaginary blood is even more important – blood becomes symbolic of guilt.
4. Eventually, bloody hands motif is linked to escalating madness.

# Flashcards - Let's have a go!

## Quotations to choose from:

- **ACC** - "solitary as an oyster" (*Scrooge*)
- **AIC** - "as if we were all mixed up like bees in a hive - community and all that nonsense" (*Mr Birling*)
- **Macbeth** - "'yet do I fear that thy nature, It is too full o' th' milk of human kindness'" (*Lady Macbeth*)

**Side 1 - State the text, character and quote**

**Side 2 - Provide bullet pointed inferences / connotations of key words**



# Building up a bank of 'killer quotes'!

## How can I identify killer quotes?

1. **Re-read the texts** and look out for anything that grabs your attention.
2. **Look back over your notes** from class - which quotations did your teacher spend ages going through?!
3. Scan through your list of quotes for the **key themes** from each text.
4. **Test out potential killer quotes** - tick it off against each theme. If you've got lots of ticks, you're in business!

- **Killer quotes** are versatile, powerful



# Building up a bank of 'killer quotes'!

Mr Birling:

**"A man has to mind his own business and look after himself and his own – and –' *We hear the sharp ring of a front door bell.*"**

Key theme	Good example?
Social responsibility	✓
Wealth and power	✓
Guilt and blame	✓
Gender inequality	✓
Generational differences	✗

**Meaning / inferences:** *Arrogant and ignorant character, who embodies the complacent selfishness of the capitalist system*

**Matched quotation:** *Match with: "community and all that nonsense"*

**Method:** *Symbolism of the doorbell - the inspector is the voice of socialism that pops Birling's ideological bubble. The Inspector will deliver the harsh truth!*

# BBC Bitesize

BBC GCSE Bitesize has very useful revision notes, flashcards, videos, quizzes and sample exam questions. It can be accessed via:

- Website
- App

**GCSE English Literature podcasts - Dickens' A Christmas Carol**  
Part of [English Literature](#) | [Podcasts](#)

[+ Add to My Bitesize](#)

**Jump to**

- [Bitesize and Sounds revision podcasts | Overview](#)
- [Episode 1 - Plot](#)
- [Episode 2 - Characters - Scrooge and Bob Cratchit](#)
- [Episode 3 - Characters - Ghosts of Christmas](#)
- [Episode 4 - Characters - Fred and Tiny Tim](#)

**Bitesize and Sounds revision podcasts | Overview**

Revise **GCSE English Literature** by listening to these podcasts from Bitesize and BBC Sounds.

**BBC Sounds** is where you can catch the latest music tracks, discover binge-worthy podcasts or listen to live radio, all in one place.

Listen on the BBC Sounds app when you're out and about, or listen at home as part of your revision.

Join hosts **Jean Marzias** and **Carl Anka** to get to grips with the **plot, characters and themes** from **A Christmas Carol**, as well as **key quotes** to use

**Macbeth**  
Part of [English Literature](#)

**Macbeth**

- Plot summary - AQA**  
Macbeth by William Shakespeare tells the story of one man's ambition and his pursuit of power as King of Scotland and his own inner conflict.
- Characters - AQA**  
Macbeth has a small cast of characters. Macbeth and his wife, Lady Macbeth, have the most roles and their ambition and eventual descent to try to take the throne.
- Themes - AQA**  
Macbeth introduces us to the struggle and supernatural world of medieval, Scottish Scotland. However, across of the themes that Shakespeare is highlighting are still relevant to the 21st century.
- Form, structure and language - AQA**  
Understanding how Shakespeare uses form, structure and language to help his plays can be tricky. Our articles could help you to revise and gain extra marks.

**EXAM**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zcbchv4>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxqncwx>

# Exam Equipment

**We advise students bring in to their English Language and English Literature exams:**

- Two or three black ink pens (non-smudge!).
- Three different colour highlighters for English Language to help pick out key parts of the question and quotations from the extracts. One highlighter for Literature.
- A watch for timekeeping – (although there will be clocks in the exam venue).
- A ruler if it helps to focus on reading.



# Useful Websites

## English Language on BBC Bitesize:

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zr9d7ty>

## English Literature on BBC Bitesize:

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zckw2hv>

## Massolit for short lectures on English Literature texts:

- <https://www.massolit.io/>

## You can access a full electronic copy of 'Macbeth' with a modern English translation via:

- [http://hibsenglish.weebly.com/uploads/7/2/3/6/7236232/macbeth\\_no\\_fear\\_script.pdf](http://hibsenglish.weebly.com/uploads/7/2/3/6/7236232/macbeth_no_fear_script.pdf)

## You can access a full electronic copy of 'A Christmas Carol' via:

- <http://www.iisbachelet.it/biblioteca/Jekyll.pdf>

YouTube has presentations on most of the poems, as well as the other Literature texts. They also have Language revision videos (Mr Bruff and Mr Salles are good)

## PMT has excellent revision resources for Literature:

- <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/english-revision/gcse-aqa/>





# The Final Countdown

**TEAM**  
**ENGLISH**

- Walking talking mock sessions in the Hall
- Full English mocks
- Easter revision session (more details to follow)
- Exam practice and revision in class
- Your own independent revision/ exam practice
- Home learning booklets
- Drop ins after school - ask us!
- Key reminders on the mornings of the exams



If your child feels that they need more information or extra support, please email:  
[lwills@torbridge.net](mailto:lwills@torbridge.net) (English KS4 Lead) or [clangmead@torbridge.net](mailto:clangmead@torbridge.net) (Head of English)