

Independent study tasks to support your English Language lessons

English Language Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (Section A – Reading)

- Make a vocabulary bank of key words that can be used to analyse structure (Q3) such as ‘zooms’, ‘develops’, ‘opening’, ‘chronological’, ‘focus’, ‘etc’
- Search ‘Mr Bruff’ on Youtube and watch his paper 1 videos for example:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GeLS4hgflzY>
- Take an extract from any piece of fiction, annotate it and write some responses about how the writer has used language and structure to interest you as a reader.
- Try to write your own exam questions based on the extract you used in the previous task.
- Ask your teacher for past papers to complete.
- Read the following document, made by AQA, which explains how Q3 is assessed and provides modelled answers with examiners annotations:
<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/AQA-87001-Q3-FI-HSA.PDF>

English Language Paper 2 - Writer’s Viewpoints and Perspectives (Section A – Reading)

- Find your own examples of non-fiction (for example newspaper articles or reviews) and try to write your own multiple choice question one. Ask someone to answer it and then mark their answer.
- Rewrite the assessment objectives in your own words and create your own mark scheme (ask your teacher for the information).
- Explain to somebody at home what the difference between language paper 1 and paper 2 is.
- Search for non-fiction Victorian writing online and read these to familiarise with this type of writing. Find the definitions of unfamiliar words.
- Ask your teacher for past papers to complete.
- Search ‘Mr Bruff’ on Youtube and watch his paper 1 videos for example:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJf5MGLEoiQ>



English Language Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (Section B – Writing)

- Find a selection of interesting images on the internet or capture them yourself (environments, animals etc). List five interesting adjectives, verbs and adverbs you could use in a piece of creative writing inspired by these pictures.
- Go to a public place and use your imagination to characterise passers-by, giving them names, jobs, backgrounds etc.
- Make a checklist of figurative language devices you could use in your writing such as metaphors, personification, pathetic fallacy etc.
- Find a piece of creative writings such as some travel writing from The Telegraph newspaper. Highlight fifteen interesting words in this piece and then have a go at using these words in your own piece of writing of a different subject matter.
- Pause the TV or a film and use this as a frozen image. Imagine you have stepped into the screen and describe your surroundings.
- Eat your dinner slowly and jot down how you would describe what you’re eating using the five senses.
- Download a word of the day app on your phone and learn a new word each morning or night.
- Revise your knowledge of colons and semi-colons and then try to include them in your writing. BBC Bitesize is particularly useful for this.

English Language Paper 2 - Writer’s Viewpoints and Perspectives (Section B – Writing)

- Read some broadsheet newspaper articles (The Guardian, The Independent, The Times etc) in order to familiarise yourself with a formal writing style.
- Draw out and label what a formal letter should like like (eg where does the sender’s address go etc).
- Sum up your line of argument in response to a statement in 50 words or fewer.
- Try to write your own debate statements for your peers to use.
- Make a poster on persuasive devices (AFOREST etc) with examples for each.
- Watch examples of speeches on YouTube and write down the speaker’s examples of persuasive devices (for example:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vDWWy4CMhE&t=31s>
- After watching a speech, try to write your own speech which follows the opposite line of argument. Make sure you proof-read this afterwards.

Revision Guides:

- **SNAP** – available from the school shop
- **CGP Guide:** https://www.amazon.co.uk/English-Language-Complete-Revision-Practice-ebook/dp/B0115B9WCW/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1506327934&sr=8-1&keywords=aqa+language+9-1
- **SPaG Revision CGP:** https://www.amazon.co.uk/Spelling-Punctuation-Grammar-Complete-Practice-ebook/dp/B01N5FRU78/ref=sr_1_3?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&qid=1506328110&sr=1-3&keywords=cgp+spag

Independent study tasks to support your English Literature lessons

English Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel

- Divide an A3 sheet into six boxes. Put the name of a character in a box and list three important quotations about that character. Do the same for themes. Alternatively you could create flashcards. Look at these each morning/night and ask someone at home to test you regularly.
- Create a mind-map of all of the important themes in the play/novel.
- Create a contextual timeline which details any historical information which is relevant to the play.
- Read the 'No Fear Shakespeare' (modern translation) version of the play you are studying on sparknotes.com.
- Complete past papers. Once you've done this, go back through your work and highlight where you have used all of the assessment objectives in different colours.
- Rewrite the assessment objectives and mark scheme in your own words.
- Keep a log of chapter/scene summaries.
- Take the text that you are studying, open it to a random page, pick three quotations, write them down and annotate around them, picking out language devices and analysing specific words.
- Make a list of similarities and differences between the way audience members or readers respond now compared to when the text was first written or performed and explain why.
- Get a copy of the text you are studying, re-read this and annotate it as you go through.
- Find an extract from the text and write your own exam questions.
- Watch film adaptations of the play/novel to refresh your understanding of the plot (recommended by your teacher).

English Literature Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry (Section A – Anthology Poems)

- Make six flashcards for each poem. On each card write down one quotation. On the back of the cards write down the names of the poets, notes about form and structure and contextual points.
- Read one of the anthology poems each night before you go to sleep.
- Complete the example questions and quizzes on lesson store.
- Make a link web where you draw lines to match up poems. Write how the poems are linked along the line.
- For every poem, decide which poem you would compare it to in the exam and write three points you could make.
- Ask someone to read out random quotations from the anthology and identify the poem to which they belong.
- Rewrite the assessment objectives and mark scheme in your own words.
- Create mind-maps of multiple interpretations of the poems.

English Literature Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry (Section B – Unseen Poems)

- Pick a poem from the first part of your anthology, the 'Power and Conflict' cluster, and give yourself fifteen minutes to analyse it, making as many annotations as you can. Next, pick another poem and try to write a response which compares how the two poets have presented love. When you're done, highlight where you have met the assessment objectives. Make sure you do not write about the 'Love and Relationships' cluster in the exam.
- Memorise FLIRT (form, language, imagery, rhyme & rhythm, tone & themes) as a tool to help you annotate and analyse a range of techniques.
- Create a checklist of poetic techniques to look out for. Try to memorise this so that you can think of it in your exam.

English Literature Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry (Section C – *An Inspector Calls*)

- Pick out five important stage directions in the play and explain why they are important.
- Create quotation banks/flash cards in the same way that you did for the texts in Paper 1.
- Make a contextual timeline which contains details about what life was like in Britain between 1912 and 1945. Next, add some examples of where this context is relevant to the play.
- Try to write your own definition of and explain the difference between Socialism and Capitalism to people at home.
- Mind –map the key themes and add notes about where this can be seen in the play.
- Write a plot summary for each act in the play.
- Make a paper chain which represents a 'chain of events' leading to Eva Smith's suicide. Use one link for each member of the Birling family and Gerald and write down how they were involved in Eva Smith's life.
- Research the form of the play (morality play, detective etc).
- Complete past papers.
- Re-read the text and watch the BBC adaptation of the play at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zz1GS5ufg4>

Revision Guides and Websites:

- **CGP** and **York Notes** Guides for all of the plays, novels and the 'Power and Conflict' poems are available on amazon.co.uk.
- **BBC Bitesize:** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/examspecs/zxqncwx>
- **Sparknotes:** <http://www.sparknotes.com/>