

What do students study in Year 10 for their English Language and English Literature GCSEs?

When?	What?	How can parents support at home?
1 - Half term until October	<p>Students will begin to study Charles Dickens' <i>A Christmas Carol</i> in preparation for Paper 1 of their English Literature exam. They will cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the plot; the context of Victorian London; how the characters are created, described and developed; identify the themes within the novel; analyse and evaluate the presentation and development of the themes; how to analyse a passage of the text in specific detail and make links to the rest of the novel. Formal assessment point 1 – essay asking students to analyse an extract from <i>A Christmas Carol</i> and link that to the rest of the novel. <p><i>Once a week students will have a lesson focused specifically on approaching unseen fiction from the 19th, 20th and 21st century to prepare them for Paper 1 Section A of their English Language exam. Skills include: reading strategies; decoding the meaning of unfamiliar language; identifying and selecting key information and quotations; making inferences; analysing the writer's use of language and structure and evaluating a text.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage students to read a range of fiction and non-fiction from the 19th, 20th, and 21st century. <i>Short stories are a good way in if you are sensing reluctance!</i> Students are issued with reading lists to accompany each main unit of work – please encourage them to attempt some of the texts. Encourage students to broaden their vocabulary by playing word games! It is helpful if students remember some key quotes for this exam so develop their memory skills by helping them to memorise key quotations. Watch one of the many versions of <i>A Christmas Carol</i> and talk about it! Read <i>A Christmas Carol</i> and read it again and again! Ensure the core texts are fully read. Purchase and use revision guides recommended by the English Department – a letter home will provide more details. The texts will be studied for 2 years so you might want to save this one for Year 11. Proof read your child's homework ensuring accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar at all times.
2 – Half term until Christmas	<p>Students will continue studying Charles Dickens' <i>A Christmas Carol</i> in preparation for Paper 1 of their English Literature exam. They will also prepare for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal assessment point 2 - essay asking students to analyse an extract from <i>A Christmas Carol</i> and link that to the rest of the novel. <p>Students will develop their creative writing skills and focus specifically on viewpoint writing (writing to argue and persuade) to prepare them for Paper 2 Section B of their English Language exam. Skills include: using and crafting stylist features for effect; <i>varying vocabulary; manipulating sentence structures; accurate spelling; employing a range of accurate punctuation for effect, etc.</i></p> <p><i>Once a week students will have a lesson focused specifically on approaching unseen fiction from the 19th, 20th and 21st century to prepare them for Paper 1 Section A of their English Language exam. Skills include: reading strategies; decoding the meaning of unfamiliar language; identifying and selecting key information and quotations; making inferences; analysing the writer's use of language and structure and evaluating a text.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help to ensure homework is completed and submitted by the deadline. Follow the English department on twitter @WillinkEnglish Download the PIXL English app (ask your teachers about this!) <p>Websites that may be useful:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.sparknotes.com http://www.shmoop.com/christmas-carol/ http://www.universalteacher.org.uk/prose/achristmascarol.htm http://www.novelguide.com/a-christmas-carol (you need to register first) http://www.litcharts.com/lit/a-christmas-carol http://freerice.com/#/english-vocabulary/1520 https://www.vocabulary.co.il/ http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zr9d7ty <p>DVD versions (teachers will use a variety for teaching purposes, but please watch again. The more that students are aware of the plot, the better prepared they will be for their exam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2010 <i>A Christmas Carol</i> (Disney version) 1984 <i>A Christmas Carol</i> The Muppet Christmas Carol

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3 – Jan until Feb half term	<p>Students will revise the poems in the power and conflict cluster previously studied at the end of Year 9 (London, Ozymandias, Bayonet Charge, Charge of the Light Brigade, Checking Out Me History, Poppies, My Last Duchess and Kamikaze) and will then study the remaining six poems in the cluster, making links between all poems covered. Students will learn how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise poetry previously studied; • Understand the poems’ narratives; • Analyse how language and structural choices contribute to the poem; • Consider how a poem’s social and historical context can affect the meaning; • Make links and comparisons between the other poems in the cluster. • Formal assessment point 3 – Literature mock Paper 2 Section B. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage reading of fiction and non-fiction. <i>Short stories are a good way in if you are sensing reluctance!</i> • Create flashcards with quotations and themes to help students remember these for their exam. • Ensure the core texts are fully read. • Discuss the poems together to generate further ideas. • Purchase and use revision guides recommended by the English Department – a letter home will provide more details. The texts will be studied for 2 years so you might want to save this one for Year 11. • Proof read your child’s homework ensuring accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar at all times. • Help to ensure homework is completed and submitted by the deadline. • Follow the English department on twitter @WillinkEnglish • Download the PIXL English app (ask your teachers about this!)
	<p>Once a week students will have a lesson focused specifically on approaching unseen poetry. They will learn how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach an unseen poem • Analyse the language, structural choices used by the poet • Compare two unseen poems • Formal assessment point 3 – Literature mock Paper 2 Section C. 	
4 – After feb half term until Easter	<p>Students will begin to study William Golding’s Lord of the Flies in preparation for Paper 2 Section A of their English Literature exam. They will study the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the plot; • the context of adventure stories and World War II; • how the characters are created, described and developed; • identify the themes within the novel; • analyse and evaluate the presentation and development of the themes; • Formal assessment point 4 – traditional essay question asking students to discuss or explore the significance of a theme, character or idea in the novel. 	<p>Websites that may be useful:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.sparknotes.com • http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zckw2hv • http://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/collection-items • http://www.yorknotes.com/gcse/lord-of-the-flies/revision-cards/01_themes • http://www.litcharts.com/lit/lord-of-the-flies • http://www.shmoop.com/lord-of-the-flies/ • http://freerice.com/#/english-vocabulary/1520 • https://www.vocabulary.co.il/ • https://wildernenglish.wordpress.com/2012/04/03/five-steps-to-analysing-an-unseen-poem/ • http://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/anthology/
	<p>Once a week students will have a lesson focused specifically on approaching unseen non-fiction from the 19th, 20th and 21st century to prepare them for Paper 2 Section A of their English Language exam. Skills include: reading strategies; decoding the meaning of unfamiliar language; identifying and selecting key information and quotations; making inferences; analysing the writer’s use of language and structure; summarising texts and evaluating a text.</p>	

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5 – After Easter until May half term	<p>Students will continue studying William Golding’s <i>Lord of the Flies</i> in preparation for Paper 2 Section A of their English Literature exam. They will also prepare for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal assessment point 5 – Literature mock Paper 2 Section A. <p><i>Students will begin preparation for a Language Paper 2 mock, including the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Section A: Analysing and comparing writers’ viewpoints and perspectives in unseen non-fiction from 19th century and/or 20th and 21st century.</i> • <i>Section B: Writing to present a viewpoint (Writing to argue or persuade)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage reading of fiction and non-fiction. <i>Short stories are a good way in if you are sensing reluctance!</i> • When students are practising essays ensure they are in timed conditions. • Watch documentaries about life in Britain during the 19th and 20th century to further understanding of the conditions. • Ensure the core texts are fully read. • Purchase and use revision guides recommended by the English Department – a letter home will provide more details. The texts will be studied for 2 years so you might want to save this one for Year 11. • Proof read your child’s homework ensuring accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar at all times. • Help to ensure homework is completed and submitted by the deadline. • Follow the English department on twitter @WillinkEnglish • Download the PIXL English app (ask your teachers about this!) <p>Websites that may be useful:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.sparknotes.com • http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zckw2hv • http://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/collection-items • http://www.yorknotes.com/gcse/lord-of-the-flies/revision-cards/01_themes • http://www.litcharts.com/lit/lord-of-the-flies • http://www.shmoop.com/lord-of-the-flies/ • http://freerice.com/#/english-vocabulary/1520 • https://www.vocabulary.co.il/ • http://www.bl.uk/20th-century-literature
6 – After May half term until the summer break	<p><i>Students will continue preparation, and take a Language Paper 2 mock, including the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Section A: Analysing and comparing writers’ viewpoints and perspectives in unseen non-fiction from 19th century and/or 20th and 21st century.</i> <p><i>Section B: Writing to present a viewpoint (Writing to argue or persuade)</i></p> <p><i>Students will finish Year 10 by researching and preparing a short (3-5min) presentation on a topic of their choice. They will need to present their ideas to their peers and then respond to questions asked by the audience (3-5 mins). This component does not contribute explicitly to students’ GCSE qualifications; however it is formally endorsed by the exam board and will appear as a pass, merit or distinction on their final certificate of results. Previously topics have included: perception of colour; The placebo effect; cruelty in horse racing; violence in video games; the pressure that school brings; too much homework, etc.</i></p>	

GCSE English Language & Literature Texts

Please find below a list of core texts required for the GCSE English Language and Literature course, as well recommended revision guides and workbooks for independent study.

	Yr10	Yr11
Core texts*	<p>A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens (Wordsworth edition ISBN: 9781853261213)</p> <p>Poetry anthology (Free from the exam board – school will provide)</p> <p>Lord of the Flies (Faber edition ISBN: 9780571191475)</p>	<p>Macbeth (Oxford School Shakespeare ISBN: 9780198324003)</p>
Revision guides		<p>Literature:</p> <p>CGP AQA Anthology of Poetry Power and Conflict. ISBN:9781782943617</p> <p>CGP AQA Unseen Poetry ISBN: 9781782943648</p> <p>CGP Macbeth ISBN: 9781841461205</p> <p>CGP Lord of the Flies ISBN: 9781847620224</p> <p>CGP A Christmas Carol ISBN: 9781782943099</p> <p>Language:</p> <p>CGP GCSE AQA English Language (for the grade 1-9 course) The Revision Guide ISBN 9781782943693</p> <p>CGP GCSE AQA English Language (for the grade 1-9 course) The Workbook ISBN 9781782943709</p>
Workbooks	<p>If students are eager to complete further work at home on their set texts, the following student books (endorsed by AQA) provide a range of information and tasks that can be completed independently.</p> <p>Cambridge Brighter Thinking series (AQA approved): Macbeth (ISBN: 9781107453951) A Christmas Carol (ISBN: 9781316504604) Poetry (ISBN: 9781107454712)</p>	

*Core texts - Students are required to obtain these core texts to allow them to annotate freely throughout the GCSE course. Copies are available from www.amazon.co.uk or we will be sending letters periodically throughout the year offering the chance to purchase copies centrally from the department. We are usually able to offer texts at a slightly more competitive rate.

Revision guides – We recommend the CGP revision guides, however other versions are available. Letters will be sent home in Year 11 offering the chance to purchase copies centrally from the department. We are usually able to offer texts at a slightly more competitive rate.