



**AVANTI HOUSE**

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# GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

## AN INTRODUCTION AND COURSE OVERVIEW FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS

This booklet is for parents and students in Year 9 to read.

### GCSE Curriculum Map 2019-20

#### Year 10

Half-Term 1 (Sep-Oct)	Half-Term 2 (Nov-Dec)	Half-Term 3 (Jan-Feb)	Half-Term 4 (Feb-March)	Half-Term 5 (April-May)	Half-Term 6 (Jun-July)
GCSE English Language	GCSE English Literature	GCSE English Language	GCSE English Literature	GCSE English Literature	GCSE English Literature
Paper 1	Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 2
Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens	Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare	'An Inspector Calls' by J.B. Priestley	AQA Poetry Anthology: 'Love and Relationships'

### GCSE Curriculum Map 2020-21

#### Year 11

Half-Term 1 (Sep-Oct)	Half-Term 2 (Nov-Dec)	Half-Term 3 (Jan-Feb)	Half-Term 4 (Feb-March)	Half-Term 5 (April-May)	Half-Term 6 (Jun-July)
revision	revision	revision	revision	revision	revision

**Please note summer homework for students is on the last page.**

# GCSE English Language

Exam board: AQA  
The Examinations

Paper 1 English Language	Paper 2 English Language
<b>Exam Title:</b> <i>'Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing'</i>	<b>Exam Title:</b> <i>'Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives'</i>
<b>Duration:</b> 1 hour and 45 minutes	<b>Duration:</b> 1 hour and 45 minutes
<b>Exam Weighting:</b> 50%	<b>Exam Weighting:</b> 50%
<b>Section A: Reading</b> <b>Question 1:</b> List 4 things (4) <b>Question 2:</b> Analyse language (8) <b>Question 3:</b> Analyse structure (8) <b>Question 4:</b> Evaluate a given statement (20)	<b>Section A: Reading</b> <b>Question 1:</b> Identify 4 true statements (4) <b>Question 2:</b> Synthesise and infer (8) <b>Question 3:</b> Analyse language (12) <b>Question 4:</b> Compare writers' viewpoints & methods (16)
<b>Section B: Writing</b> <b>Question 5:</b> Writing to describe or narrate (40)	<b>Section B: Writing</b> <b>Question 5</b> Writing to explain/argue/persuade your view. (40)
<b>Total marks available:</b> 80	<b>Total marks available:</b> 80

## The Language Assessment Objectives

AOs	Skills you must demonstrate in your responses (what the examiner is looking for).
A01	Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas and select and synthesise evidence from different texts.
A02	Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support their views.
A03	Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts.
A04	Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references.
A05	Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences. Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts.
A06	Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

# GCSE English Literature

The Examinations Exam board: AQA	
Paper 1 English Literature	Paper 2 English Literature
<b>Exam Title:</b> <i>'Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel'</i>	<b>Exam Title:</b> <i>'Modern Texts and Poetry'</i>
<b>Duration:</b> 1 hour and 45 minutes	<b>Duration:</b> 2 hours and 15 minutes
<b>Exam Weighting:</b> 40%	<b>Exam Weighting:</b> 60%
<b>Section A</b> Shakespeare: 'Macbeth' Students will be given an extract from the play and a question based on this extract- they must also make links to the play as a whole in their response.	<b>Section A:</b> An essay style question based on 'An Inspector Calls'.
<b>Section B:</b> 'A Christmas Carol' Students will be given an extract from the novel and be expected to answer an essay style question based on the extract- they must also make links to the novel as a whole.	<b>Section B:</b> The poetry anthology question. Students will be given a question based on 1 of the 15 poems, they must then compare the poem to another out of the 15.
	<b>Section C:</b> Students will be required to compare and analyse two unseen poems.
<b>Total marks available:</b> 64	<b>Total marks available:</b> 96

## The literature assessment objectives

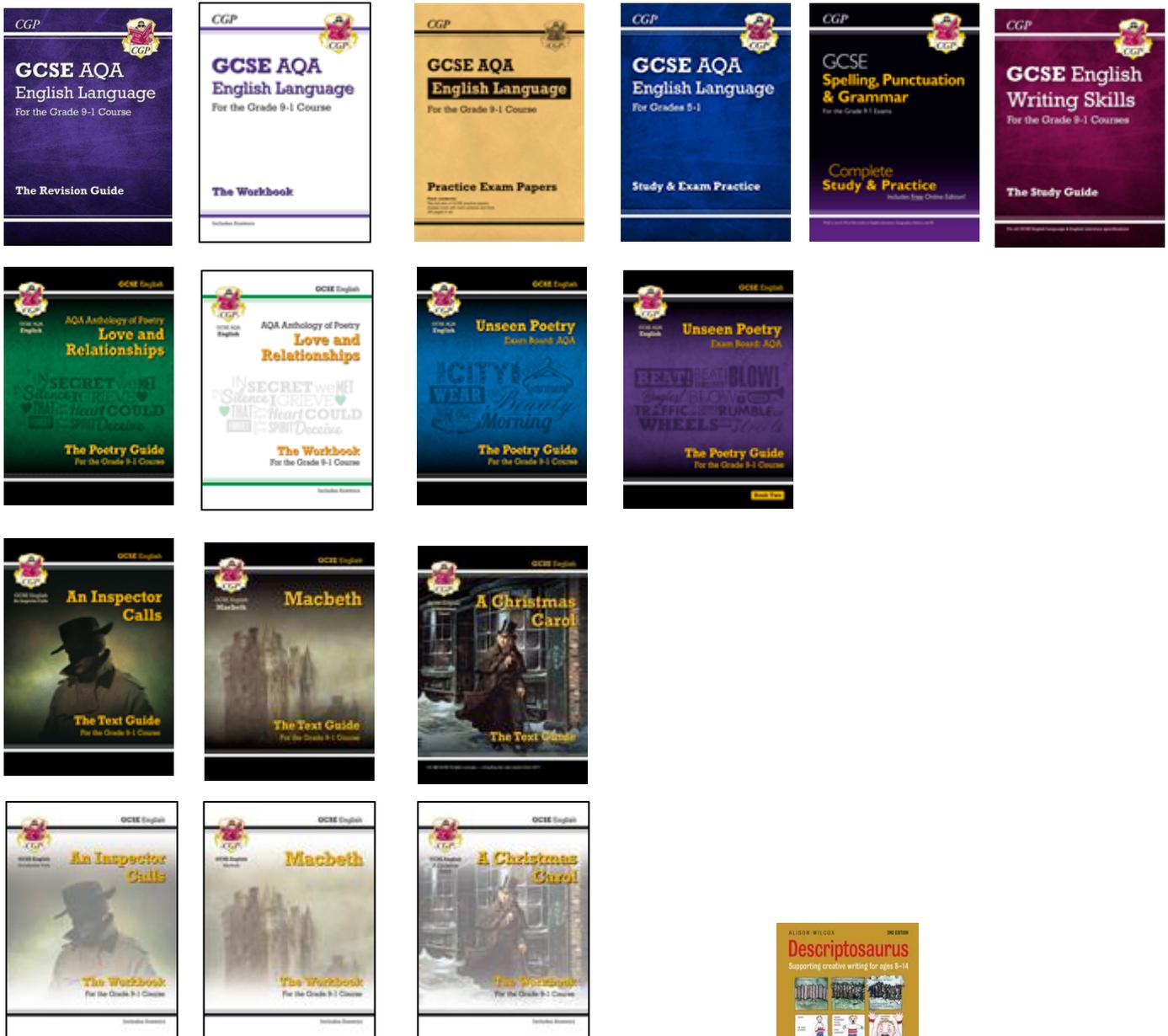
AOs	Skills you must demonstrate in your responses (what the examiner is looking for).
A01	Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response</li> <li>• use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.</li> </ul>
A02	Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.
A03	Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.
A04	Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

## Revision resources:

You do not need to buy any texts as we will give you PDF versions of the literature we study.

It may be useful for you to instead spend your money on buying revision guides to support your learning. If you do buy any of the following books, do not let them collect dust in your bedroom! Use them- from the first page to the last, they hold a wealth of information.

Here are some CGP books you may wish to purchase to support your learning at home:



Any version of Descriptosaurus will also be incredibly useful for you to purchase.

The following websites will also be incredibly useful for you to help you with your

revision:

- Spark Notes
- BBC Bitesize
- Seneca Learning
- The following YouTubers also have fantastic videos on all the texts we are studying- watch their videos and make your own notes: Mr Bruff and Stacey Rae

# Getting Ahead! Summer 2019 Homework Options

**You must choose a minimum of two to complete- but why not challenge yourself to do as many as possible?**

Start working as you mean to go on. Summer 2019 can be a great time for you to prepare and get ahead of everyone else; reward points will be given for evidence of any work you have completed from the list below- you must show your teacher the evidence. Here are a range of things you could do:

- As all of the literature texts we are going to study are written by English writers they are texts which are steeped in biblical references; read a children's version of the bible yourself, this way your understanding of the texts will be deepened as you may be able to make links and pick up hidden meanings that others do not appreciate- this in result will make your understanding of the literature we study more perceptive.
- Read 'Macbeth' (read the modern-day version- you can find this on the Spark Notes website)
- Visit the Globe theatre to learn more about Shakespeare.
- Read 'An Inspector Calls'
- Read 'A Christmas Carol'
- Watch the film 'A Christmas Carol'
- Study one of your literature texts (use the next page to help you).
- Familiarise yourself with the context (time it was written), plot, characters and themes in each of these literature texts, so you are ahead of everyone before even starting the course!
- Watch Mr Bruff videos on the themes in the literature texts.
- Start reading and working through the CGP language guides.
- Research how to write a literature essay.
- Revise word classes in the English language e.g.: noun, adjective etc.
- Revise the function of each punctuation mark- for GCSE English language you are awarded 16 extra marks for technical accuracy- these skills are key.
- Keep a diary of new words you learn- challenge yourself to add one new word a day.
- Research symbolism of trees, flowers, plants, birds and colours in literature.
- Read opinion pieces from the Guardian newspaper- this allows you to look at quality examples of how writers express their opinions.
- Watch a range of documentaries about subjects you know little or nothing about- build your general knowledge.
- Watch a TED Talk of your choice.
- Read articles based on the following topic: environment, role models, social media, healthy living and school education- think about what the writers' opinions are on these topics and which techniques they use to express themselves. Try and read one article a day.
- Revise key writing related topics for the language papers e.g.: descriptive writing, narrative writing and writing to argue/persuade; learn key techniques you could be using for each of these purposes.
- Write a story.
- Read as many of the winning stories as possible from the BBC 500 words short story website; a good reader makes a good writer.
- Read an autobiography of someone you admire.
- The 'Zanetti challenge'

**YOU HAVE 24 HOURS IN A DAY; YOU MUST USE YOUR TIME WISELY.**

**TO AVOID 'SUMMER BRAIN DRAIN' AND EXERCISE YOUR BRAIN MUSCLE, YOU MUST ENDEAVOUR TO STUDY AND STIMULATE YOUR MIND AT LEAST 3-4 HOURS A DAY.**

## How to study a literature text independently:

There are two key questions we must answer when studying any work of literature:

<p>1. <b>What</b> are the writer's key ideas within the text?</p>	<p>When we study a work of literature, we must remember the story is not real; the characters are not real; the writer is simply using the medium of their story to convey a message of their own. So you must look at the text from the outside and as a critic.</p>
<p>2. <b>How</b> does the writer communicate their ideas to the reader?</p>	<p>Which methods does the writer use? A method, is any deliberate choice the writer has made e.g.: language, structure, a specific character, motif, setting etc.</p>

<p><b>Research the context</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Remember that no text is written in isolation; each text we study is a product of its time. Carry out your own research on the time period the text was written and make notes.</li> <li>○Research the following contexts of the text: personal (the writer's life), historical, political and cultural e.g.: important attitudes and beliefs in society at that time.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Read the play/ novel</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Break it down and maybe read one chapter or act a day.</li> <li>○Use audible or a YouTube audio recording if you want to listen to the play/ novel while you read it.</li> <li>○Ensure you have an excellent understanding of plot- it may help to read summaries of the story online first.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Make notes on characters</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Study the characters:</li> <li>○Who are the main characters?</li> <li>○Who are the minor characters?</li> <li>○How are they introduced at the beginning?</li> <li>○Do they change? Track any significant changes.</li> <li>○What is the key purpose of each character- what is the writer possibly teaching us through using this character?</li> <li>○Read an analysis of each character online.</li> <li>○Watch a YouTube character analysis of each character.</li> <li>○Make a bank of key quotations for each character.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Make notes on themes</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Use revision guides and books to research some of the key themes in the text.</li> <li>○Make notes on <b>what</b> the writer is saying about this theme and <b>how</b> they are conveying their message.</li> <li>○Create a bank of key quotations for each theme.</li> </ul>

When revising a novel, you must read around it as much as possible; we do not study texts for their simplicity, but for the richness of their possibilities and interpretations. There is no 'wrong' answer when studying literature, only a multitude of right ones. Reading what others say about the text and characters is a way of building your own knowledge and understanding. Revising in literature is not about answering exam question, but about deepening your knowledge- the only way to do this is to read as much as possible and create your own notes.

## **Optional homework for GCSE English Language: 'The Zanetti Challenge'**

Although this homework is optional, it is **highly** recommended; you're a smart cookie if you choose to do it 😊

This homework is designed to support you with the GCSE Language Paper 2 (Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives). By completing this homework, you will improve:

- Your understanding of different non-fiction text features, particularly newspapers.
  - Your knowledge of current affairs, and your 'cultural capital' – your wider knowledge of the world and culture
  - Your active vocabulary – that you can apply in your own writing
  - Your writing skills
1. Select a current affairs issue that you are interested in e.g. Brexit, the US Primaries, women in sport, corruption in football, racism in sport, Climate change, ethical fashion etc.
  2. During the holidays, follow the issue, reading as much as you can. Set up Google alerts, maybe join Twitter and follow commentators or experts, search for blogs, news articles and opinion pieces.
  3. Keep a log of what you read, incl. Writer, publication/website, date and title. Summarise the views or main points in the article in no more than 5 sentences. In your summary, identify the viewpoint and the tone
  4. Keep a log of new or sophisticated vocabulary you come across. Record the definition and synonyms (I suggest you use the English language learner dictionary) <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/learner-english/>
  5. Record how many times you notice this new vocabulary
  6. Make a conscious effort to use the vocabulary in written work including your summaries
  7. Read The Guardian Letters editor's guide to getting your letter published. <https://www.theguardian.com/membership/2017/aug/19/letters-editor-how-to-write>
  8. Toward the end of the holidays, write a letter to the editor of a broadsheet newspaper of your choice, expressing your viewpoint. Send it to the newspaper and try to get it published. **If you are successful, we will give you a very impressive prize.** If you apply the new vocabulary you have learned accurately, you will receive a reward point for each new word you use.

You may wish to use the templates in this document to record your reading and vocabulary or use a notebook or app on your phone.

Here is a list of some websites that provide news and commentary. Some may have several free articles you can read before there is a 'paywall' – essentially a subscription service:

<b>BBC News</b>	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/news">https://www.bbc.co.uk/news</a>
<b>The Conversation</b>	<a href="http://theconversation.com/uk">http://theconversation.com/uk</a>
<b>The Guardian</b>	<a href="https://www.theguardian.com/uk">https://www.theguardian.com/uk</a>
<b>Huffington Post</b>	<a href="https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/">https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/</a>
<b>The Independent</b>	<a href="https://www.independent.co.uk/">https://www.independent.co.uk/</a>
<b>The New York Times</b>	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/">https://www.nytimes.com/</a>
<b>'Arts and Letters Daily'</b>	<a href="https://www.aldaily.com/">https://www.aldaily.com/</a>
<b>The Telegraph</b>	<a href="https://www.telegraph.co.uk/">https://www.telegraph.co.uk/</a>
<b>The Times</b>	<a href="https://www.thetimes.co.uk/">https://www.thetimes.co.uk/</a>

# Compulsory summer homework

## 1. Complete the BBC 500 words short story record.

- This will be on Show my Homework.
- You will be reading 44 of the winning stories and *evaluating* each story.
- This record must be handed to your teacher in your first English lesson in Year 10.
- You can type your notes straight into the record or write by hand.

## 2. Read the 'Allusions booklet' and complete the questions on page 24 and 25.

## 3. Complete two of the options from the homework options.

Please start Year 10 organised; for your first English lesson, you must bring in homework number 1 and 2 and evidence of homework number 3.

- Due date: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019