

The Course

English Language

Paper 1 (1 hour, 45 minutes)	Paper 2 (2 hours)
<p>Section A: Reading 20th century fiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read one extract - Answer five reading questions <p>Section B: Creative prose writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produce one short story 	<p>Section A: Reading 19th and 21st century non-fiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read two extracts - Answer six reading questions <p>Section B: Non-fiction/transactional writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produce two pieces of non-fiction writing (e.g. a letter and a review)

English Literature

Paper 1 (2 hours)	Paper 2 (2½ hours)
<p>Section A: Othello</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 minute 'extract' question - 40 minute essay <p>Section B: Poetry anthology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 minute response to a single poem - 40 minute comparison 	<p>Section A: An Inspector Calls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 45 minute 'exploding extract' question <p>Section B: A Christmas Carol</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 45 minute 'exploding extract' question <p>Section C: Unseen poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 minute response to a single poem - 40 minute comparison

Speaking and Listening

- Is an important component of the course that all students are required to take – now reported separately.
 - Undertaken during the two years.
 - The task is now one 3-5 minute presentation, followed by a brief Q&A session from the class.
 - These are recorded and moderated by the exam board.
 - It is an **endorsed** unit – they receive a pass, merit or distinction.

Why start now?

By the end of Year 11, students must be able to:

- read fluently and engage with a broad vocabulary in fiction and non-fiction texts ranging from the 19th century to present day;
- efficiently answer up to six different comprehension questions including the skills of inference, analysis and evaluation;
- write effectively for a variety of audiences and purposes, on different topics and in differing formats, including letters, reviews, leaflets, speeches, report and articles;
- write imaginatively and concisely in a story-based task;
- show understanding of the plot, characters, quotes, themes and other relevant knowledge for *An Inspector Calls*;
- show understanding of the plots, characters, quotes, themes, context and other relevant knowledge for *A Christmas Carol*;
- show understanding of the plot, characters, quotes, themes and other relevant knowledge of *Othello*;
- show understanding of the ideas, images, themes, quotes, contexts and other relevant knowledge for each of 18 poems from the anthology;
- employ a range of skills to read ‘unseen poems’ with confidence;
- write convincingly in a critical ‘essay’ style, including skills of exploration, analysis and comparison for five different literature question types.
- do all of the above in the pressure of timed, ‘closed book’ conditions.

This needs resilience.

Tips for Success



- Reading skills – please encourage your child to:
 - Read widely
 - quality newspapers, letters, pamphlets, information / non-fiction texts as well as quality literature
 - Have a wide knowledge of world affairs to aid understanding of texts
 - Watch the news, documentaries or historical programmes

Tips for Success

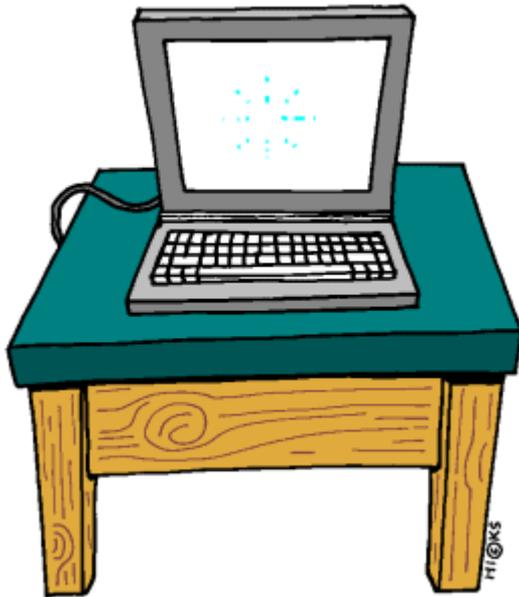


- Communication skills – encourage your child to:
 - Discuss what they are learning in school
 - Give their ideas, views and opinions in detail
 - Respond to, or empathise with, the ideas of others
 - Argue their point of view
 - Use a dictionary and thesaurus at home when writing homework (a phone is usually their first port of call and why not?!).

Independent Study

- **Somewhere quiet at home for revision.**
- **Learning Resource Centre**
 - Books, newspapers, DVDs etc (and they can order in resources especially!)
- **Virtual Learning Environment**
 - *SAM Learning* is accessible from home and contains resources / activities / revision aids – our exam board is Eduqas.
 - *Seneca Learning* is also a valuable resource – students can create their own login for free and there are a range of valuable resources.
 - *GCSE Pod (when launched)*

Independent Study



- **Internet**

Free guides available online at:

- Sparknotes
- Schmoop
- BBC Bitesize
- BBC Skilswise - good for grammar
- LitCharts - good for challenge and stretch
- Mr Bruff on YouTube

- **Support Texts**

- Critical guides (CGP, York Notes) available for most Literature texts from Waterstones, WH Smith Amazon (second hand is fine!).

Any questions?