

How do
you revise
for English?



The secret
to getting
ahead is
getting
started

Use the English guide to help you break down what seems like an enormous amount of work into smaller tasks.

Month	Week commencing	Teaching week number
Feb	19/2	1
	26/2	2
March	5/3	3
	12/3	4
	19/3	5
	26/3	6
April	2/4	-
	9/4	-
	16/4	7
	23/4	8
	30/4	9
May	7/5	10
	14/5	11
	21/5	Exams begin
The main body of revision work should be done by now		

study

(verb)

Whatever you are doing, do it properly for a set amount of time. Turn off TV, put away phones/tablets, move away from your laptop.

Try and make your revision **active** rather than **passive**:

- **Make** quizlets
- **Create** revision cards based on notes and reading revision websites e.g. BBC Bitesize, Schmoop etc
- **Complete** your CC work book
- **Condense** notes about a character or a theme from exercise book onto A3 paper then from A3 paper onto on A4 piece of paper.
- Read articles and **jot down** ideas in the margin
- Make plans
- **Write** essays
- Create mindmaps
- **Stick up** post-its!

Romeo and
Juliet are
described as....?

'star-tied
lovers'

'star-
crossed
lovers'

'moon-
crossed
lovers'

'tongue-
tied
lovers'

'I have bought
the mansion of
a love, but not
yet _____ it'

experienced

owned

enjoyed

possessed

Scrooge is 'as
_____ as
an oyster'

Get your quizlets made now and test yourself, test each other, ask family to test you... They will be burned on your brain by the time of the exam!

Revision is **in addition** to homework, not instead of it!

Your class teacher will set you work that is part of your revision. You must do this as well as any additional revision.

It may seem like you are spending more time on English than other subjects but remember, they are two separate GCSE exams. Plus, every hour you spend on this core subject could mean another door opening for you next year. Helps in all subjects and you need it!



“If you do what
you’ve always
done, you’ll get
what you always
get.”

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel



Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

What's assessed

- [Shakespeare](#) *Romeo and Juliet*
- [The 19th-century novel](#) *Alice's Adventures*

What's assessed

- *Curious Incident*
- *Relationships cluster*

How it's assessed

- written exam: 1 hour
- 64 marks
- 40% of GCSE

Questions

Section A Shakespeare

Students will answer one question on their play. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B The 19th-century novel: Students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Literature Exam

Students will answer one question on one named poem from the anthology cluster.

Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

For each of the set texts complete this chart now, in April and just before the exams. Have you moved into the green area for every statement?

Statement	Red	Amber	Green
I am confident with the plot of the book/play			
I can describe the main characters using key adjectives			
I am confident about the main themes in the book/play			
I know some key quotations			
I can comment on structural features in the book/play			
I can make several links to context			
I can talk about language features used by the author and the effect they have			
I know what the author is trying to 'say' about the world with this text			

First step - re-read the texts!



- Remember, you need to be able to talk about the whole text in your responses and you won't have the books with you.
- Listen to the audio version if there is one. Play it when you are in the car, in bed, on the bus...

Component 1: Fiction and Imaginative Writing	
	*Paper code: 1EN0/01
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability: May/June and November** First assessed Assessed The total The read a theme. 	40% of the total GCSE
Section A – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The length There will be an extract. 	0 words. the
Section B – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing to respond to the theme One of the writing tasks will provide two images that students can use to help them generate ideas for their writing. Students can write a response that draws on just one or neither of the images. 	spects of

Language Exam

We advise you to complete section B, the writing task, first.

Component 2: Non-fiction and Transactional Writing

*Paper code: 1EN0/02

- Availability: May/June and November**
- First assessment: May/June 2017
- Assessed through a 2 hour examination.
- The total number of marks available is 96.
- The reading and writing sections on this paper will be linked by a theme.

60% of the
total GCSE

Section A – Reading

- Two unseen non-fiction extracts, from 20th- and 21st-century texts. One of these texts will be literary non-fiction.
- The word count across the two extracts will be approximately 1000 words. The minimum length of an extract will be 300 words.
- Questions will be on Text 1, followed by Text 2. There will be a mixture of short and extended response questions on the extracts.
- Students' ability to synthesise across two texts will be assessed in a separate question.
- The final question of this section requires students to compare the writers' ideas and how they are presented in the two texts.

Section B – Transactional Writing

- Writing tasks are linked by a theme
- It is possible for the same form (for on both tasks in the same paper but

Revise which
vocabulary you
will need in which
question

Read *the whole of* Text 1
– answer questions 1-3

Read *the whole of* Text 2 –
answer questions 4-6

Skim read *the whole of*
both texts again, answer
7a and 7b.

3 – Language &
structure

6 – Evaluate

7b – Comparison

But all of these
are about the
ideas in the text

Question 3, 6 or 7b?

successfully

Similarly,

sibilance

pathetic fallacy

clearly

However,

Top Tip

Use a symbol to help you remember evaluate words:

Clearly 

Successfully 

Powerfully 

Effectively 

Convincingly 

Students must:			% in GCSE
Writing	AO1	Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas	7.5
	AO2	Analyse the language and form of literary texts, realising how language is used to create different effects and to achieve different purposes	7.5
	AO3	Understand the main issues and arguments, and how these are communicated through language	7.5
	AO4	Understand the writer's choices and how these are used to create different effects and to achieve different purposes	7.5
Total			100%

Make sure you:

- brush up on your basics – capital letters and full stops
- know how to use a semi-colon, apostrophe, brackets to show range of sophisticated punctuation

50% of English Language grade

*These AOs are for the Spoken Language Endorsement, which will be reported as a separate grade on the awarding body certificate.

**Romeo and Juliet are
described as....?**

**'I have bought the mansion of
a love, but not yet _____ it'**

**Scrooge is 'as _____
as an oyster'**

Places to go for help:

- Revision sessions
- The website for links to revision sites, guides, BBC bitesize.
- Your friends. Why not set up study groups? Share the initial workload e.g. each person takes a text to create Key Quote Quizlets
- Easter revision
- Room 29 Mond, Tues, Weds, Thurs lunch times

Finally, ask your teacher.

Use phrases like:

‘Can I use....?’

‘Would it be okay to write...?’

‘Does this introduction make sense...?’

Shows active engagement
with your own revision
process.

When you say things like.

‘I don’t know what to do’ it shows you
haven’t engaged with any of the strategies
we have given you.

Passive participant in your own
revision.



What might a useful revision card look like?

Adjectives

Independent

Untraditional

Romantic

Impulsive

Passionate

Loyal

Juliet

Key relationships + scenes

- Romeo – meeting/balcony
- Nurse – sends message/lets her down
- Capulet – makes Paris wait/forces marriage
- Tybalt/Lady Cap – suggests Paris/doesn't defend her
- Paris – woos her – traditional courtly lover

Themes

- Love
- Patriarchy
- Femininity
- Violence/conflict
- Youth
- Fate
- Passion/desire

What might a useful revision card look like?

Juliet

‘Good pilgrim’ – sonnet - immediately links the two of them

‘My only love sprung from my only hate!’ – contrasting themes - love, violence/conflict + impulsiveness of youth

‘Swear not by the moon, th’inconstant moon’ – concerns of ‘rash’ love, wants certainty, imagery of night – associated with the secrecy of their relationship

‘marriage’ – she’s the first to suggest it - unconventional

Quote Technique Context



Don't Stress.

Do Your Best.

Get started and it will feel less
overwhelming. Good luck.