

Welcome to our KS4 Information Evening

GCSE English Language and Literature:
Edexcel Exam Board



**Arden English
Department**



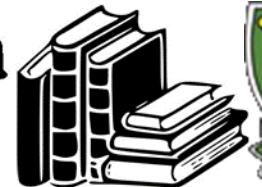
Two GCSEs: Language and Literature

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Language	Literature
<p>Paper 1: 1 hour 45 Minutes</p> <p><i>Part A</i></p> <p>Read an unseen 19th Century fiction extract</p> <p>Analyse and Evaluate</p> <p><i>Part B</i></p> <p>Imaginative Writing</p>	<p>Paper 1: 1 hour 45 Minutes</p> <p><i>Part A</i></p> <p>a) Analysis of an extract from Macbeth</p> <p>b) Write about the whole play and its context</p> <p><i>Part B</i></p> <p>Writing about the play Journey's End and its context</p>
<p>Paper 2: 2 hours 5 Minutes</p> <p><i>Part A</i></p> <p>Read two unseen 20th or 21st Century non-fiction extracts</p> <p>Analyse, Evaluate and Compare</p> <p><i>Part B</i></p> <p>Transactional Writing</p>	<p>Paper 2: 2 hours 15 minutes</p> <p><i>Part A</i></p> <p>a) Analysis of an extract from A Christmas Carol</p> <p>b) Write about the whole novella (no context)</p> <p><i>Part B</i></p> <p>a) Compare two poems from the Belonging Cluster and their contexts – 15 poems in total</p> <p>b) Compare two unseen poems.</p>



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Literature Full Overview

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Macbeth; Journey's End; A Christmas Carol; Belonging Poetry

- Pupils have copies of all texts
- For Macbeth, Journey's End and A Christmas Carol all pupils have bespoke work books
- A book of poems is provided by the exam board

Pupils need to:

- Know the stories really well
- Know how characters and themes develop across the texts
- Know 10-15 quotations for each text
- Know 1-2 quotations for each poem
- Know the context of Macbeth, Journey's End and the poems



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Literature

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How to Help at Home

- Make and use flashcards of key quotations
- Pupils need to know the context of their texts BUT NOT A Christmas Carol
- Watch a faithful version of a film of the plays and novel
- Listen to an audio version – there is a free audio recording of ACC on BBC Sounds



Literature Revision: Using Audiobooks

How to Help at Home: Audio Versions of Texts

- BBC Sounds has a wealth of excellent content. You need an account but it is free. Most programmes can be downloaded to a phone or other device. Highly recommended for long car journeys!
- This is the link to A Christmas Carol or just Google 'BBC Sounds A Christmas Carol':
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p07l9vg7>
- Also look at the 'In Our Time' podcasts on BBC Sounds. There is an excellent one about Macbeth: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000mytn> and another about A Christmas Carol: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0012fl5>



Mock Exams: December 2023

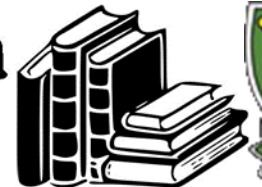
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Language Paper 2	Literature Paper 1 – Macbeth Only
<p>Paper 2: 2 hours 5 Minutes</p> <p><i>Part A</i></p> <p>Read two unseen 20th or 21st Century non-fiction extracts</p> <p>Analyse, Evaluate and Compare</p> <p><i>Part B</i></p> <p>Transactional Writing</p>	<p>Paper 1: 55 Minutes</p> <p><i>Part A</i></p> <p>a) Analysis of an extract from Macbeth</p> <p>b) Write about the whole play and its context</p>

Language Paper 2 is 60% of the total mark for the Language GCSE. This is our best indicator of how pupils will perform in the summer exams and will be used to generate their predicted grade.



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Macbeth Revision

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How to Help at Home

- Make and use flashcards of key quotations
- Understand the story of the play
- Know how characters and themes develop
- Know the context of the play: historical, social and theatrical
- Watch a faithful version of a film of the play
- Listen to an audio version



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Macbeth Revision: Flashcard Example

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Front

‘My dearest partner of
greatness’

Back

Who says it?

Lady M

What is happening?

She is reading a letter from Macbeth when he tells her about his meeting with the witches and his ‘promotion’ to Thane of Cawdor

Where does it take place?

At the start of the play – Lady M’s first scene

Any language or structural techniques?

Emotive language

Context?

He calls his wife his partner – this was not a typical relationship in a Jacobean patriarchal society

Clever Links?

*When Lady M dies, Macbeth says ‘she would have died hereafter.’
Their relationship disintegrates after the murder of Duncan.*



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Language Paper 2 Revision: 2 hours 5 Minutes

Reading Section	Writing Section
Two 20th or 21st Century Non-fiction Texts Analyse text 1 Evaluate text 1 Compare both	Transactional Writing (45 Minutes): Letter; article; review; speech

In school, all pupils have a 'Walking-Talking Mock' paper. We work through modelled examples in class and all the methods for each questions are pre-written on the paper.

Pupils must answer all of the questions!

Last year, getting 50% in the summer exam across both papers was awarded Grade 4



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Language Paper 2 Revision

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Top Tips for Writing

- Do the writing first
- Practice timed writing to build stamina
- Don't talk about writing as a punishment
- Find a good pen and buy lots – examiners will not spend ages deciphering writing
- Remember genre, audience and purpose
- Get the basics right: clear paragraphs; correct verb tense; range of sentences; capital letters!
- No slang and abbreviations
- Interest the reader from the start



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Language Paper 2 Revision: The List!

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Fronted phrase	Reluctantly, she did what the teacher demanded.
Double fronted phrase	Reluctantly, trying to stifle a yawn, she did what the teacher demanded.
Complex sentence with an embedded clause	The teacher, who found it amusing to tell irrelevant stories about her children, tried to engage the class.
Semi-colon to separate two related or contrasting complete clauses	The lesson was tedious; the class was stupefied with boredom.
Short sentence for impact	The lesson was hell.
Rhetorical question	When will it end?
Tricolon	The lesson was boring, dull and monotonous.
Tricolon with a twist/extra information at the end	The lesson was boring, dull and the teacher's voice was so monotonous I felt like my ears might fall off in protest.
List	The lesson was tedious and monotonous and irrelevant and annoying and there were still fifty minutes to go.
Statement: explanation	School: a waste of time.
Thing: definition	School: a waste of time; a waste of hope.

This is part of a list of sentence types pupils can use to revise and practice. These will help them with their transactional writing (and their imaginative writing for Language Paper 1). Your child's teacher will have their own version of this, personalised for the class.



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Language Paper 2 Revision

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Top Tips for Reading

- Read lots to build stamina
- Read the lead article in a quality newspaper
- Read quality non-fiction: Caitlin Moran; Bill Bryson; match reports; film and restaurant reviews
- Have an opinion!



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And finally...

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Thank you for your support.

- We are a successful, experienced and supportive department
- We will revise and assess all elements of all exams
- All revision takes place in lessons – we finish the course by February half term and all revise together

