When children read for pleasure, when they get "hooked on books", they acquire, involuntarily and without conscious effort, nearly all of the so-called "language skills" many people are so concerned about: they will become adequate readers, acquire a large vocabulary, develop the ability to understand and use complex grammatical constructions, develop a good writing style, and become good (but not necessarily perfect) spellers. Although free voluntary reading alone will not ensure attainment of the highest levels of literacy, it will at least ensure an acceptable level. Without it, I suspect that children simply do not have a chance.



Michael Krashen, quoted in National Literacy Trust Report, Reading for Pleasure





# **English GCSE Information Evening**

Welcome

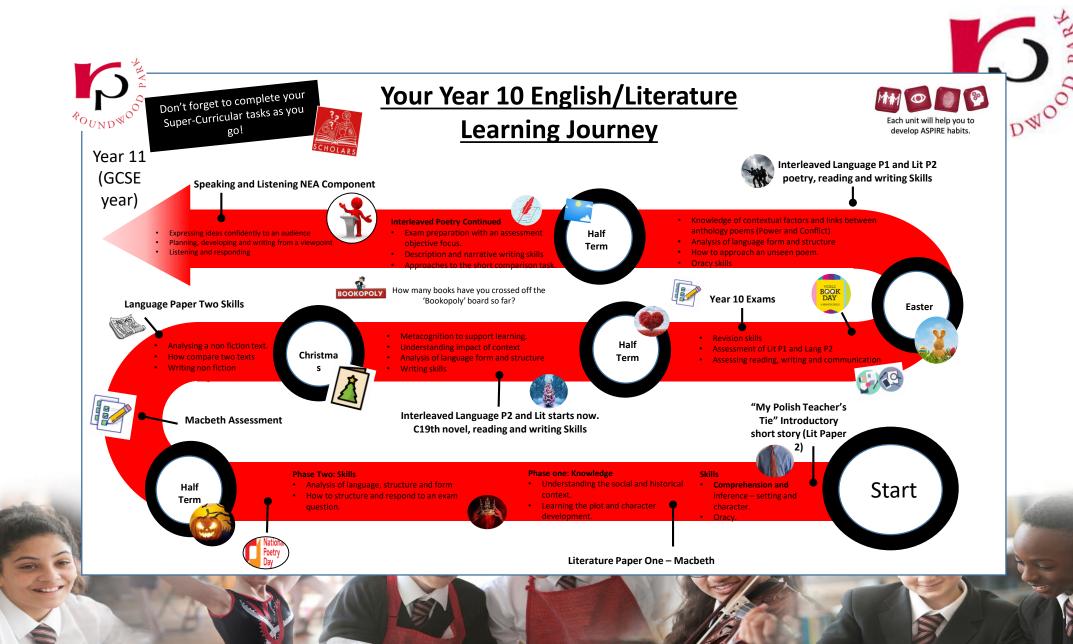


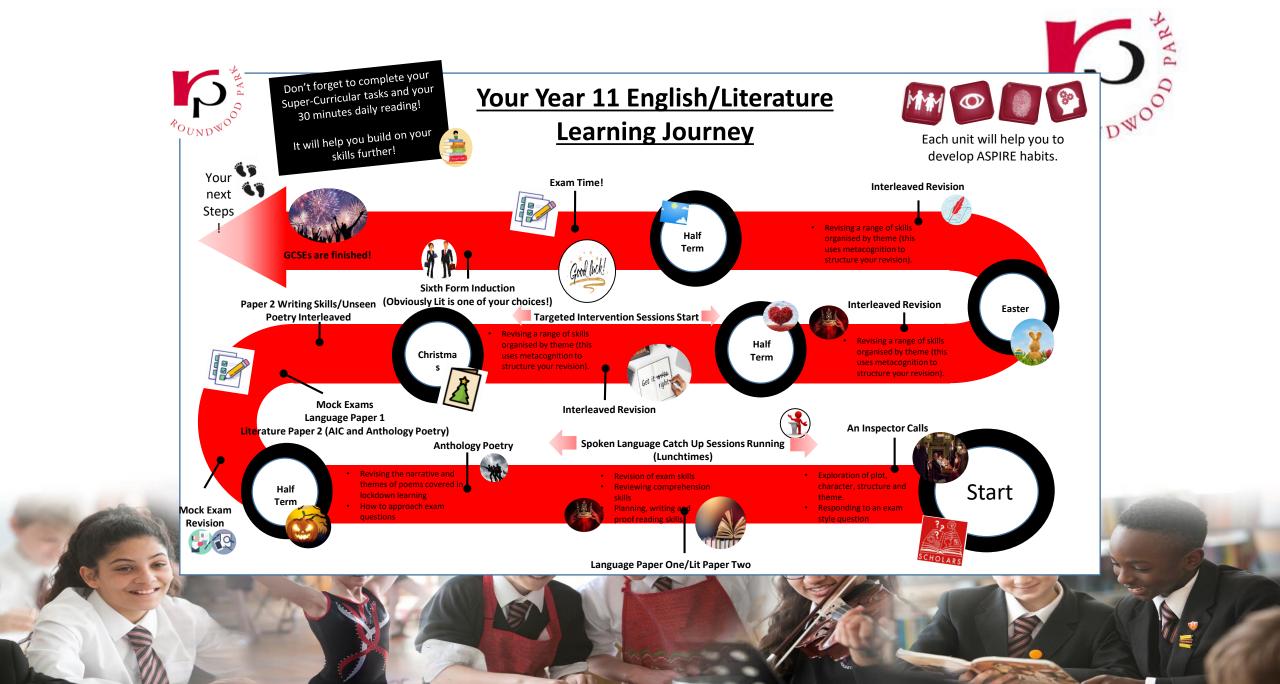
## Outline



- 1. Overview of the exams
- 2. Revising for language
- 3. Revising for literature
- 4. Resources







What can I do to support my child?



Engaging Parents in Raising Achievement: Do Parents Know They Matter? (2007) Professor Alma Harris and Dr Janet Goodall: University of Warwick

 Parents have the greatest influence on the achievement of young people through supporting their learning in the home ... It is their support of learning within the home environment that makes the maximum difference to achievement.





Encourage your child to read

Read their set texts and discuss them with them Debate issues to help them develop ideas and vocabulary



Encourage your child to re-read texts and to revise them

Check SMHW and home learning



Encourage them to plan and proof-read work



#### Lord of the Flies – William Golding Chapter One: The Sound of the Shell

The boy with fair hair lowered himself down the last few feet of rock and began to pick his way toward the lagoon. Though he had taken off his school sweater and trailed it now from one hand, his grey shirt stuck to him and his hair was plastered to his forehead. All round him the long scar smashed into the jungle was a bath of heat. He was clambering heavily among the creepers and broken trunks when a bird, a vision of red and yellow, flashed upwards with a witch-like cry; and this cry was echoed by another.

"Hi!" it said. "Wait a minute!"

The undergrowth at the side of the scar was shaken and a multitude of raindrops fell pattering.

"Wait a minute," the voice said. "I got caught up."

The fair boy stopped and jerked his stockings with an automatic gesture that made the jungle seem for a moment like the Home Counties. The voice spoke again.

"I can't hardly move with all these creeper things."

The owner of the voice came backing out of the undergrowth so that twigs scratched on a greasy windbreaker. The naked crooks of his knees were plump, caught and scratched by thorns. He bent down, removed the thorns carefully, and turned around. He was shorter than the fair boy and very fat. He came forward, searching out safe lodgments for his feet, and then looked up through thick spectacles. "Where's the man with the megaphone?" The fair boy shook his head.

"This is an island. At least I think it's an island. That's a reef out in the sea. Perhaps there aren't any grownups anywhere."

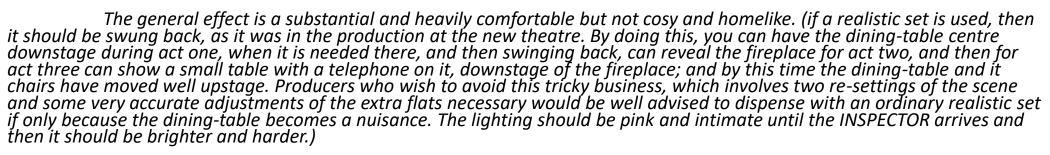
#### An Inspector Calls – J B Priestley

It is an evening in spring, 1912.

#### **ACT ONE**

The dining room is of a fairly large suburban house, belonging to a prosperous manufacturer.

It has a good solid furniture of the period.



At rise of curtain, the four Birling's and Gerald are seated at the table, with Arthur Birling at one end, his wife at the other, Eric downstage and Sheila and Gerald seated upstage.

EDNA, the parlourmaid, is just clearing the table, which has no cloth, of the dessert plates and champagne glasses, etc, and then replacing them with decanter of port, cigar box and cigarettes. Port glasses are already on the table. All five are in evening dress of the period, the men in tails and white ties, not dinner-jackets. Arthur Birling is a heavy-looking, rather portentous man in this middle fifties with fairly easy manners but rather provincial in this speech. His wife is about fifty, a rather cold woman and her husband's social superior. Sheila is a pretty girl in her early twenties, very pleased with life and rather excited. Gerald croft is a attractive chap about thirty, rather too manly to be a dandy but very much the well-bred young man-about-town. Eric is in his early twenties, not quite at ease, half shy, half assertive. At the moment they have all had a good dinner, are celebrating a special occasion, and are pleased with themselves.



## The importance of reading



- The GCSEs demand a significant amount of reading and students need to develop their stamina for this.
- Practise makes perfect!



## Encouraging your child to read

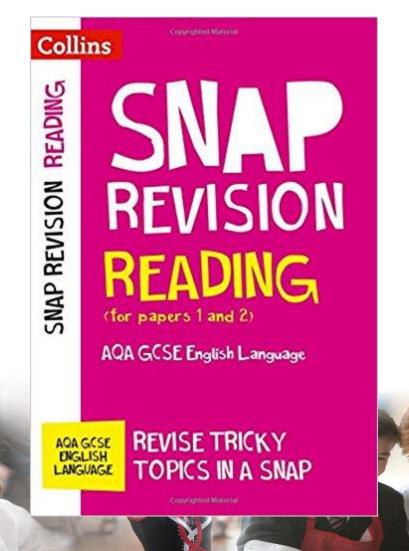
POUND NOON

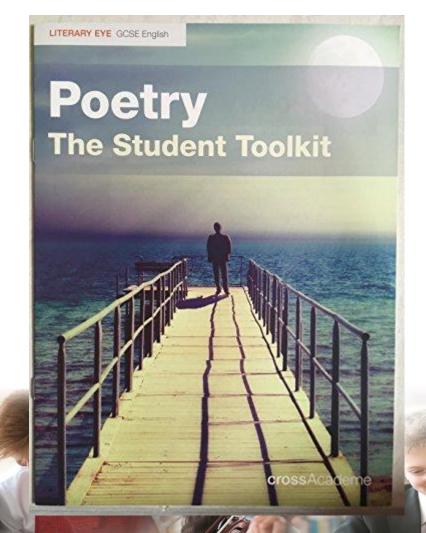
- 1. Restrict screen time
- Make books available
- 3. Accept reading in any format
- 4. Model reading
- 5. Read the same book or article
- 6. Talk about books you're reading
- 7. Remind them to go to the school library
- 8. Find a genre or series they enjoy



## Keeping on top of learning







#### Online revision resources



- YouTube Mr Bruff, audio versions of texts- so much out there!
- BBC Bitesize. This is amazing!
- Seneca learning (online
- DVDs of plays/ go to the theatre if a show is on!
- Please don't forget that every lesson we cover is on Google classroom. This often include stretch and challenge and is a wonderful resource.



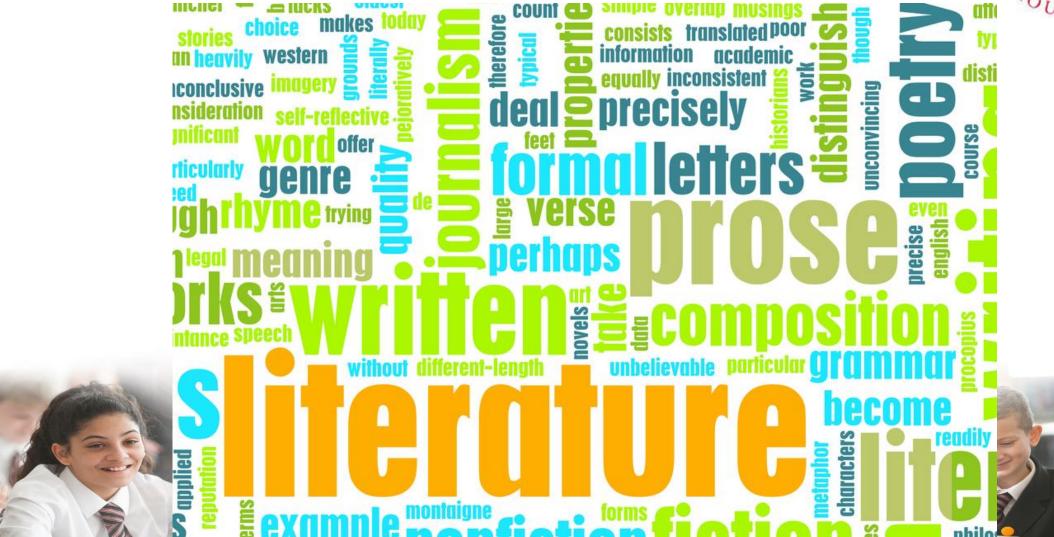
## How KS4 looks





#### What does the new GCSE look like?





	A*- A	9
		8
		7
	В	6
		5 "Good pass"
	C "Good pass"	
		4
	D-G	3
		2
		1
	75/30 35	200





#### Linear exams

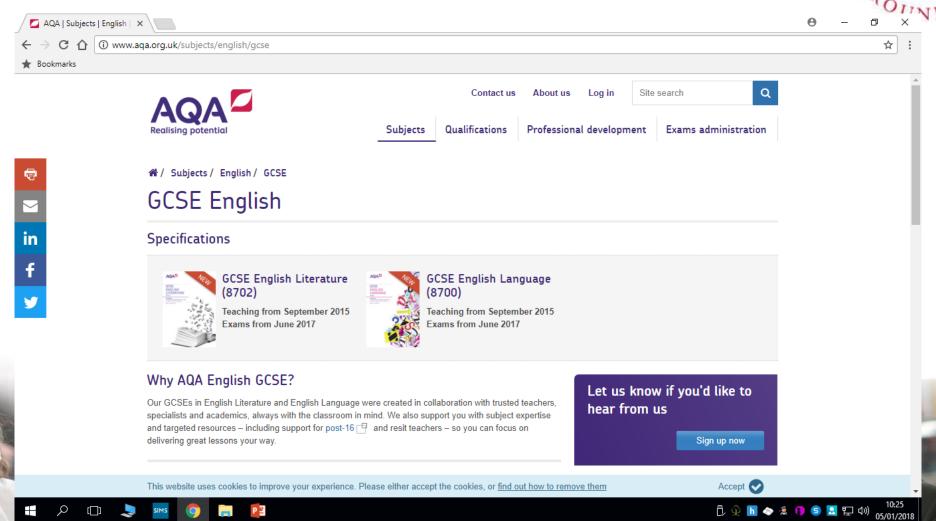


- English language 2 exams
- English literature 2 exams
- No coursework
- Exam board : AQA



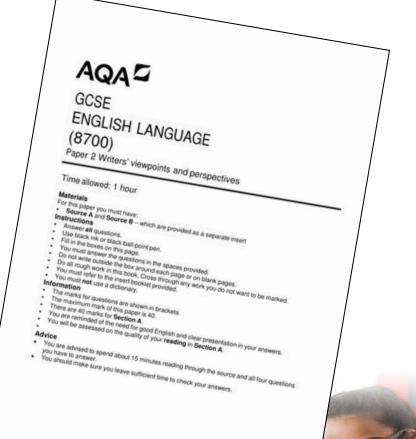
### www.aqa.org.uk





# English language





## English language



#### Paper 1

- Explorations in creative reading and writing
- Unseen text fiction
- 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> century
- 4 reading questions (40 marks)
- 1 writing question (40 marks)
- 1 hour 45 minutes
- 50% of English language GCSE

#### Paper 2

- Writers' viewpoints and perspectives
- Unseen texts non-fiction
- 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and/or 21<sup>st</sup> century
- 4 reading questions (40 marks)
- 1 writing question (40 marks)
- 1 hour 45 minutes
- 50% of English language GCSE

# Non-examination assessment: spoken language

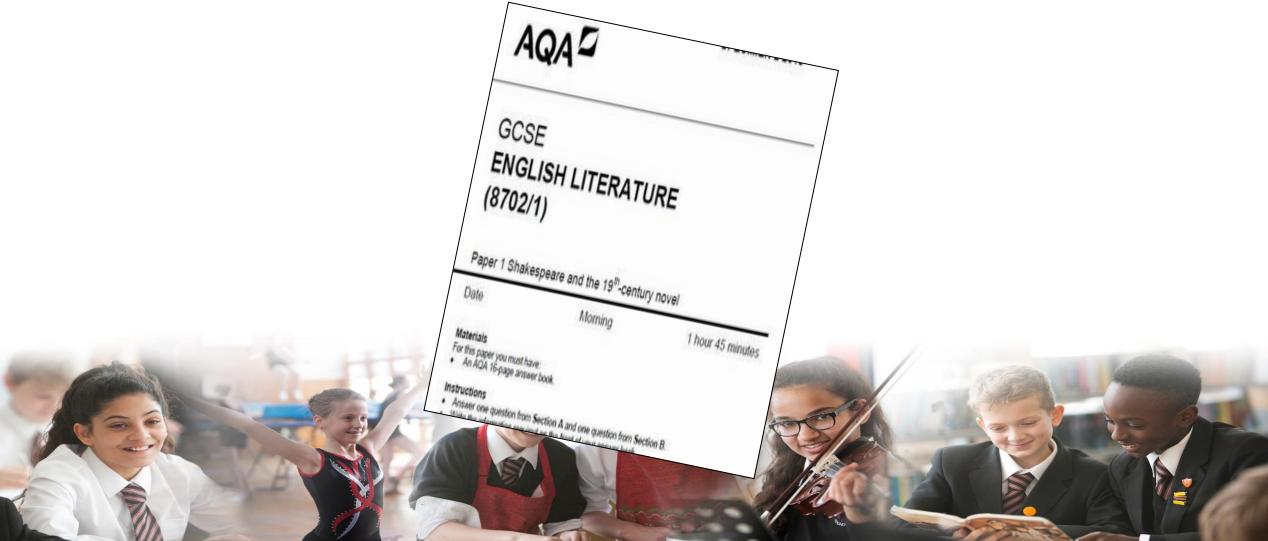


- Present and respond to questions on a prepared topic
- Carried out in lesson time
- May be videoed for the exam board for moderation purposes



# English literature





# English literature



#### Paper 1

- Shakespeare and 19<sup>th</sup> century novel
- Macbeth
- A Christmas Carol OR
- Frankenstein

#### Paper 2

- Modern novel, anthology poetry and unseen poetry
- An Inspector Calls
- Power and conflict poetry
- Two Unseen poems to compare



# PETER or WHW Paragraphs

Point	Make a statement that directly answers the question.
Evidence	Embed some evidence smoothly.
Techniques	What techniques are used? Can you use terminology?
Effect	Analyse the language closely by unpicking the details and exploring the multiple possible effects that the author could have been aiming for.
Reader Response/ Refer	Refer to the reader in the last few sentences. Refer to context



**WHAT**: what idea would you like to explore, what is the point you are going to explore? State your idea clearly.

**HOW**: How has the writer managed to get their message across? Can you provide some evidence and explore the impact of that quotation?

**WHY**: why did the writer want to create this message? Is there some context that would help us understand the writer's intentions.

## 3 things to take away



- 1. Encourage your child to read
- 2. Engage with your child's learning
- 3. Liaise with the school over concerns



#### Contact Details and Questions



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