

Year 10 English Language and Literature

The AQA GCSE courses for English Language and Literature are taught side by side – the first term focuses on developing the students’ descriptive and narrative writing skills, building on their knowledge and expertise gained in Key Stage 3. A literary text is taught alongside this writing unit, with the text providing inspiration for narrative and descriptive tasks in order to interleave the two courses. The second term focuses on developing students’ responses to a range of fiction texts. Alongside this, students will explore aspects of the poetry anthology. The second term will also cover the spoken language unit, with students researching a particular topic in order to present a speech where they present a viewpoint. The third term focuses on the Shakespeare text, drawing on students’ prior knowledge of Shakespearean drama and Elizabethan society encountered in Key Stage 3.

Methods of deepening and securing knowledge:	
Spaced practice	Two GCSEs are balanced across the two year course – lessons are divided between Language and Literature elements.
Retrieval practice	Retrieval practice is evident in starter activities and in mini-plenaries; regular retrieval of key content and quotations from the Literature course.
Elaboration	Students are encouraged to elaborate by developing their written responses – this might be through providing textual evidence; finding contrasting views; making a connection to another example in the text. Students are also encouraged to consider alternative critical interpretations of texts, in order to access the higher tiers of the English Literature mark scheme.
Interleaving	Interleaving is evident in the decision of lessons between the Language and Literature courses – with overlapping and thematic connections being made where relevant (e.g. – exploring the theme of social responsibility in An Inspector Calls and A Christmas Carol).
Concrete examples	Concrete examples are provided by use of high quality literary and non-fiction texts; teacher modelling of writing skills/ grammatical structures; use of exemplar student responses with examiner feedback.
Dual coding	Images and symbols are used to support understanding of key context.

	Autumn term 1	Autumn term 2	Spring term 1	Spring term 2	Summer term 1	Summer term 2
Topic(s)	Descriptive/ narrative writing - Modern text: Lord of the Flies - Cold War - Political and Biblical allegory - Castaway literature	- Modern Text: Lord of the Flies - Cold War - Political and Biblical allegory - Castaway literature	Explorations in Creative Reading - Paper 1 Section A - Making inferences - Exploring writers’ language and structural choices and effects - Evaluating a text	Spoken Language - Exam - Formal presentation skills	Shakespeare - Macbeth - 11th Century Scotland - 17th England - Gunpowder plot Witchcraft and the supernatural	Shakespeare - Macbeth - 11th Century Scotland - 17th England - Gunpowder plot Witchcraft and the supernatural

	An Inspector Calls - Capitalism/socialism - Dramatic form - Edwardian England	An Inspector Calls - Capitalism/socialism - Dramatic form - Edwardian England		PPE - Paper 1 - Explorations in creative reading and writing 80 marks (50%)	- Dramatic form - tragedy	- Dramatic form - tragedy
Assessment	- Paper 1 Section B - Descriptive writing 40 marks (25%)	- Paper 2 Section A - Modern texts 30 marks (18.75%)	- Paper 1 Section A - Viewpoint writing 40 marks (25%)	- English Language - PPE - Spoken Language Exam: non-weighted compulsory assessment	- Paper 1 Section A - Shakespeare 30 marks (18.75%)	- Paper 1 Section A - Shakespeare 30 marks (18.75%)

Independent learning:

Independent learning is a core part of learning and serves to support the learning in class, enrich the student experience and develop learning skills.

There are several types of Independent learning set in English such as:

- Researching a key area of context in preparation for a new unit
- Applying knowledge and skills learnt in lesson by completing an independent task/exam question
- Developing a response or task begun in lesson
- Revising key content in preparation for an assessment
- Learning spellings, key vocabulary or key quotations in preparation for a test
- Independent reading and wider reading