



Meridian
Trust



Supporting your child to succeed in GCSE English Literature

Shehlha Zafir

Curriculum Director for English



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Focus questions



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- What course is my child studying?
- What are the English Literature examinations like?
- What resources are available to support my child?



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What course is my child studying?



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GCSE English Literature 8702

- **Paper 1** – Shakespeare and the 19th century novel
- **Paper 2** – Modern texts and poetry



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GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

Tuesday 22 May 2018 Morning Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ballpoint pen. Do **not** use pencil.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 8702/1.
- Answer **one** question from **Section A** and **one** question from **Section B**.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 64.
- AO4 will be assessed in **Section A**. There are 4 marks available for AO4 in **Section A** in addition to 30 marks for answering the question. AO4 assesses the following skills: Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.
- There are 30 marks for **Section B**.



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GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

Paper 2 Modern Texts and Poetry

Friday 25 May 2018 Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 15 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ballpoint pen. Do **not** use pencil.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 8702/2.
- Answer **one** question from **Section A**, **one** question from **Section B** and **both** questions in **Section C**.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 96.
- AO4 will be assessed in **Section A**. There are 4 marks available for AO4 in **Section A** in addition to 30 marks for answering the question. AO4 assesses the following skills: Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.
- There are 30 marks for **Section B** and 32 marks for **Section C**.



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AQA
Questions matter

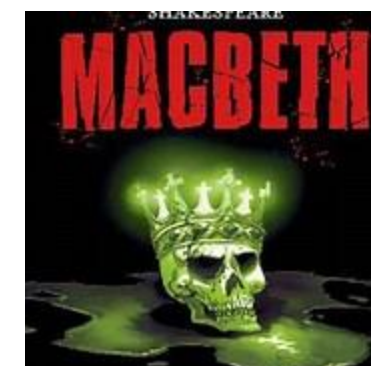


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Paper 1 – Shakespeare

- Your child will have studied one of the following plays
 - Macbeth
 - Romeo and Juliet
 - The Merchant of Venice

AQA
Questions matter



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Paper 1 – Shakespeare

Your child is expected to

- know the whole play
- have learned key quotations
- have studied
 - Character
 - Theme
 - Plot
 - Shakespeare's language and stagecraft
 - the context of the play
 - Shakespeare intention.



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Read the following extract from Act 1 Scene 3 of *Macbeth* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play, after receiving The Witches' prophecies, Macbeth and Banquo have just been told that Duncan has made Macbeth Thane of Cawdor.

BANQUO

But 'tis strange,
And oftentimes, to win us to our harm,
The instruments of darkness tell us truths;
Win us with honest trifles, to betray's
5 In deepest consequence. –
Cousins, a word, I pray you.

MACBETH [Aside]

Two truths are told,
As happy prologues to the swelling act
Of the imperial theme. – I thank you, gentlemen. –
10 This supernatural soliciting
Cannot be ill, cannot be good. If ill,
Why hath it given me earnest of success,
Commencing in a truth? I am Thane of Cawdor.
If good, why do I yield to that suggestion,
15 Whose horrid image doth unfix my hair
And make my seated heart knock at my ribs
Against the use of nature? Present fears
Are less than horrible imaginings.
My thought, whose murder yet is but fantastical,
20 Shakes so my single state of man that function
Is smothered in surmise, and nothing is,
But what is not.

0 1

Starting with this moment in the play, explore how Shakespeare presents the attitudes of Macbeth and Banquo towards the supernatural.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents the attitudes of Macbeth and Banquo towards the supernatural in this extract
- how Shakespeare presents the attitudes of Macbeth and Banquo towards the supernatural in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Paper 1 – Shakespeare



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Questions matter

- In the examination they are expected to write an essay response to the question given.
- They should spend 50 minutes writing their response.



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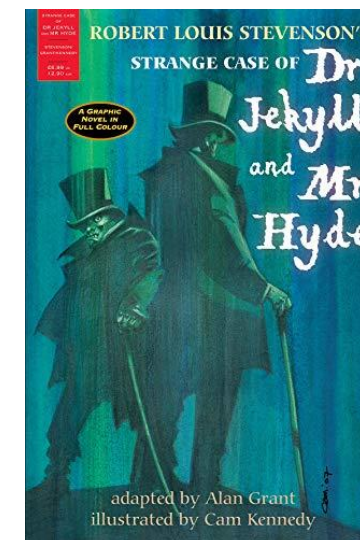
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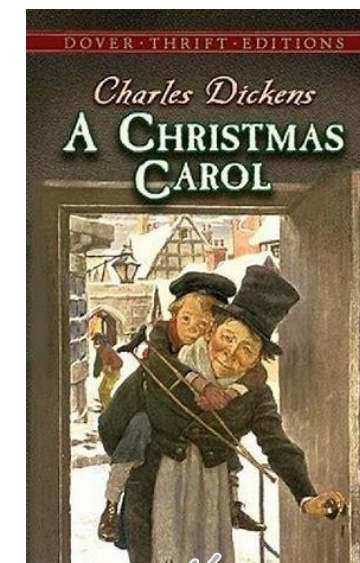
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Paper 1 – 19th century novel

- Your child will have studied one of the following novels
- The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde
- A Christmas Carol



AQA
Questions matter



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Questions matter

Paper 1 – 19th century novel

Your child is expected to

- know the whole novel
- have learned key quotations
- have studied
 - Character
 - Theme
 - Plot
 - Language
 - the context of the novel
 - Writer's intention.



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Read the following extract from Chapter 4 (The Carew Murder Case) of *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Utterson and Inspector Newcomen have come to find Mr Hyde at his lodging house after the murder of Sir Danvers Carew.

5 It was by this time about nine in the morning, and the first fog of the season. A great chocolate-coloured pall lowered over heaven, but the wind was continually charging and routing these embattled vapours; so that as the cab crawled from street to street, Mr. Utterson beheld a marvellous number of degrees and hues of twilight; for here it would be dark like the back-end of evening; and there would be a glow of a rich, lurid brown, like the light of some strange conflagration; and here, for a moment, the fog would be quite broken up, and a haggard shaft of daylight would glance in between the swirling wreaths. The dismal quarter of Soho seen under these changing glimpses, with its muddy ways, and slatternly passengers, and its lamps, which had never been extinguished or had been kindled afresh to combat this mournful re-invasion of darkness, seemed, in the lawyer's eyes, like a district of some city in a nightmare.

10 The thoughts of his mind, besides, were of the gloomiest dye; and when he glanced at the companion of his drive, he was conscious of some touch of that terror of the law and the law's officers which may at times assail the most honest.

15 As the cab drew up before the address indicated, the fog lifted a little, and showed him a dingy street, a gin-palace, a low French eating-house, a shop for the retail of penny numbers and twopenny salads, many ragged children huddled in the doorways, and many women of many different nationalities passing out, key in hand, to have a morning glass; and the next moment the fog settled down again upon that part, as brown as umber, and cut him off from his blackguardly surroundings. This was the home of Henry Jekyll's favourite; of a man who was heir to a quarter of a million sterling.

0 7

Starting with this extract, explore how Stevenson creates mystery and tension in *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*.

Write about:

- how Stevenson creates mystery and tension in this extract
- how Stevenson creates mystery and tension in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Paper 1 – 19th century novel



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Questions matter

- In the examination they are expected to write an essay response to the question given.
- They should spend 50 minutes writing their response.



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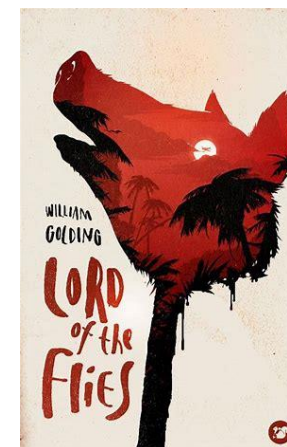
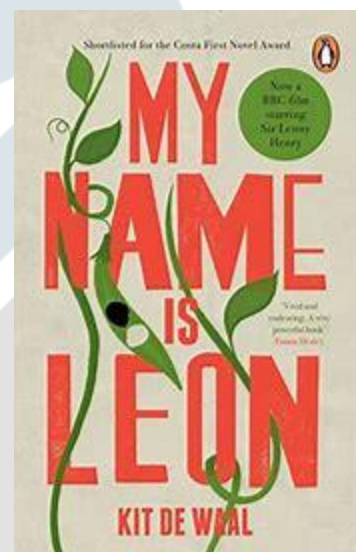
Paper 2 – Modern text

- Your child will have studied one of the following texts
 - An Inspector Calls
 - Blood Brothers
 - Lord of The Flies
 - My Name is Leon



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Paper 2 – Modern text

Your child is expected to

- know the whole text
- have learned key quotations
- have studied
 - Character
 - Theme
 - Plot
 - Language
 - the context of the text
 - Writer's intention.



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or

0 3

How does Russell present Linda as an important character in the play *Blood Brothers*?

Write about:

- what Linda says and does in the play
- how Russell presents Linda as an important character in the play *Blood Brothers*.

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]

or

0 4

How does Russell present the ways that Mickey and Edward are affected by their different experiences of family life?

Write about:

- what family life is like for Mickey and Edward
- how Russell presents the differences in their family lives.

[30 marks]

AO4 [4 marks]



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Paper 2 – Modern text



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AQA

Questions matter

- In the examination your child will be given a choice of two questions – they must only choose one to respond to.
- They are expected to write an essay response to the question.
- They should spend 50 minutes writing their response.



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Paper 2 – Poetry Section B

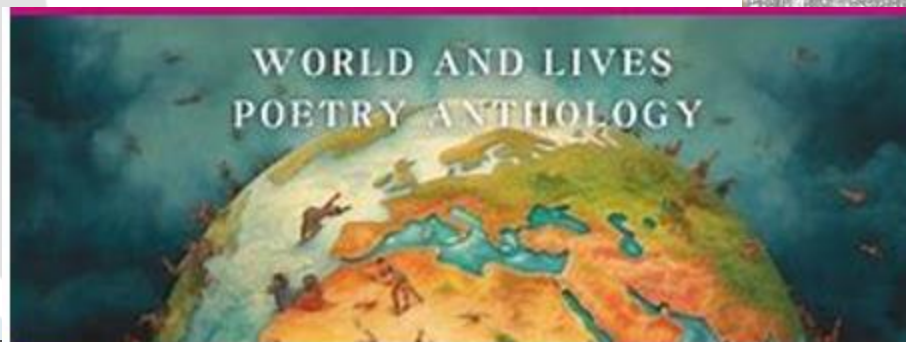
- Your child will have studied one of the following Sections from the AQA Poetry Anthology



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Questions matter



- Love and Relationships
- Power and Conflict
- Worlds and Lives



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Paper 2 – Section B Poetry

Your child is expected to

- know all 15 poems from the cluster studied
- have learned key quotations for each poem
- have studied
 - language, form and structure
 - the context of the poems
 - poet's intention.



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Compare how poets present ideas about power in 'Ozymandias' and in one other poem from 'Power and conflict'.

5 I met a traveller from an antique land
Who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert. Near them on the sand,
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed;
And on the pedestal these words appear:
10 'My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare,
The lone and level sands stretch far away.

Percy Bysshe Shelley

[30 marks]

Paper 2 – Section B Poetry



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Questions matter

- In the examination you child will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster
- They should spend 45 minutes writing their response.



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Paper 2 – Section C Unseen Poetry

- Over the course your child will have explored a variety of poems and will have developed the skills to read, analyse, compare and write about poetry they have not studied.
- Your child will have been taught to analyse the language, form and structure used by the poets to create meanings and effects.



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Paper 2 – Section C Unseen Poetry



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Section C: Unseen poetry

Answer **both** questions in this section.

On Aging

When you see me sitting quietly,
Like a sack left on the shelf,
Don't think I need your chattering.
I'm listening to myself.
5 Hold! Stop! Don't pity me!
Hold! Stop your sympathy!
Understanding if you got it,
Otherwise I'll do without it!
When my bones are stiff and aching,
10 And my feet won't climb the stair,
I will only ask one favor:
Don't bring me no rocking chair.
When you see me walking, stumbling,
Don't study and get it wrong.
15 'Cause tired don't mean lazy
And every goodbye ain't gone.
I'm the same person I was back then,
A little less hair, a little less chin,
A lot less lungs and much less wind.
20 But ain't I lucky I can still breathe in.

Maya Angelou

27. 2

27. 1 In 'On Aging' how does the poet present the speaker's attitudes to growing old?

[24 marks]

Jessie Emily Schofield

I used to wash my grandmother's hair,
When she was old and small
And walked with a frame
Like a learning child.
5 She would turn off her hearing aid
And bend into the water,
Holding the edge of the sink with long fingers;
I would pour warm cupfuls over her skull
And wonder what it could be like
10 In her deaf head with eighty years of life.
Hers was the softest hair I ever felt,
Wedding dress silk on a widow;
But there is a photo of her
Sitting swathed in hair
15 That I imagine chestnut from the black and white,
Long enough to sit on.
Her wet head felt delicate as a birdskull
Worn thin by waves of age,
As she stood bent.
20 My mother's mother under my hands.

Judy Williams

27. 2 In both 'Jessie Emily Schofield' and 'On Aging' the speakers describe their attitudes to the effects of growing old.

What are the similarities and/or differences between the ways the poets present these attitudes?

[8 marks]

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- In the examination you child will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.
- They should spend 35 minutes on part 1 and 15 minutes on part 2.



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How to help your child revise

- Quotations
- Ask them questions about plot, characters, themes and ideas and context.



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Learning Quotations

- Create flashcards with you child and test them regularly.
- Write the quotations on a post-it and stick them to the fridge or snack cupboard or anywhere where your child is likely to visit frequently.
- Record quotations and play them back explaining their significance.
- Rewards for x number of quotations learned.



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Context

- Ask your child to tell what they have learned about the time the text was set in and written in.
- Ask them what they have learned about the society and world of the text.
- Ask them how it is different to the present and why.



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Revision Guides and websites

- CGP
- Collins
- Youtube
- Search Engine
- Seneca
- AQA – Past papers
- Audiobooks
- Film Versions
- Tassomai
- BBC Bitesize



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Why do Literature?

The better the grade in literature the better they can demonstrate to employers they are:

- Critical
- Analytical
- Empathetic

Literature is a thinking subject- students need to have confidence in exploring their ideas.



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Thank you!

Finally, thank you for your support with your child's English education!



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