



CHRIST'S COLLEGE

Emmanuel Schools Foundation

**ENGLISH LITERATURE
COURSE OVERVIEW**
KEY STAGE 4 COURSE GUIDE

COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Summary

Course Title:	GCSE English Literature
Exam Board:	AQA
Specification code:	8702

Course Overview

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel
What's assessed • Shakespeare plays (page 11) • The 19th-century novel (page 11)
How it's assessed • written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes • 64 marks • 40% of GCSE
Questions Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. 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.



COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Overview continued...

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry
What's assessed • Modern prose or drama texts (page 11) • The poetry anthology (page 12) • Unseen poetry (page 13)
How it's assessed • written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes • 96 marks • 60% of GCSE
Questions Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text. Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen 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.

Here are the texts we study:

- 19th Century Novel: The Mysterious Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde
- Shakespeare: Macbeth
- Modern Drama: An Inspector Calls
- Poetry: Power and Conflict poetry



KNOWLEDGE CHECKLIST

The course has a number of Assessment Objectives. These provide the checklist for the course. Students will have opportunities in classroom work, mock examinations and homework to rehearse and refine these skills.

Where they are identified and specific work is set, the expectation is on the student to use online tools such as Century Tech to aim to close any learning gaps.

Assessment Objective	Descriptor	How students can practise this
AO1	Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to: • maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response • use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.	Practise creating thesis statements. Revise BUG-ging the question. Revise key quotations from all set texts.
AO2	Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.	Revise the range of language and structure terms. Practise making a range of comments, developing interpretations.
AO3	Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.	Revise when the texts were written. Revise the ideas and culture of the times when they were written. Revise the writer's ideas and intentions.
AO4	Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.	Revise spellings of key terms and vocabulary. Practise writing formal essays.



REVISION STRATEGIES

English Literature revision can be broken into TWO threads.

We therefore suggest revision should involve both strategies over time.

1. CONTENT REVISION

This is about ensuring the key knowledge by the student can be recalled, quickly and without effort.

To aid this, we recommend a blend of strategies:

- Flash cards detailing key terms with definitions and examples.
- Mind maps which help articulate any links and allow students to rehearse the various approaches required for each question.
- Create key quotation flash cards for all the set texts so these are known and understood.
- Revisiting and creating posters of the key knowledge documents shared in class.
- Engaging with Century Tech in any of the gap identified areas and completing these quizzes until mastery of content is clear.
- Watching – and making notes – from trusted YouTube sites like Mr Bruff.
- Use AI to explore different responses to the question and use this to create essay plans, alongside your own revision.

2. REHEARSAL REVISION

This is where students rehearse HOW to respond to exam questions by either: planning responses to real papers or responding under timed conditions.

Here the aim is to practise applying their knowledge, ensuring they are able to identify relevant quotations and then comment on these effectively.

Doing this students should:

- Visit revision sites and then respond to questions. They can then check these against the mark schemes. What did they correctly identify; what did they miss; what might their next steps be?
- Look at past papers which can be found on AQA's website. Practise responding to these in timed conditions.
- Use YouTube to see well written responses.



READING LIST

Here's the best of the best in terms of websites you should be regularly visiting.

1. [GCSE English Literature - AQA - BBC Bitesize](#)
2. [AQA English Revision - An Inspector Calls](#)
3. [AQA English Revision – Macbeth](#)
4. [AQA GCSE English Section B: Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology – PMT](#)
5. [AQA 'Power and Conflict' Poetry – YouTube](#)
6. [AQA | Resources | Past Papers & AQA Mark Schemes](#)

Students will have a chance to purchase CGP revision books through school. These books can be helpful to provide students with a focus for their revision.

Students can also re-read the set texts at any point.



CAREER PATHWAY

Further Education Pathways

Students achieving a grade 4 or above may progress to A-Level English Language or English Literature.

Other options include vocational courses in Media, Journalism, or Performing Arts.

Higher Education Pathways

- **English Literature** (University of Leeds, Newcastle University)
- **Editor** (Newcastle University)
- **Journalism** (University of Sheffield, City University London)
- **Law** (University of Durham, University of York)
- **Teacher** (various universities)
- **Content Creators**
- **Public Relations**
- **Theatre and Performing Arts**
- **Museum and Gallery Curator**



KS4 CURRICULUM PLAN





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