

English at GCSE & how to help your child do well in the examination

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English**

Why are English and Maths GCSEs so important?



- A good pass in an English or maths GCSE is needed for most level 3 courses
- Most universities and many jobs demand maths and especially English GCSEs often at grades 6 & 7
- Resits in English and maths are obligatory
- Essential life skills

PLCs

(Personalised Learning Checklists)

- all Y11 students have access to revision checklists at www.my-plc.co.uk
- checklists have been uploaded or created by PMS subject leaders
- most subjects are available ; more will be added

- students have signed up during tutorial over the past couple of weeks
- students will have regular access during tutorial time over the year to update checklists
- MyPLC can be accessed at school, or outside school on any internet enabled device (phone, tablet, laptop, etc.)

- staff have access and can use the information to help students target revision more effectively.

The screenshot shows the MyPLC website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the MyPLC logo and a user profile dropdown for 'Ann Other'. Below this is a notification banner stating 'You have joined the class: 11X/En1 English.' with a close button. A breadcrumb trail shows 'Home / Your PLCs'. A search bar is present with the text 'Enter a class code to join a class: *' and a 'Join' button. Below the search bar is a list of class options: 'English Language (GCSE 2016)', 'English Literature (GCSE 2016)', and 'PE (GCSE 2016)'. A red circle highlights the first two options.

Once signed in, students enter **class codes** in order to see the correct checklists for their groups.

Home / Your PLCs / English Language (GCSE...

Ann Other

English Language (GCSE 2016)

Save

Reading

QUESTION 1: 'IDENTIFY' LISTING KEY INFORMATION

	Teacher	Student
Select information from lines stated	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Identify the focus of the question	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
List four things linked to the question	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quote directly from the text	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Student can then RAG (red-amber-green) rate their skills to highlight their perceived strengths and areas

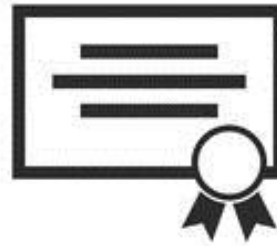
QUESTION 2: 'LANGUAGE'



**And now on to English
GCSEs**

What is GCSE English?

- o English Language
- o English Literature
- o = 2 GCSEs



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English Language Exams

- Two exam papers:
 - Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing
 - Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints & perspectives
 - Spoken Language task (Pass merit or fail)
- No coursework
- Passages from fiction and non fiction
- Modern and 19th century texts



English Literature Exams

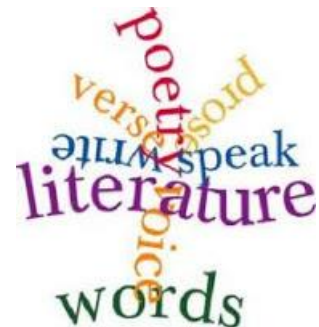
Two exams:

- Shakespeare and 19th Century Literature (1 hr 45 minutes)
- Modern texts and Poetry (2 hours 15 minutes)



English Literature texts

- 19th Century: Great Expectations or A Christmas Carol
- Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet
- Modern: An Inspector Calls
- Poetry: Anthology – Power and Conflict
- Poetry Unseen



Skills for both exams

Reading skills tested:

- Select information
- Use quotations to support views
- Infer and deduce
- Analyse language and structure
- Compare

Writing skills tested

- Adapt writing style to audience, form and purpose
- Develop ideas in appropriate detail*
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar

* English Language only



Timetable until summer exams

November Mock

- English Language Paper 1
- English Literature Paper 1

December

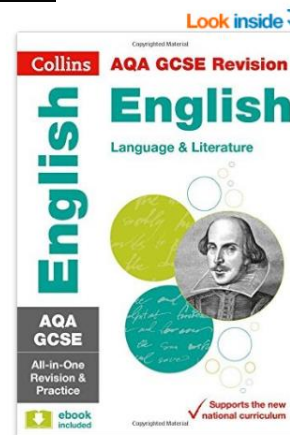
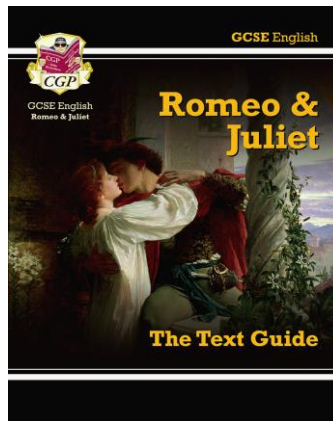
- English Language Paper 2

Spring Term

- English Literature Paper 2
- English Language Paper 1



On to English revision

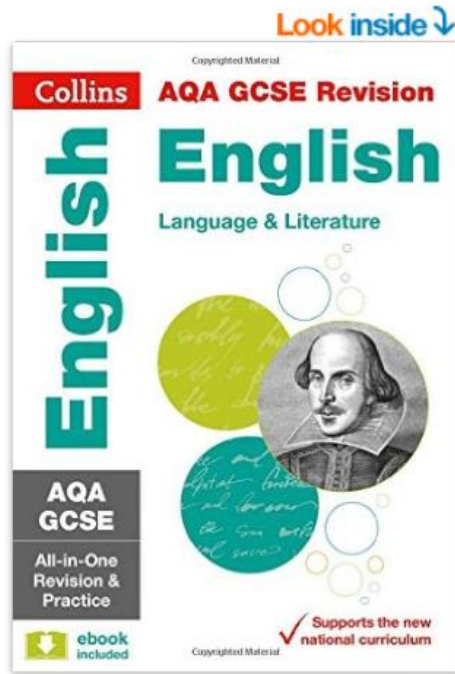


Misconceptions.....

You can't revise for English Language



How to revise for English Language and Literature



All students have been issued with a revision guide for English Language & Literature



How to revise for English Language and Literature



- Students have exercise books with notes in for each paper and set text

How to revise for English Language: Revision checklist

English Prove It+ tasks for Year 11
autumn term

Practise your talk at home and respond to questions

For the mock in November (English Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th century novel)

Re-read your set text & the notes you made in class	
Go on to BBC Bitesize for English Literature and work through the guidance for your text	
Go on to BBC Bitesize English Language and work through the section on fiction	
Go on to BBC Bitesize English Literature and work through Romeo & Juliet	
Make notes on characters in your set texts	
Make notes on themes in your set texts	
Make notes on the language and structure of your set texts	
Work through the literature sections of your revision guide	

Bitesize websites:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/ze9d7zv>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zckw2hv>

Another really useful free website

<http://www.englishbiz.co.uk/mainguides/play.htm>

<http://www.sparknotes.com/>

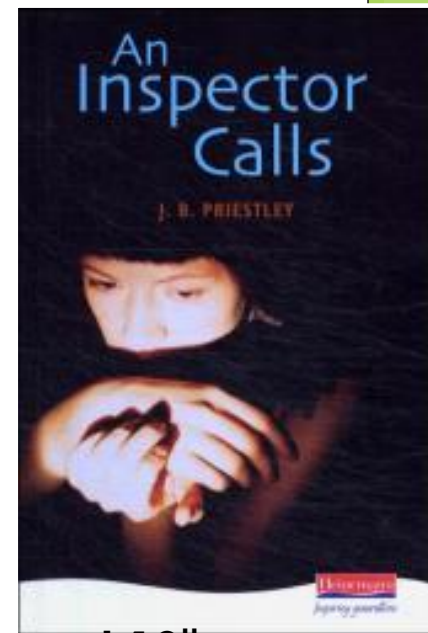
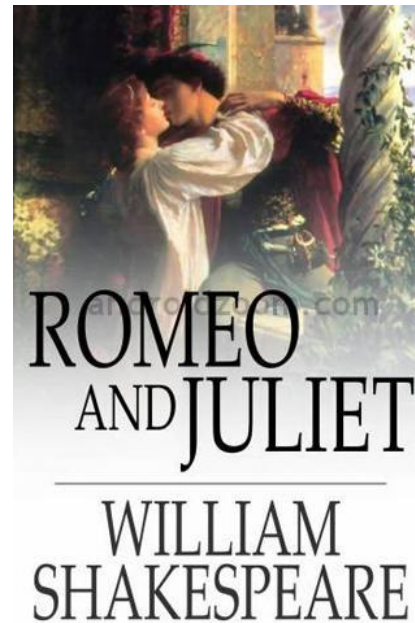
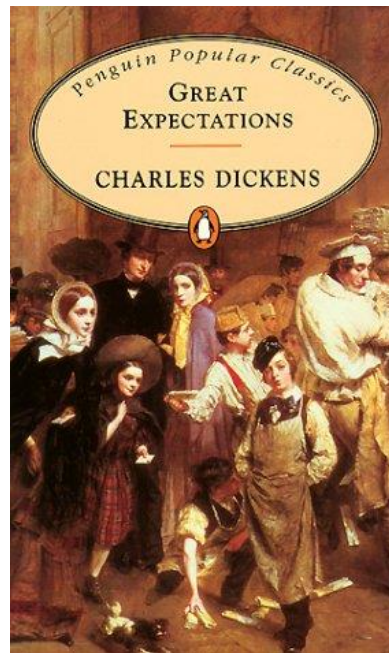
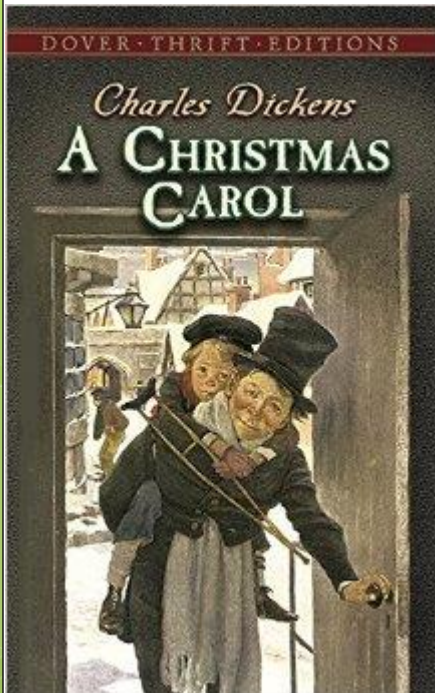


For the mock in December use your notes and revision guides to work on these skills for English Language paper 2:

Summary skills	
Analysing a writer's use of language	
Comparing attitudes of writers towards the same subject	
Writing to argue, persuade, inform and advise	
How to write: newspaper articles, speeches, leaflets, letters	
BBC Bitesize for the skills above as well	

On the Prove it + area there is a quick checklist of a summary of skills and recommended websites

How to revise for English Literature: re-read the set text



Links to free copies of Shakespeare and 19th century texts on Prove it+ area

<https://archive.org/details/gutenberg>

How to revise for English Literature

Prove It+: Romeo & Juliet

Points to remember:
 You will be given an extract from the play and asked to analyse it based on a focus - character or theme.
 e.g. "How does Shakespeare present violence and conflict in this extract? How is violence and conflict presented elsewhere in the play?" (30 marks)

You are assessed for:
 AO1: maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response; use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations. (12 marks)
 AO2: analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects; use relevant subject terminology where appropriate. (12 marks)
 AO3: show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written. (6 marks)

The following tasks will help you prepare:

1. Create a timeline to see
2. Generate a list of all are involved in an

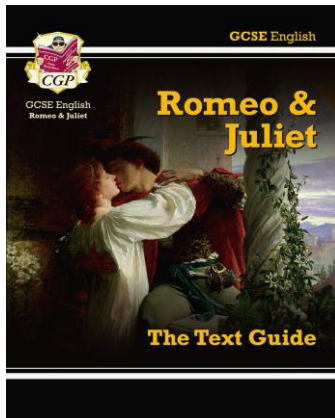
Prove It+: Romeo & Juliet

Your revision checklist:

	✓	R	A	G
Plot				
Key Character: Romeo				
Key Character: Juliet				
Key Character: Mercutio				
Key Character: The Nurse				
Key Character: Friar Laurence				
Key Character: Benvolio				
Key Character: Tybalt				
Key Characters: Lord and Lady Capulet				
Key Characters: Lord and Lady Montague				
Theme: Love				
Theme: Fate and Free Will				
Theme: Death and Life				
Theme: Father-Daughter Relationship / Family				
Context: Historical - The Playwright				
Context: Social - A Patriarchal Society				
Context: Social - The Family				
Context: Cultural - Young Love				
Setting and Location				

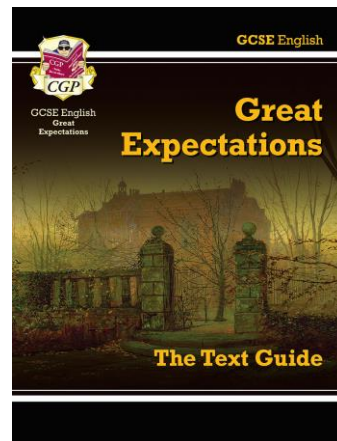
Tasks and self evaluation checklists for each skill for English Literature are on the Prove it + area

How to revise for English Literature



Revision guides and films can be purchased from Amazon on each text:

- Romeo and Juliet
- Great Expectations
- A Christmas Carol
- An Inspector Calls
- AQA Poetry



What else can we offer?

- Drop in sessions after school – Thursday
- Revision APP should be available later in the year



To conclude.....



You can revise for English Language and Literature and need to start now!

