English Revision Information Evening

Eduqas GCSE English Language

Eduqas GCSE English Literature

How to Revise for Success

Planning your revision

English is two separate GCSEs.

You will need to revise for English Literature and English Language as two separate subjects. This means you will have twice as much English as other subjects on your revision schedule.

GCSE English Language

- Eduqas exam board
- Paper 1: Fiction reading and narrative writing
- Paper 2: Non-fiction reading and transactional writing

GCSE English Literature

- Eduqas exam board
- Paper 1: Macbeth and Poetry Anthology (15 poems)
- Paper 2: An Inspector Calls, A Christmas Carol and Unseen Poetry

GCSE English Literature

Key Knowledge

- Understanding plot of whole texts
- Understanding characters
- Understanding writer's intentions
- Ability to retain a wide range of quotations to use in their responses

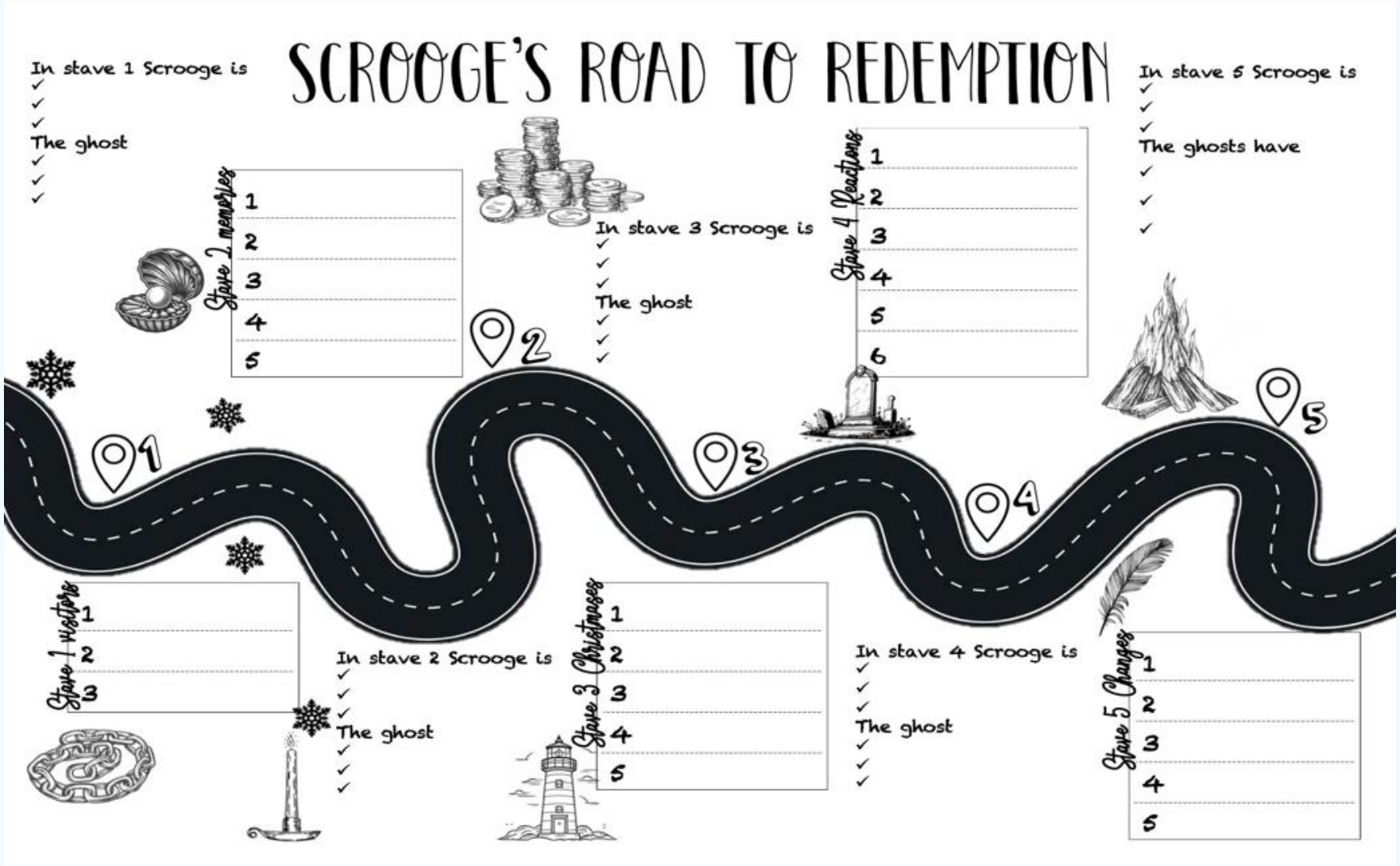
Key Skills

- Understanding the 'formula' of each question
- Structuring answers successfully
- Fluency in writing
- Accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar

Three Strategies for Success - Literature

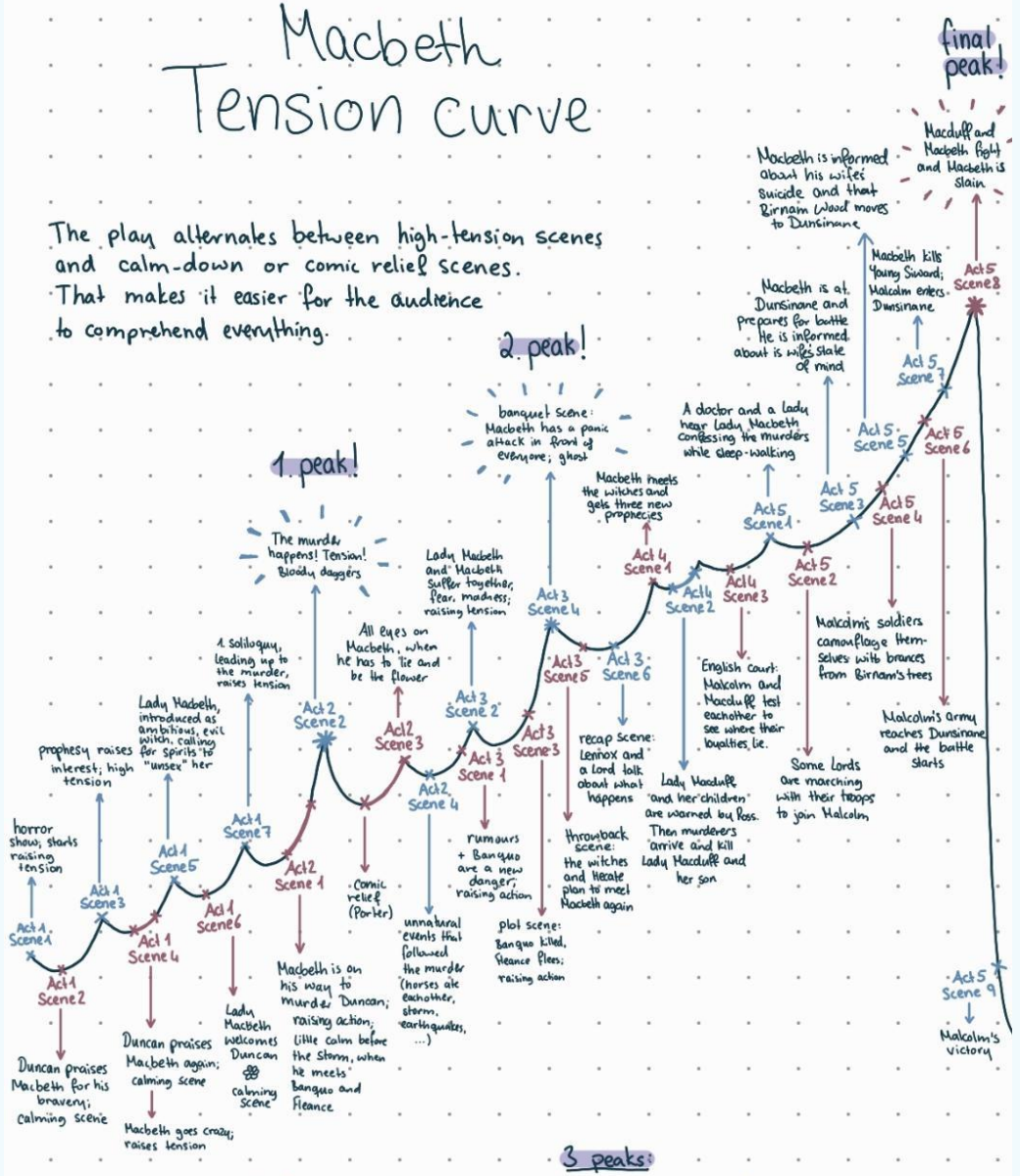
1. Tracking characters, themes and plot
2. Re-reading annotated texts
3. Quotation retrieval and revision

Tracking characters, themes and plot



Macbeth
Tension curve

The play alternates between high-tension scenes and calm-down or comic relief scenes. That makes it easier for the audience to comprehend everything.



3 peaks:

At first everything leads up to the murder of Duncan. (first peak). Then we get to see Macbeth's increasing madness and everything leads up to his outbreak in front of everyone at the banquet, which blows his cover (second peak).
Then everything leads up to the finale in which he is defeated (final peak).

Inspector Goole



PRIESTLEY'S VOICE

"We don't live alone. We are members of one body"

PRESCIENT

"If men will not learn that lesson, they will be taught it in fire, blood and anguish"

"I'm not going until I know all that happened"

FORCEFUL

"(sharply) Come along, Mr Croft. What happened?

"She wasn't pretty when I saw her today"

BLUNT

"If it was left to me, I wouldn't know where to draw the line [between respectable citizens and criminals]"

EMOTIVE

"She was here alone, friendless, almost penniless, desperate [...] And you slammed the door in her face."

INFLUENTIAL

"You seem to have made a great impression on this child, Inspector"

EMPATHETIC

"I've thought that it would do us all a bit of good if sometimes we tried to put ourselves in the place of these young women..."

"We have to share something. If there's nothing else, we'll have to share our guilt"

ENIGMATIC

"There's no Inspector Goole on the police. That man definitely wasn't a police inspector at all"

MORAL

"Public men, Mr Birling, have responsibilities as well as privileges"

"Don't stammer and yammer at me again, man. I'm losing all patience with you people."

NOT INTIMIDATED BY CLASS

CUNNING

"No hushing up, eh? Make an example of the young man, eh? Public confession of responsibility – um?"

ACCUSATORY

"...each of you helped to kill her. Remember that."

"You heard what I said before, Mr Croft"

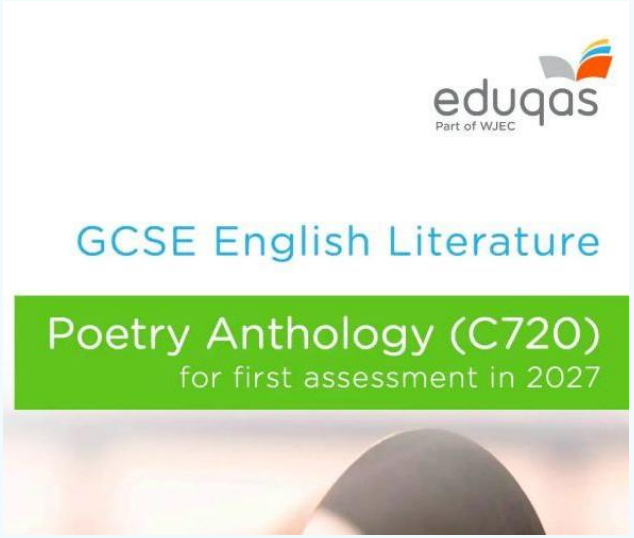
Re-reading and wider reading

Students have annotated copies of their four texts:

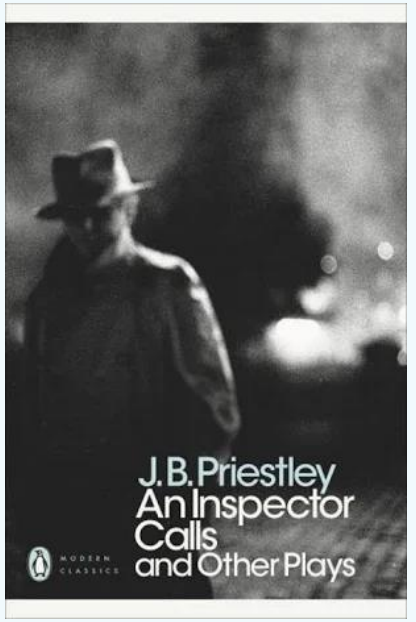
- Poetry Anthology
- Macbeth
- A Christmas Carol
- An Inspector Calls

Re-reading their texts and annotations is useful **early** revision.

These are mostly kept in school, but students can take them home for revision.









Quotation retrieval and revision

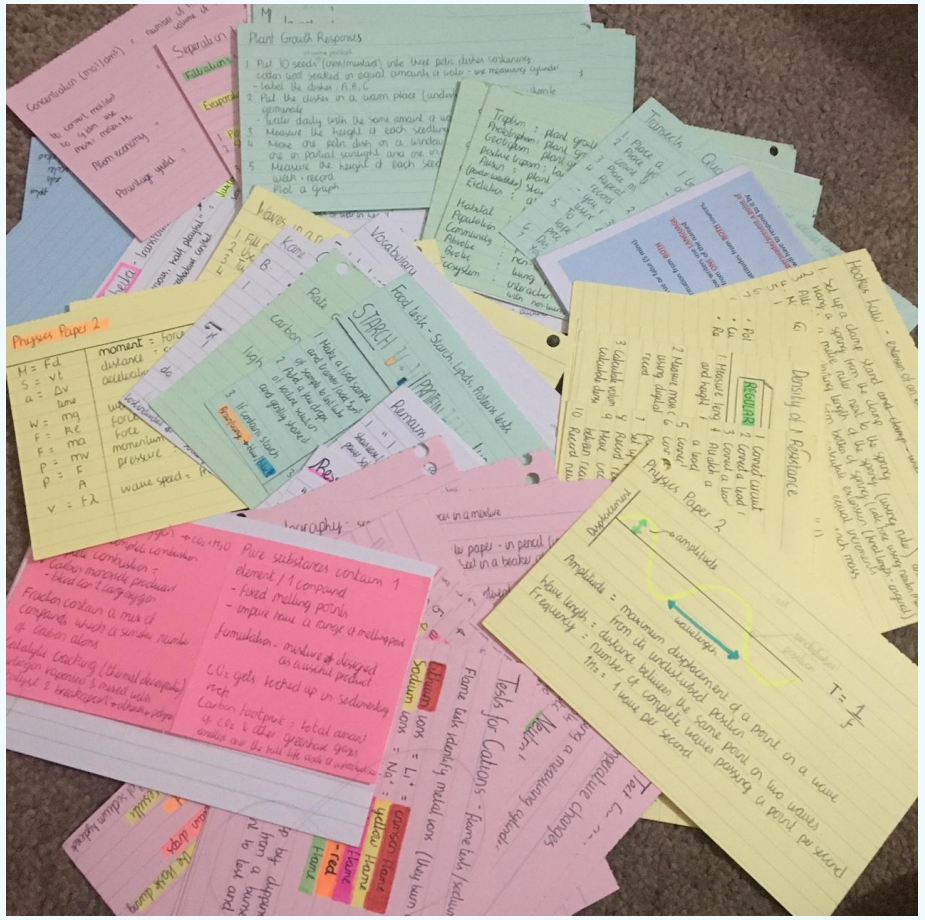
Learning quotations for each text is crucial to success.

Students should aim to know at least ten quotations per character/theme, plus at least six from each poem.

Repetition is key.

Top tips:

- Listen to the poems/read them aloud.
- Keep quotations short.
- Use flashcards and test yourself regularly.
- Stick post-its and notes where you will see them regularly.
- Make it part of your daily routine.
- Use mnemonics, songs or rhymes.
- Flashcard apps



Three Strategies for Success - Language

1. Learn your question strategies
2. Timed writing and practice papers
3. The power of reading

Learn your question strategies

Firstly, it says “in defiance of world opinion” This suggests that most of the people in the world find whaling unacceptable.
Next, it uses the statistic “more than 2,000 animals”. This suggests that many whales are at risk of being hunted.
Then, it says “Iceland, which started whaling again three years ago”. This suggests that whaling is becoming more common
Then, it says “bloodiest bout of whale slaughter”. This shows the cruelty and brutality of whale hunting
Next, it says “whaling is illegal in Denmark”. This shows that the whalers are going against the law.
Then, it says “250 whales reportedly massacre” . This suggests that a horrible amount of whales are killed in one day.
After, it says “violently dragged”. This suggests that the people are almost torturing the whales.
Finally, it says “continue its arrogant support”. This shows that the the writer believes Denmark is wrong for continuing to allow whale hunting

In your language papers, there is a clear ‘formula’ for each question.

Learning these strategies is an important part of your revision.

- Know your timings.
- Know the structure of each question.
- Know how many quotations you need to select and what you need to do with them.

Track- Quote- Suggests x 7+

Timed writing and practice papers

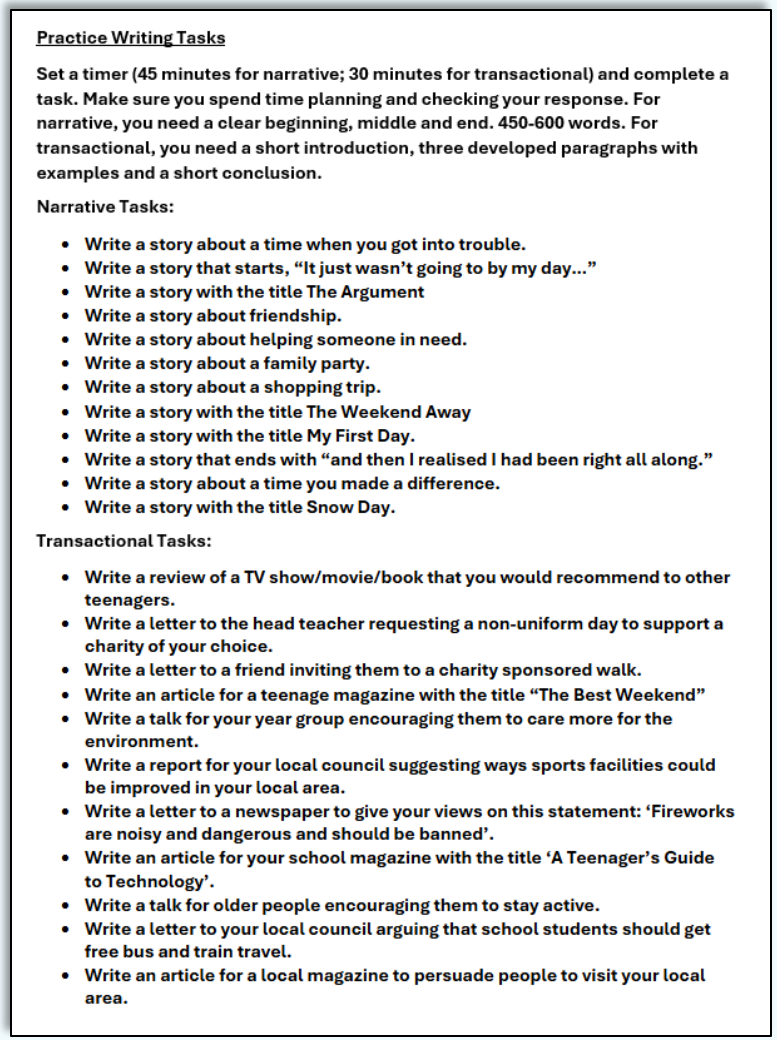
Component One

- In C1, students have to write a full story in 45 minutes.
- Writing pre-planned stories in timed conditions will give you confidence.
- Every time you rewrite it, you will make improvements.
- Set a 45 minute timer and make sure you get to 450-600 words.

Component Two

- In C2, students have to write two pieces of non-fiction writing in 1 hour.
- The more practice you do, the better these will be.
- Set a 30 minute timer, create a quick three-step plan and then write it up. Make sure you can get to 250-300 words.

Timed writing and practice papers



Practice Writing Tasks

Set a timer (45 minutes for narrative; 30 minutes for transactional) and complete a task. Make sure you spend time planning and checking your response. For narrative, you need a clear beginning, middle and end. 450-600 words. For transactional, you need a short introduction, three developed paragraphs with examples and a short conclusion.

Narrative Tasks:

- **Write a story about a time when you got into trouble.**
- **Write a story that starts, "It just wasn't going to by my day…"**
- **Write a story with the title The Argument**
- **Write a story about friendship.**
- **Write a story about helping someone in need.**
- **Write a story about a family party.**
- **Write a story about a shopping trip.**
- **Write a story with the title The Weekend Away**
- **Write a story with the title My First Day.**
- **Write a story that ends with "and then I realised I had been right all along."**
- **Write a story about a time you made a difference.**
- **Write a story with the title Snow Day.**

Transactional Tasks:

- **Write a review of a TV show/movie/book that you would recommend to other teenagers.**
- **Write a letter to the head teacher requesting a non-uniform day to support a charity of your choice.**
- **Write a letter to a friend inviting them to a charity sponsored walk.**
- **Write an article for a teenage magazine with the title "The Best Weekend"**
- **Write a talk for your year group encouraging them to care more for the environment.**
- **Write a report for your local council suggesting ways sports facilities could be improved in your local area.**
- **Write a letter to a newspaper to give your views on this statement: 'Fireworks are noisy and dangerous and should be banned'.**
- **Write an article for your school magazine with the title 'A Teenager's Guide to Technology'.**
- **Write a talk for older people encouraging them to stay active.**
- **Write a letter to your local council arguing that school students should get free bus and train travel.**
- **Write an article for a local magazine to persuade people to visit your local area.**

A sheet of practice writing questions is available to collect at the back of the hall. Instructions for timings and structure are on the sheet.

Encourage students to complete these by hand in timed conditions.

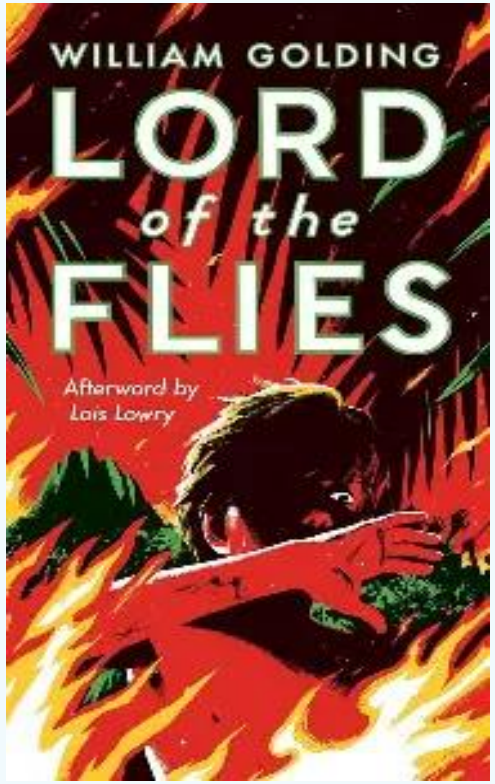
Further practice papers are available from staff or online: GCSE English Language | Eduqas

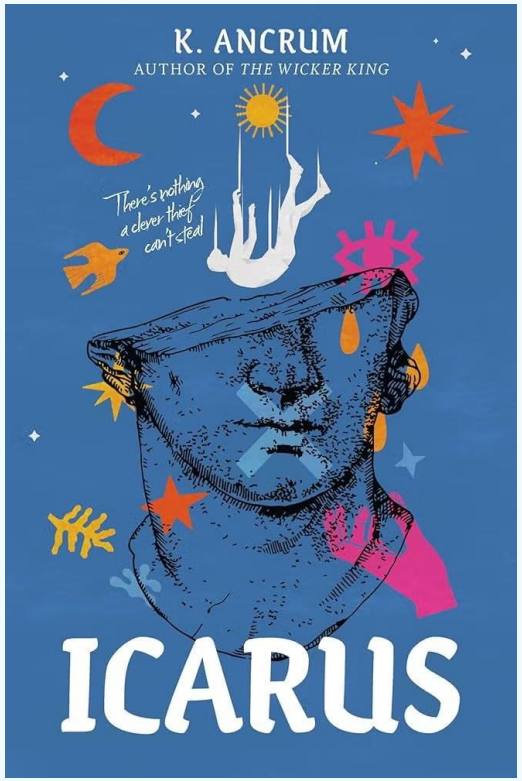
The power of reading

The more students read, the better their fluency, imagination and ideas.

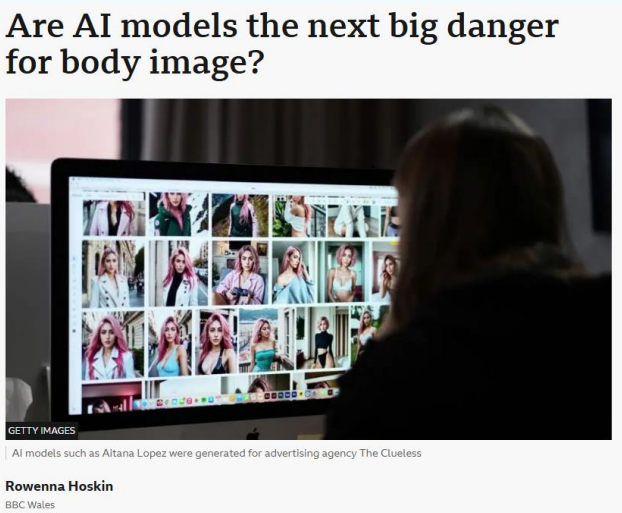
Both fiction and non-fiction will help students in different ways.

Students need to build awareness of current ‘big topics’ (e.g. environmental concerns, animals in captivity, AI, things to do in your local area, young people's mental health crisis etc.). Students could be asked about any current topic for transactional writing.









Some revision tips from last year's cohort...

*"I found it useful to **write a question on the card, then on the back, write the answer**. I got someone else, **like my mum or friends, to read the question to me**. I would explain my answer, and they'd give me feedback on what I got right, and what I got wrong"*

*"I made **flashcards** with **half of a quote** on one side, and the rest of it on the other"*

*"a good strategy for me was to **revise quotes on a timeline** ,so going scene by scene and trying to remember what happened in that scene and what quotes were used. This helped me **remember the storyline** with more ease and to not miss out key parts"*

*"Think of an exciting story and if you can **adapt it** to all of the different ideas, then use that one. It needs to be flexible and not the exact same every time! **Practise writing it out a lot**."*

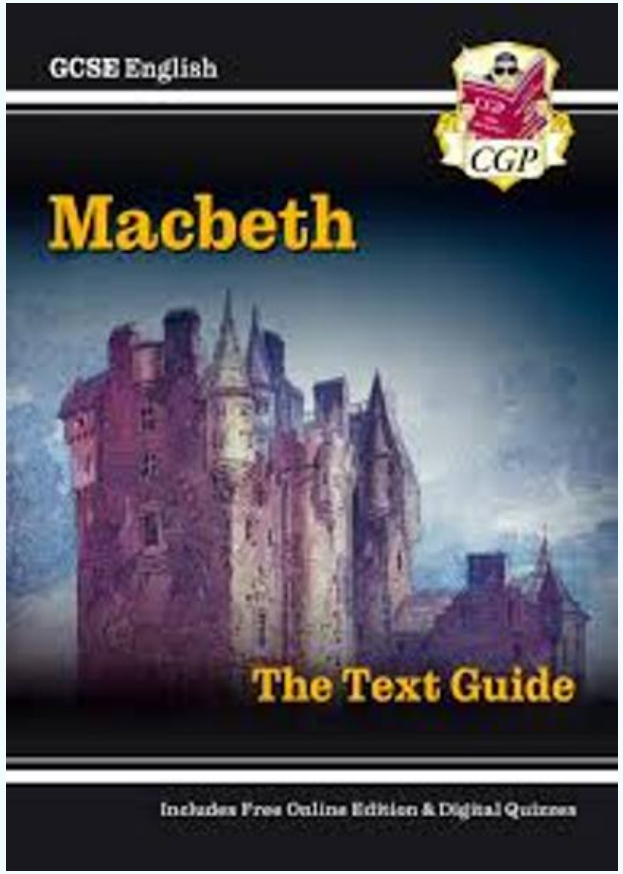
*"I found that the best method was **making essay plans** for as many questions as I could and **memorising them by blurting them out**."*

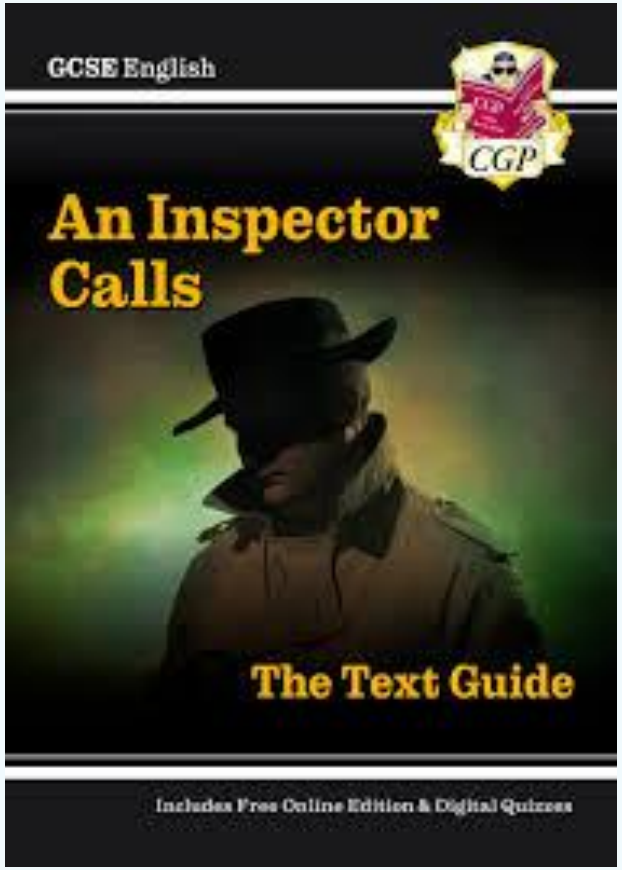
Revision Guides Available

You can now buy **discounted CGP revision guides** through school for the following areas:

- An Inspector Calls
- Macbeth
- A Christmas Carol
- Poetry Anthology
- Unseen Poetry
- English Language workbooks

Forms have been sent out.
Deadline Monday 12th October.





Next steps…

- Collect a ‘writing task’ sheet
- CGP guides
- Revision timetables
- Re-reading and preparing revision resources
- October half term revision challenge

Thank you for listening.