**Year 10 examinations 2024 English Literature EDEXCEL**

Students in Year 10 will be taking their English Literature exams this academic year. Please use the information below to ensure you are familiar with the dates and contents of the exams.

**Key Dates:**

* **Monday 13th May 2024 9am - Paper 1: Macbeth and An Inspector Calls (1hour 45 minutes + extra time)**
* **Monday 20th May 2024 9am – Paper 2: A Christmas Carol and Poetry (2 hours 15 minutes + extra time)**

**Contents of the papers:**

**Paper 1 – Macbeth (55 minutes for two questions)**

Extract question (20 marks) – students need to analyse the language looking for techniques used by Shakespeare and say how they affect the reader i.e. Shakespeare uses rhetorical questions to show Macbeth’s confusion.

Essay question (20 marks) – students need to show their understanding of the rest of the play (not the extract already looked at) by writing about an idea linked to the extract they have just read. They need to include key context i.e. The Divine Right of Kings, Witchcraft, Views of Masculinity (patriarchy) and Femininity in King James’ I reign.

**Paper 1 – An Inspector Calls (55 minutes for one question)**

Essay question (40 marks) – students need to show their understanding of the whole play and the context of the time it was written in. They may be asked to write about a character or theme from the play and explain why the playwright has included them. They will also be marked for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) in this answer.

**Paper 2 - A Christmas Carol (55 minutes for two questions)**

Extract question (20 marks) –students need to analyse the language looking for techniques used by Dickens and say how they affect the reader i.e. a list of negative adjectives has been used to describe how dark the area is.

Essay question (20 marks) - students need to show their understanding of the rest of the novel (not the extract already looked at) by writing about an idea linked to the extract they have just read. They do not need to talk about context for this novel.

**Paper 2 – Conflict Poetry (35 minutes for one question)**

Extract question (20 marks) – students will be given a new clean copy of one of the fifteen poems they have studied and asked to compare it to another poem from the cluster from memory on a shared idea or theme.

**Paper 2 – Unseen Poetry (45 minutes for one question)**

Extract question (20 marks) – students are given two poems they have never seen before on a linked idea or theme. They need to compare the way the idea or theme has been presented in each poem by looking at the language and structure techniques the poets have used (they are not expected to talk about context).

**Structure of study:** Please note this overview is what we expect to cover when, but will be adapted to meet the needs of students as the year progresses.

Autumn term 1 – September – October half term – An Inspector Calls

Autumn term 2 – November – Christmas – A Christmas Carol

**January Mock exam in hall – A Christmas Carol and An Inspector Calls**

Spring term 1 – January – February half term – Poetry Conflict and Unseen

Spring term 2 – March – Easter – Revision of Macbeth

**Easter Mock exam – Macbeth and Poetry**

Summer term 1 – Easter – May exams – Final revision

Summer term 2 – Spoken Language endorsement for GCSE Language in Year 11

**Where to access extra help:**

Students are busy learning the texts in class and we appreciate your support in keeping them focused on this. Additionally, there are resources on Teams, such as independent timed response that can be completed and handed in to teachers. A wealth of video lessons on YouTube and Oak Academy can also be accessed. Students often find watching a short analysis video a quick, but powerful form of revision. There are lots of revision guides (we recommend the CPG editions) /videos available, but please ensure they are EDEXCEL Literature from 2017 (GCSE 9-1) focused.

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| Text | Suggested resources |
| Macbeth | Any film version of Macbeth – some are quite dark  The play is on at Stratford Theatre until October 14th <https://www.rsc.org.uk/macbeth/> |
| An Inspector Calls | The Alistar Sim version of the play (buy or rent on Prime) sticks to the story best, but a more modern version is available on BBC I Player. |
| A Christmas Carol | Animated film starring Jim Carey 2009 – sticks to the text well (buy or rent on Prime), again a more modern version (2019) is available, but it is very dramatised, so not recommended for revision.  There is also a traditional reading of the story at The Courtyard Theatre in December <https://www.courtyard.org.uk/events/a-christmas-carol-2/> |
| Conflict Poetry | There are lots of great videos on Youtube that analyse the poems we study individually – The two below look at all the poems an overview  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cY1gNTYb8jY>  Ad in deatil  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1ZFDOkpjxQ> |
| Unseen Poetry | Videos are available – the best revision is to look at two poems on the same topic and compare them. The question will be: ‘Compare how these two poets have explored the theme of...’ |

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

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