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11th March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

Re: GCSE English Examinations

Please see below an outline of the requirements for the GCSE English examinations:

18th May 2022 - English Language Paper 1 [80 marks]

Students are given a piece of fiction writing and asked to answer Section A and Section B.

Questions in Section A are primarily focused on language and structural analysis and evaluation. It is vital that students revise their key terminology and are confident in their usage of PEE paragraphs.

Section B is a piece of creative writing which counts for 40 of the 80 marks. It is imperative that students revise and practise their creative writing to ensure it is of a high standard. Good spelling, punctuation and grammar are essential for this component.

10th June 2022 - English Language Paper 2 [80 marks]:

Students are given two pieces of non-fiction writing and asked to answer Section A and Section B.

Questions in Section A include a summary, language analysis and a comparison of the writer's viewpoint. As with Paper 1, it is vital that students know their key terminology and are confident in the use of PEE paragraphs.

Section B is a piece of non-fiction writing and, this year, we have been told by the exam board that the students will be writing an article. It is imperative that the student has revised and practised their non-fiction writing to ensure it is of a high standard. Good spelling, punctuation and grammar are essential for this component.

25/5/2022 - English Literature Paper 1: Jekyll and Hyde + Lord of the Flies

Both papers are literary essays on the texts. Whilst students will be given an extract to assist them with the Jekyll and Hyde essay, the Lord of the Flies component does NOT include an extract. It is imperative that the student has memorised quotes on both characters and themes; and is confident in their use of PEE paragraphs. It is also vital that contextual information is memorised to ensure key marks are not lost.

8/6/2022 - English Literature Paper 2: Macbeth + Unseen Poetry

The Macbeth component consists of a literary essay. An extract will be given but students will still need to refer to the play as a whole. It is thus vital that key quotes focusing on character/theme are memorised and the student should be confident in their use of PEE paragraphs. Contextual information is also vital.

The Unseen Poetry component consists of a long, literary analysis of one poem [24 marks] and a shorter comparison of the first and a second poem [8 marks].

These poems will probably NOT have been seen by the student before. It is vital that the student has a good understanding of poetic devices and is confident in their ability to structure a poetry essay and write a comparison.

If you feel concerned about the volume of revision required, please remember that your child's teacher has been preparing your child for the last 18 months in school. Our students have been aware of these requirements since Year 10 thus, none of this should be unexpected. All students have been given every opportunity for success and I am grateful to the teachers who have worked exceptionally hard to ensure provision of resources.



Students have a wealth of resources in their folders as well as many available to them digitally (via Google Classroom). Please encourage your child to bring their folder home and make use of the resources on their Google Classroom to revise.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Child
English Subject Leader

