



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Year: 11

Subject: English Language

Overview

There are 3 examinations:

Non-exam assessment – Spoken Language.

Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing.

In Section A, students will be given an extract from a novel or short story. This extract will be from an unseen text. This is a test of their fiction reading skills.

In Section B, students will be asked to produce a piece of creative writing, such as a description or a story opening. This is a test of their fiction writing skills.

The examination will last 1 hour and 45 minutes. It is worth 80 marks and makes up 50% of the English Language GCSE.

Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives.

In Section A, students will be given two non-fiction texts. These extracts will be from an unseen text. This is a test of their non-fiction reading skills.

In Section B, students will be asked to produce a piece of non-fiction writing in which they present a point of view. This is a test of their non-fiction writing skills.

The examination will last 1 hour and 45 minutes. It is also worth 80 marks and makes up the other 50% of the English Language GCSE.

Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing.

The aim of this paper is to engage students in a creative text and inspire them to write creatively themselves. Students are required to read a literature fiction text and to consider how established writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to capture the interest of readers. Students will also write their own creative text, to demonstrate their narrative and descriptive skills in response to a written prompt, scenario or visual image.

Prose fiction texts will be drawn from either the 20th or 21st century. They will include extracts from novels and short stories and focus on openings, endings, narrative perspectives and points of view, narrative or descriptive passages, character, atmospheric descriptions and other appropriate narrative and descriptive approaches. Students will be required to develop a range of active reading strategies that will support their reading and understanding of the range of texts. In addition, students will practise how to identify and select explicit and implicit ideas and information. Students will build their subject terminology for language and structure methods. They will engage in the study of how writers use words, phrases, language features and sentence forms for effect and understand how to select appropriate quotations. Students will understand what is meant by 'structure' and 'structural methods' and explore how writers use structure to achieve effects. In addition, students will understand how to evaluate texts critically, understanding a writer's intentions, and selecting appropriate textual evidence. Again, they will develop their own language of evaluation.

Students will also be required to respond imaginatively to a creative writing task: either descriptive or narrative. They will practise how to communicate their ideas clearly and effectively, matching their writing to purpose, audience and form. They will understand how to make deliberate choices of language and textual features, so that their writing has the intended impact on readers. Students will be encouraged to use their imagination and creativity in their writing, as well as technical accuracy.

Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives.

The aim of this paper is to engage students in two non-fiction texts and inspire them to write from a viewpoint themselves about a particular issue or topic. Students are required to read a range of non-fiction and literary non-fiction texts, including 19th, 20th and 21st century texts and to consider how established writers convey their viewpoints and perspectives on a range of issues and topics to the reader. Students will also write their own text, conveying their viewpoint and perspective to demonstrate their skills in writing for purpose, audience and form, in response to a written scenario.

Students will explore how writers express their viewpoints and perspectives in a range of non-fiction and literary non-fiction texts. Students will revise 'explicit' and implicit' meaning, understanding how to respond to these types of meaning, using comprehension skills and skills of inference and deduction. They will practise how to identify and retrieve explicit and implicit ideas and information in a range of texts. They will also understand how to synthesize the explicit and implicit ideas and information from two texts. Furthermore, students will explore how a writer uses language to convey their viewpoint and perspective, using subject terminology accurately to comment on the language. Students will be required to write comparatively, showing their understanding of writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts.

Students will also be required to write to present a viewpoint. They will practise expressing their point of view, including positive, negative and neutral views. They will explore how to convey their viewpoint, widening their vocabulary and range of sentence types for effect and selecting appropriate tone and register when expressing a point of view. Students will practise how to communicate their ideas clearly and effectively, matching their writing to purpose, audience and form. Students will continue to practise their technical accuracy, understanding how to organise ideas into sequenced sentences and paragraphs, developing cohesive links; using a variety of sentence lengths and types; using punctuation, grammar and spelling correctly and employing Standard English appropriately.

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Overview

There are two examinations:

Paper 1 Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel.

In Section A, students are required to answer one question on a Shakespeare play. They will write in detail about an extract from the play and then write about the play as a whole.

In Section B, students are required to answer one question about a 19th-century novel. They will write in detail about an extract from the novel and then write about the novel as a whole.

The Paper One exam will last 1 hour and 45 minutes. It is worth 64 marks and makes up 40% of the English Literature GCSE.

Paper 2 Modern texts and poetry.

In Section A, students answer one essay question from a choice of two on the studied modern drama text.

In Section B, students answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from the anthology cluster 'Poetry of Power and Conflict'.

In Section C, students answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

The Paper 2 exam will last 2 hours and 15 minutes. It is worth 96 marks and makes up the other 60% of the English Literature GCSE.

Paper 1 Section A and Section B

Students will revise both texts, 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare and 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens, including plot, characterisation, themes, methods, and context. They will learn quotations which will enable them to trace key ideas, themes and characterisation throughout the whole of the texts. Students will also learn how to use a range of revision strategies, such as revision clocks, to support their independent revision, leading up to the examination. In addition, students will also practise writing in response to examination questions, in timed conditions. They will engage in close study of particular extracts from each text, in preparation for the 'extract question' as well as the whole text, since they are also required to write about the text as a whole, informed by the extract.

Literature Paper 2 Section A

Students will revise both texts, 'An Inspector Calls' by JB Priestley and 'Poetry of Power and Conflict' from the AQA Anthology, including plot, characterisation, themes, methods, and context. They will learn how to use a range of revision strategies, such as revision clocks, to support their independent revision, leading up to the examination. Students will also practise writing in response to examination questions, in timed conditions. They will revise quotations which will enable them to trace key ideas, themes and characterisation throughout the whole of the texts. In addition, they will develop further their critical vocabulary and expression, including subject terminology. Students will also revise the vocabulary of connectives and words or phrases which will enable them to explain ideas, draw links or explore contrasts in their responses to poetry in the examination.