

Q E G S

BLACKBURN

English



What's Changed?

OLD

Controlled assessment
(Coursework)
20%

Tiered papers (Foundation and
Higher)

Assessment of spoken language
(Speaking and Listening
Assessments) 20%

Open book: Poetry, play and novel

NEW

- **100% terminal examination – four exam papers – a total of seven and a half hours**
- A requirement to include a C19th, C20th, C21st text in each exam series
- Unseen literature, literary non-fiction and non-fiction texts in each exam series
- **There is an increased emphasis on analysis and evaluation and on providing appropriate supporting textual reference (They must learn quotes)**
- Synthesis of information from different texts is now a requirement
- In writing, there is increased weighting and emphasis on Spelling, punctuation and grammar (20% of the marks available)
- **A requirement to know the historical context of Shakespeare, the modern novel and 15 poems**

In the Classroom

LITERATURE CONTENT

- Discuss, annotate and assess pupil responses to the 15 poems from the anthology – spread out over 2/3 years (10/11)
- Shakespeare (*Macbeth*) in Year 10
- *An Inspector Calls* J.B Priestley Year 10
- *A Christmas Carol* Charles Dickens Year 9/ 11

What does this mean for the pupil?

- ✓ 3 – 4 quotations per poem from the anthology plus themes and contextual information (Pupils are given ONE poem but need to compare another from anthology from memory)
- ✓ A range of quotations from *Macbeth* including understanding of Shakespeare's language and dramatic techniques plus contextual information
- ✓ A range of quotations, contextual information and themes for *An Inspector Calls*

In the Classroom

Language

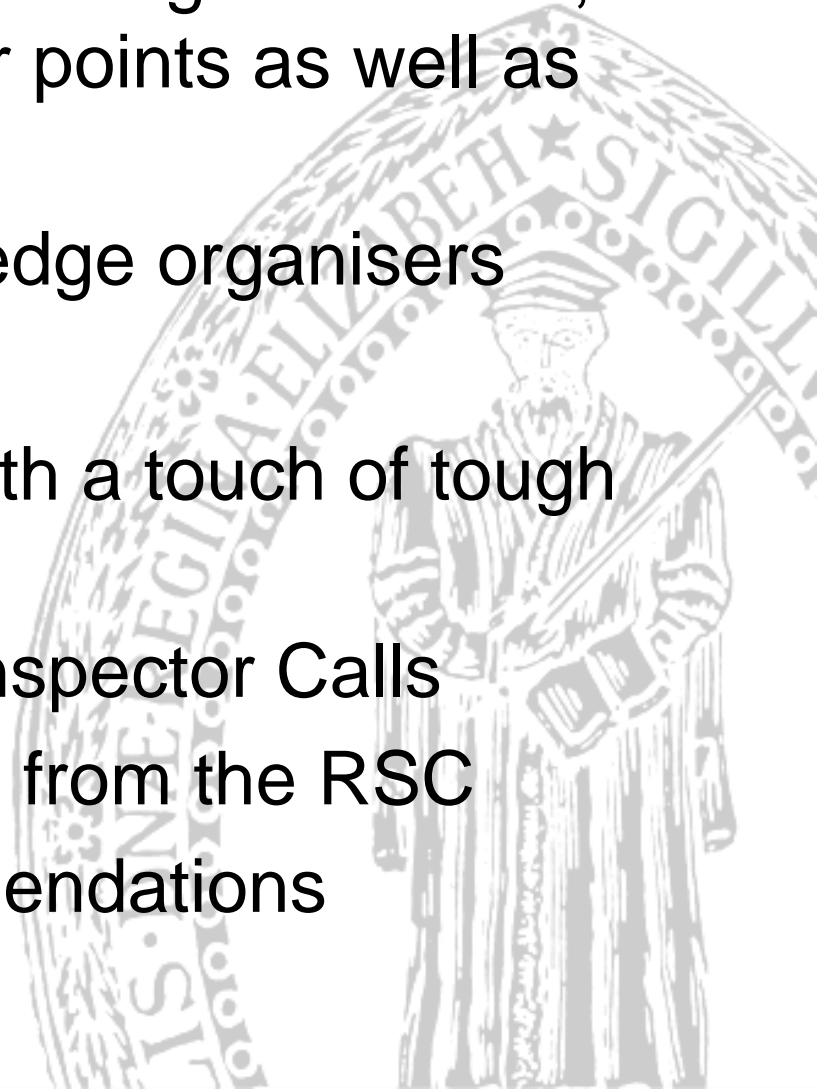
- Exposure to various short stories and extracts
- Reading of newspaper articles, autobiographies, blogs, information, advice etc.
- Pre C19th Non-fiction texts – recipes, newspapers etc.
- SKILLS: ability to identify language devices, structural devices, writer's viewpoints and effects on readers

What does this mean for the pupil?

- ✓ They need to be able to read fast (skim and scan) and respond quickly – we advise timed essays / responses at home without distraction
- ✓ Revision of linguistic terms / practise being able to identify them
- ✓ Practise answering certain questions under timed conditions

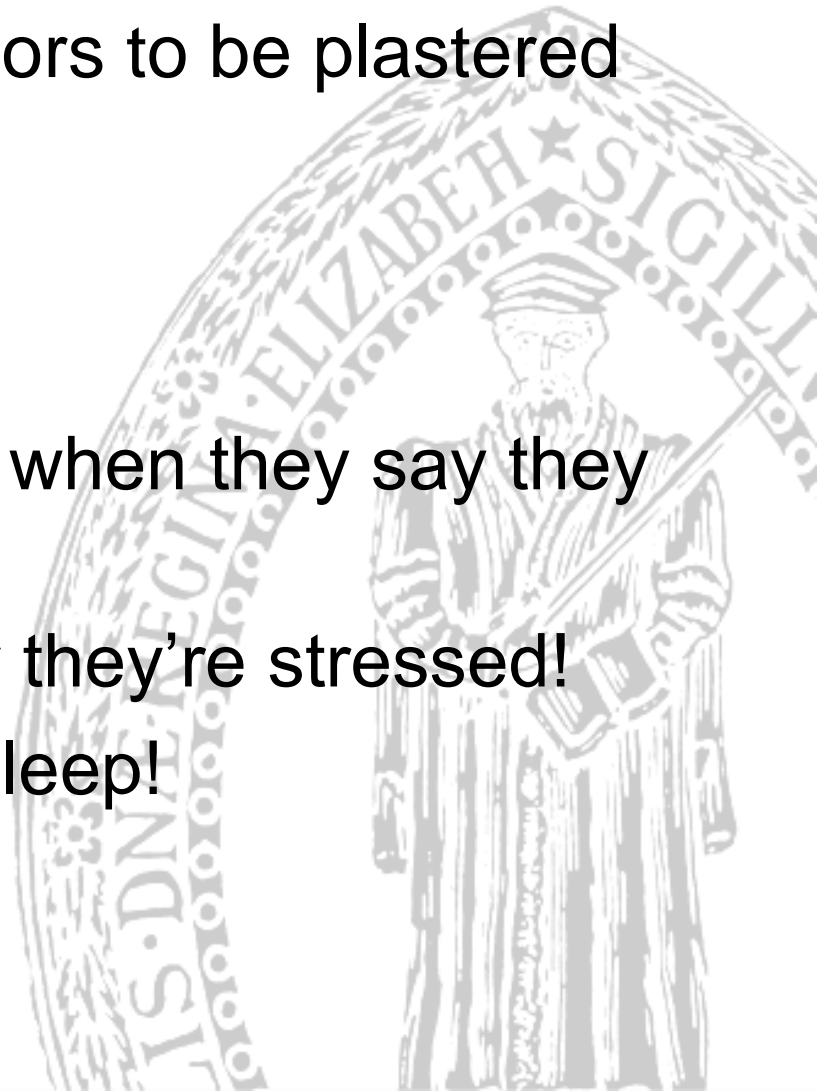
How we support

- By using Classcharts – Recording homework, awarding positive behaviour points as well as negative behaviour points
- Revision materials – knowledge organisers
- Interleaving
- Kindness, understanding with a touch of tough love!
- Theatre company visit An Inspector Calls
- A live screening of Macbeth from the RSC
- Revision books and recommendations



At Home

- ✓ Offer to test
- ✓ Allow your walls, mirrors, doors to be plastered with post-its
- ✓ Read the texts
- ✓ Visit productions
- ✓ PLEASE don't believe them when they say they *'Can't revise for English!'*
- ✓ Believe them when they say they're stressed!
- ✓ Drink water, eat breakfast, sleep!
- ✓ Remove electronics



Help and Support

- Revision Guides
- Websites (BBC bitesize / <https://www.teachwire.net/news/5-of-the-best-last-minute-gcse-english-language-revision-resources>)
- Revision homework / booklets
- Intervention classes (Monday 4 – 4.45pm and a lunch time)
- Google Classroom **dv509p**
- Breakfast sessions before exams

Advice to revise 7 hours a day for GCSEs over Easter 'unbelievable'

Ex-Harrow head Barnaby Lenon says 100 hours over fortnight ideal for GCSE and A-levels



▲ 'It's nonsensical ... I can achieve my potential with maybe three hours a day,' says one A-level student.

Photograph: Alamy

An expert recommendation that GCSE and A-level students should study for seven hours a day throughout the Easter holidays has been greeted with a

- **Wise well-organised revision can allow for a (much needed) social life**
- **Revision timetable**
- **Regular breaks**
- **Space and trust**