

25/10/2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **English Language and English Literature GCSE revision**

We have been delighted by how focused and hardworking Year 11 have been over the last half term, embracing their study of new texts whilst also revisiting components from last year to consolidate knowledge and improve their exam practice.

When pupils return after the week break, they will be sitting their Literature Paper 1 mock. This will be on *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Christmas Carol*. They will also be sitting their English Language Paper 1 exam.

### **English Language**

This term, in preparation for the English Language exam, students' lessons and homework have focused on consolidating and building on their understanding of how to approach each question on the paper. In addition to this, they will also have a 'Walking Talking Mock', which leads them through a past paper.

#### **Suggested English Language revision activities:**

- Complete the Language Paper 1 Walking Talking Mock, making use of support materials they will be given, including the PowerPoint that will be uploaded onto the google classroom.
- Complete the Language Paper 1 past paper that has been uploaded onto the google classroom.
- Revisit classwork and homework they have completed over the last half term, re attempting questions they find most challenging and making use of the mark schemes in their packs to help them.
- Make use of revision guides for support with questions they feel they should prioritise.
- Make use of Mr Bruff tutorials online – he delivers short presentations on each exam component that students in previous years have found useful.

### **English Literature**

Students studied *A Christmas Carol* and *Romeo and Juliet* in Year 10. After school revision sessions this half term have focussed on revising these texts and we have been pleased with the number of students who have taken up this opportunity. In class, they will also have also completed 'Walking Talking Mocks' on both texts and been given two practice questions to support their preparation for the exams.

#### **Suggested English Literature revision activities:**

- Re visit the Literature 'Walking Talking Mocks' that have been uploaded onto the google classroom and complete the practice questions they have been given.


- Use Seneca or Century tech to improve their knowledge of these texts.
- Look back at this half term's after school revision sessions that are on the google classroom. Many of these have recordings of teachers talking them through the PowerPoint – one straight forward read through and one aimed at students aiming for the highest grades.
- Make use of revision guides to go over characters, themes, contexts and writers' methods.
- Make use of Mr Bruff tutorials online – he delivers short presentations on different aspects of the texts that students in previous years have found useful.
- Students aiming for the highest grades could also explore Massolit – an online resource the English Department have subscribed to where academics deliver short lectures on the texts.
- In addition, there is a wealth of material online that can support Literature revision. Sites like BBC Bitesize, Litcharts, Sparknotes and Shmoop all provide free revision materials.
- Of course, re reading the texts or viewing filmed adaptations is also highly recommended.

We hope that the suggested activities will help support pupils towards productive and meaningful independent revision and give them confidence in their approach to the exams.

Yours faithfully,  
Horsforth English Department

### The Lit HIIT

High intensity interval training for your Lit paper 1 mock! Build that mental muscle!  
Spend 20 minutes a day planning for the following questions

28 <sup>th</sup> 'Acting on emotions has tragic consequences'. How does Shakespeare present the consequences of acting on emotions in the play?	29 <sup>th</sup> How does Dickens present the importance of relationships in the novella?	30 <sup>th</sup> How does Shakespeare present youth in the play?
31 <sup>st</sup> How does Dickens present the Cratchits in the novella?	1 <sup>st</sup> How is Romeo and Juliet's relationship presented in the play?	2 <sup>nd</sup> 'Human company is shown to be the source of human happiness' How does Dickens present ideas about happiness in the novella?
3 <sup>rd</sup> 'Individual actions rather than fate determine outcomes' How does Shakespeare present fate in the play?	4 <sup>th</sup> 	5 <sup>th</sup> How does Shakespeare present desire in the play?
6 <sup>th</sup> How does Dickens present the character of Fred in the novella?	7 <sup>th</sup> How does Shakespeare present Romeo's feelings in the play?	8 <sup>th</sup> How does Dickens explore ideas about poverty and need in the novella?
Extra: How does Shakespeare present Juliet in Act 3 Scene 2?	Extra: How does Dickens present Christmas in the novella?	Extra: How does Shakespeare present the theme of love in the play?

## The Lang HIIT

High intensity interval training for your English Language GCSE! Develop your writing rigor!  
Spend 20 minutes a day planning the following writing tasks:

<p>28<sup>th</sup> Write a narrative entitled 'The Escape'</p>	<p>29<sup>th</sup> 'Schools need to provide a wider range of opportunities for young people to be able to succeed once they leave' Write a letter to your Member of Parliament in which you explain your point of view on the statement.</p>	<p>30<sup>th</sup> Describe a school leavers day at the end of term</p>
<p>31<sup>st</sup> 'Young people are not responsible enough to drive cars until they are at least twenty-one years old.' Write an <b>article</b> for a broadsheet newspaper in which you explain your point of view on this statement.</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Describe the scene at a sports match or sporting competition</p>	<p>2<sup>nd</sup> 'Technology creates more problems than it does solutions.' Write an <b>essay</b> that responds to this statement.</p>
<p>3<sup>rd</sup> Write a narrative that explores the theme of loneliness</p>	<p>4<sup>th</sup> </p>	<p>5<sup>th</sup> Describe the scene at a fair or festival</p>
<p>6<sup>th</sup> 'Health, education and the environment are the three areas the country should invest in the most' Write a letter to your Member of Parliament in which you explain your point of view on the statement.</p>	<p>Extra: Describe the scene in a busy market</p>	<p>Extra: The local environment is the responsibility of the people who live there.' Write the text for a <b>speech</b> in which persuade Year 11 students to behave more responsibly to protect the local environment.</p>
<p>Extra: Write a narrative that begins with the line 'I wished I hadn't even started'</p>	<p>Extra: 'Health doesn't just mean physical fitness.' Write the text for a <b>leaflet</b> in which you advise readers about healthy lifestyles.</p>	<p>Extra: Write a narrative entitled 'Lost'</p>