The BRIT School

AQA GCSE English Language

Course Description

This course is designed to be taken over two years with all assessments taken at the end of the course. The course will require students to: read fluently and write effectively. They should be able to demonstrate a confident control of Standard English and they should be able to write grammatically correct sentences, deploy figurative language and analyse texts.

In their writing, students should learn how to: write effectively and coherently using Standard English appropriately; use grammar correctly; and punctuate and spell accurately. Students will work hard to acquire skills in applying a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology, and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language.

Assessment

English Language	**AQA**	Paper 1	105 mins	Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	Written Exam	50%
		Paper 2	105 mins	Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	Written Exam	50%
				Non Exam Assessment	Spoken Language	0%

AQA GCSE English Literature

Course Description

This course is designed to be taken over two years with all assessments taken at the end of the course. The course will be co-taught with GCSE English Language. Students will therefore greatly benefit from the transferable skills learnt across the two subjects. All assessments are closed book and are also compulsory.

The study of GCSE English Literature aims to support students' achievement in an untiered, closed book context through the use of extract-based questions in the assessment of the 19th-century novel and the Shakespeare plays. The teaching and studying within this course will therefore take a skills-based approach that is consistent across the genres. The course offers excellent preparation for AS and A-level English Literature, as well as giving students a grounding in a wide variety of literature that will stay with them for life. The following genres will be taught and assessed: a Shakespeare play, the 19th-century novel; a modern text, which may be prose or drama and poems from a chosen anthology cluster. Students will also be taught how to respond to the unseen poetry task.

English Literature	**AQA**	Paper 1	105 mins	Shakespeare (Macbeth) and the 19th Century Novel (Jekyll and Hyde)	Written Exam	40%
		Paper 2	135 mins	Modern Texts (My Name is Leon) and Poetry (Power + Conflict poetry)	Written Exam	60%

Chosen Thread: Power and Conflict
All set texts share themes of Power and Conflict, allowing students to draw relationships between narratives as well as preparing them for these themes at A Level

Year 10 Curriculum

Overview

Subject: GCSE English Language GCSE English Literature	**Exam board:** AQA English Language AQA English Literature	**Key stage 4 / year group: Year 10** **Course length: 2 Years** **Number of lessons per week: 4** **HOD:** moffen@brit.croydon.sch.uk
Term 1 Topic and Content: **AQA English Language Paper 1** In this term, students focus on Paper 1 of the English Language examination. Exposed to a variety of unseen extract of fiction, students will gain skills in: information retrieval, summarising, and analysis of how structure and language provide meanings. As our students come from a variety of educational contexts, this introductory unit ensures all students have the required skills to progress in this two year course.	**Term 2 Topic and Content:** **AQA English Literature Paper 2** Building upon the retrieval and analytical skills gained in Term 1, students in this term will be taught to analyse **'My Name Is Leon'** by Kit de Waal, exploring social, emotional, cultural, moral and literary contexts in relation to the modern novel. Students will be introduced to ideas of external and internal conflict within narrative, in preparation of their studies of Macbeth and Jekyll and Hyde, as well as at A-Level.	**Term 3 Topic and Content:** **AQA English Literature Paper 1** In this term, students will apply the contextual knowledge and analytical skills gained in previous terms in the analysis of **'Macbeth'** by William Shakespeare, while also exploring the dramatic form. Students will reinforce their knowledge not only of social, moral, cultural, literary and dramatic contexts in relation to the Drama text, but will also galvanise their understanding of aspects of literary tragedy and the Gothic, key areas of focus at both GCSE and A Level English.
Term 4 Topic and Content: **AQA English Literature Paper 1** Students will continue to apply the contextual knowledge and analytical skills gained in previous terms to the analysis of **'Macbeth'** by William Shakespeare. They will then be introduced to a selection of poems from the AQA Power and Conflict anthology,	**Term 5 Topic and Content:** **AQA English Literature Paper 1, AQA English Literature Paper 2, AQA Speaking and Listening examination** In this term, students will complete the study and analysis of the Drama text 'Macbeth' along with being introduced to more poems contained within the **AQA Power and Conflict Anthology**. Students will also complete their **AQA GCSE Speaking and Listening** non-exam assessment. Research and presentation will instil skills preparing them to encounter the demands of AQA English Language Paper 2 in Term 1 of Year 11.	

preparing them for AQA English Literature Paper 2.		
Rationale and PHSE links: The sequence of each unit of study is intended to introduce and build upon not only retrieval and analytical skills, but to reinforce student's understanding of wellbeing, social, mental health and moral issues in set texts. For example, 'My Name is Leon' and 'Macbeth' will explore issues of race, gender, feminism, power and conflict regarding a range of contexts. In terms of GCSE English Literature, we begin our studies with the most accessible text 'My Name is Leon'.	**Assessments and grading:** At the end of each term all students will sit a timed Mock Exam in class based on the unit of study which has been covered in the term, as well as a formal mock exam series in Term 5. The work will be graded using AQA exam board's 9-1 Level matrix outlined for both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. Individualised and differentiated feedback will be provided and students will plot progress in their Best Books.	**Clubs, extra-curricular, revision sessions available:** GCSE English Intervention classes will resume in Term 1 and last until the end of the GCSE English examinations. Classes will take place weekly. Students will be able to contribute towards The BRIT Literary Festival and The BRIT Literary Assembly. Students will also be able to participate in cross-curricular projects that establish links between the study of English and a variety of Strand disciplines in order to enliven content.
Homework topics: Independent research for presentation purposes Wide range of critical reading Timed essay practice and self-assessment	**Recommended reading:** Set texts – 'Macbeth', 'My Name is Leon', AQA Poetry Anthology: Power and Conflict. CGP and York Notes revision guides (AQA accredited)	**Recommended websites:** AQA BBC Bitesize

Chosen Thread: Power and Conflict
All set texts share themes of Power and Conflict, allowing students to draw relationships between narratives as well as preparing them for these themes at A Level

Year 11 Curriculum

Overview

Subject: GCSE English Language GCSE English Literature	**Exam board:** AQA English Language AQA English Literature	**Key stage 4 / year group: Year 11** **Course length: 2 Years** **Number of lessons per week: 4** **HOD:** moffen@brit.croydon.sch.uk
Term 1 Topic and Content: **AQA English Language Paper 2** In this term, students will focus on the AQA **English Language Paper 2.** Exposed to a variety of unseen extracts of non-fiction, students will gain analytical skills in the comparative study of sources. Additional skills offered will involve information retrieval, summarising, and close analysis of how a writer's choice of language provides	**Term 2 Topic and Content:** **AQA English Literature Paper 1** Building upon the retrieval, summary and analytical skills gained in Term 1, students in Term 2 will study and closely analyse **'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'** by Robert Louis Stevenson, exploring social, moral, cultural, literary and dramatic contexts in relation to this prose text. Students will also reinforce knowledge surrounding the literary genre of Tragedy and The Gothic	**Term 3 Topic and Content:** **AQA English Language Paper 2** **AQA English Literature Paper 1** In this term, students will complete the study and close analysis of **'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'.** Using the knowledge and understanding gleaned from the Drama and Prose texts previously studied, students will use these skills to continue analysing a range of poems from the AQA **Poetry Anthology: Power and Conflict.** Term 3 will also coincide with a formal

meanings in relation to perspectives and viewpoints.	introduced during the study of 'Macbeth'.	mock exam series in January for all Year 11 students.
Term 4 Topic and Content: **AQA English Literature Paper 2** Students will complete the study of all poems contained within the AQA Poetry Anthology: Power and Conflict, as well as being introduced to Unseen Poetry.	**Term 5 Topic and Content:** **AQA English Language Paper 1, AQA English Language Paper 2, AQA English Literature Paper 1, AQA English Literature Paper 2** In this term, students will begin the process of revision, returning to the key skills necessary for the effective completion of AQA English Language Paper 1, AQA English Literature Paper 1, AQA English Language Paper 2, and AQA English Literature Paper 2.	
Rationale and PHSE links: The sequence of each unit of study is intended to introduce and build upon not only retrieval and analytical skills, but to reinforce student's understanding of wellbeing, social, mental health and moral issues in set texts. For example, 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' and Poetry Anthology will explore issues of power, corruption and conflict regarding a range of contexts.	**Assessments and grading:** At the end of each term all students will sit a timed Mock Exam in class based on the unit of study which has been covered in the term, as well as a formal mock exam series in January. The work will be graded using AQA exam board's 9-1 Level matrix outlined for both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. Individualised and differentiated feedback will be provided and students will plot progress in their Best Books.	**Clubs, extra-curricular, revision sessions available:** GCSE English Intervention classes will resume in Term 1 and last until the end of the GCSE English examinations. Classes will take place weekly. Students will be able to contribute towards The BRIT Literary Festival and The BRIT Literary Assembly. Students will also be able to participate in cross-curricular projects that establish links between the study of English and a variety of Strand disciplines in order to enliven content.
Homework topics: Independent research for presentation purposes. Wide range of critical reading. Timed essay practice and self-assessment.	**Recommended reading:** Set texts – 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde', AQA Poetry Anthology: Power and Conflict. CGP and York Notes revision guides (AQA accredited)	**Recommended websites:** AQA BBC Bitesize

Student Friendly Curriculum Map

YEAR 10

Term 1: English language Paper 1

In this unit we will ensure that you have mastered skills of analysis and inference, preparing you not only for the English Language exam but equipping you with the skills needed to analyse literature texts.

Term 2: My Name is Leon

In this unit we introduce you to the most accessible literature text, where you will learn key concepts relating to power and conflict, complicated concepts such as institutionalised racism, overcoming loss, and emotional conflict and turmoil, preparing you well for study of Shakespeare's Macbeth.

Term 3: Macbeth

In this unit you will build upon the skills and concepts learned during the study of My Name is Leon, applying them to the dramatic form, as well as more challenging and archaic language and the Jacobean time period.

Term 4: Power and Conflict Poetry (part 1)

In this unit we will introduce you to the first half the poetry anthology, where you will draw on the skills learned in previous units, learning how to identify and analysis poetic methods. You will also begin to make links between the poetry and themes in Macbeth and My Name is Leon.

Term 5: Spoken Language

In this unit you will be present to your classmates on a chosen topic. By this point, you will be comfortable around your peers and will be able to present with confidence and sophistication.

YEAR 11

Term 1: English Language Paper 2

In this unit you will build upon the skills learnt during Y10 term 1. However, this time you will analyse non-fiction texts and learn how to compare two sources.

Term 2: Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

In this unit you cement your understanding of key concepts such as duality, power and corruption. You will be able to make many links to Macbeth and My Name is Leon and will be able to see parallels between the Victorian and Edwardian period.

Term 3: Power and Conflict Poetry (part 2)

In this unit we will finish the second half of the poetry collection. By now you will be able to make many links between our studied texts in terms of power and conflict and will be able to make thoughtful comparisons of the poems.

Term 4: Revision (all areas)

Term 4/5: Final Exams