English

GCSE (9-1)

English language- Eduqas

English Literature- AQA

Course Content

Over the two-year course, students will study for two GCSEs: English Language and English Literature. Our curriculum is sequenced to build the reading, writing and analytical skills needed for success in exams and future employment.

In English Language, students will:

- Develop confident reading and writing skills.
- Analyse how writers use language, structure and form to create effects.
- Study a range of challenging fiction and non-fiction texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.
- Produce their own writing, including creative prose and writing for different purposes.
- Build spoken communication skills through a formal presentation.

In English Literature, students will study:

- *A Christmas Carol,* Charles Dickens (1843)– exploring themes such as redemption, social injustice in the Victorian ear and the supernatural.
- *An Inspector Calls,* J.B. Priestley (1945)– returning to the theme of social injustice in a modern-text context.
- *Macbeth,* William Shakespeare (1623)– examining ambition, power and the supernatural in Shakespeare's tragedy.
- *Power and Conflict* poetry anthology plus unseen poems – analysing themes, language, structure and meaning across a collection of fifteen poems from the 18th century onwards.

Year 10
Term 1- Autumn 1

To begin the term, students will sit a base line assessment to help us gauge students' starting points.

Delivery of our unit on Transactional Writing will then begin, ensuring that students are able to form coherent and comprehensive arguments for various real-life purposes (to instruct, inform, persuade) that are suitable for differing audiences and therefore introducing students to our mission of ensuring that we product work ready young people. Conventions of various forms such as letters, speeches and reviews will be taught, and students will plan and write their pieces to develop their vocabulary and accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

In the final weeks of this half term, students will begin their study of Charles' Dicken's *A Christmas Carol.*

Term 2- Autumn 2

Students in Year 10 will explore the narrative of *A Christmas Carol,* exploring themes such as redemption, social injustice, greed, generosity and wealth and the supernatural. Delivered in the run up to Christmas, students will be able to make lots of contextual references to the themes that we can still see in modern day Britain despite the novella being published in 1843.

Term 3- Spring 1

Having now studied a narrative, students will move on to their creative writing unit, using extracts from Susan Hill's *The Woman in Black* to help them develop an understanding of how a narrative is developed through the use of a story arc, plot and characterisation, narrative devices such as foreshadowing, symbolism, semantic field and pathetic fallacy to establish settings, build tension and create a climax. This will allow students the chance to plan and write a coherent prose of their own that will develop their vocabulary and accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Term 4- Spring 2

Students will use their knowledge of some of the literary devices delivered in their creative writing unit, to help them to understand the plot, themes and characters in *An Inspector Calls* to show J.B. Priestley's ideology regarding socialism and morality. Further to this, students will consider how stage directions, cliff hangers and dramatic irony can be used to engage the audience to keep them gripped.

In Academic Enrichment sessions on a Friday week 2, students will use this time to begin research and preparation for their professional presentations.

Term 5- Summer 1

This half term focuses on non-fiction reading. Students will be exposed to a variety of challenging texts from the 19th and 21st centuries focussed on healthy lifestyles and well-being to help develop capital culture within the UTC. Students will be taught how to read for meaning and so develop reading resilience so that they can:

- Select and synthesis relevant evidence or information from extracts
- Comment, explain and analyse texts to identify the writers' use of language, structure, form, punctuation and tone to allow comparisons of content and ideas to be made between texts
- Make evaluative judgements on texts

In Academic Enrichment sessions on a Friday week 2, students will use this time to begin research and preparation for their professional presentations and towards the end of the half term, will start to present their presentation to a panel in which they will demonstrate their spoken language skills as well as their listening skills and ability to respond to unseen questions.

Term 6- Summer 2

Students will use this half term to revise for their end of year mock exam which will be an English Language Paper 2.

Time will then be spent finalising the students' understanding of the themes covered in the final two staves of *A Christmas Carol.*

Year 11

Term 1- Autumn 1
Building upon the students' understanding of plays and dramas, this term will be spent covering Shakespeare's tragedy *Macbeth* in which students will revisit themes such as the supernatural as well as explore how Shakespeare demonstrates ambition, power and transformation in his characters all within the context of a superstitious world of medieval, feudal Scotland.
Term 2- Autumn 2
Time at the beginning of the half term will be given to preparation and revision for mock exams which will focus on the content of Literature Paper 1. After mock exams, students will build upon their reading skills such as identifying explicit and implicit meaning that were introduced in Year 10 and will be exposed to various extracts and short stories from the 20th century to give them exposure to challenging, authentic texts so that students are able to comment, explain and analyse the craft of the writer to make evaluative judgements about texts.
Term 3- Spring 1
To further develop the students' abilities to read for meaning and to put their knowledge of language, symbolism, themes and context to the test, the *Power and Conflict* poetry anthology and unseen poetry is the last area of the English Literature curriculum to be delivered. Students will study a variety of poems from the 18th century onwards, looking at each individual poem and then moving on to be able to draw comparisons between them and the intentions of the poets.
Term 4- Spring 2
Students will be assessed on Language Paper 1 and Literature Paper 2 at the beginning of this half term. The outcomes from these mocks and in class assessments will inform the revision that commences in this half term to ensure that gaps in knowledge and skills in reading and writing can be addressed to give students the best chances in their public exams.
Term 5- Summer 1

Revision will be dedicated to the literature texts, with one week per text being allocated. This will be in the order of which the texts appear on the Literature papers: Week one: *Macbeth* Week two: *A Christmas Carol* Week three: *An Inspector Calls* Week four: *Conflict and Power* anthology
Term 6- Summer 2

Independent learning

Students will be set 30 minutes of independent study every week. The nature of these activities will include:

- Low stakes quizzing on platforms such as Seneca Learning or GCSE Pod
- Reading comprehension activities
- Pre-reading
- Creation of revision materials or completion of revision tasks

Students should endeavour to complete and submit the independent study tasks set by their teacher to ensure that they embed key learning, develop a good work ethic and to allow them to make as much progress as possible.

Assessment

Assessment will take place every lesson through Do Now Retrieval Practice (DNRP) questions, teacher questioning and exit tickets. In addition to this, students will have a mid-point assessment and an end of unit assessment for each unit that they complete. This is in addition to the published mock exam windows that Silverstone UTC publish.

At the end of Key Stage 4, students will sit four exams; two exams for English Literature and two English Language exams.

English Literature Paper 1 assesses *Macbeth* and *A Christmas Carol.* It is a 1 hour 45 minute exam with a total of 64 marks available and is 40% of the English Literature GCSE. English Literature Paper 2 assesses *An Inspector Calls, the Power and Conflict anthology and unseen poetry.* It is a 2 hour and 15 minute exam with 96 marks available and contributes to 60% of the English Literature GCSE.

English Language Paper 1 tests students on their reading and understanding of an unseen 20th century text and their creative prose writing. It is a 1 hour 45 minute exam and is 40% of the English Language GCSE. English Language Paper 2 tests students on their reading and understanding of unseen 19th and 20th century texts and their transactional and persuasive writing skills. It is a two hour exam and is 60% of the English Language GCSE.

Useful websites and reading materials

English Language	**English Literature**
BBC GCSE Bitesize Eduqas Knowledge organisers Walking Talking Mocks TeachGCSEEnglish YouTube playlist Reading modern day articles from publications such as *The Telegraph, The Guardian, BBC, i Newspaper, National Geographic* etc will all be useful to students. Anthology of nineteenth century non-fiction texts	BBC GCSE Bitesize: - Macbeth - A Christmas Carol - An Inspector Calls - Poetry analysis Mr Bruff YouTube playlists: - Power & Conflict poetry - Macbeth - A Christmas Carol Audiobooks for *A Christmas Carol* and *Macbeth*