

Subject: English Literature

Exam board: AQA (Course Code 8702)

Link to website: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>

Number & Name of exams: 2 Exams

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel (*Macbeth* by William Shakespeare and *Jekyll and Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson)

Questions:

Section A

Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B

The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

What's assessed:

- Modern text (*An Inspector Calls* by JB Priestley)
- Poetry (Power and Conflict in AQA Poetry Anthology)
- Unseen poetry

Questions

Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

Pieces of Coursework (including names): None

Link to past papers: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702/assessment-resources>

Reading List:

Link to wider reading lists: <https://www.stokenewingtonschool.co.uk/learning/subjects-and-resources/>

Main Texts: *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson, *An Inspector Calls* by JB Priestley, and the *Power and Conflict* poems from the AQA Poetry Anthology

Best revision guide to buy and available from: CGP Revision Guides:

https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/Parent/books_gcse_english_new and Amazon.co.uk

Best online resources/apps:

<http://www.sparknotes.com/shakespeare/macbeth/>

<http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/jekyll/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zckw2hy> (for revision materials for *Macbeth* and *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*)

Learning resources are also available from the English department on the school website:

<https://www.stokenewingtonschool.co.uk/learning/subjects-and-resources/>

Three things to know:

- The exams are 'closed book', so pupils need to learn key quotations from the texts off by heart.
- Pupils need to re-read their own copies of each text independently over the course of their GCSE.
- Pupils need to know how the texts link to their social and historical backgrounds (contexts).