

GCSE English Language What can you do to improve?



What do I need to revise?

PAPER 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing looks at how writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to engage the interest of readers.

Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes

80 marks: 50% of GCSE

Section A: Reading (25%) One literature fiction text from the 19th, 20th or 21st century

Section B: Writing (25%) Descriptive or narrative writing

- Read a wide variety of literary fiction: extracts, short stories and whole novels.
- Revise narrative and descriptive techniques, particularly language and structural devices.
- Use the Language Revision Booklet

PAPER 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives looks at how different writers present a similar topic over time.

Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes

80 marks: 50% of GCSE

Section A: Reading (25%) One non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text from the 19th, 20th or 21st century

Section B: Writing (25%) Writing to present a viewpoint

- Access a wide variety of non-fiction texts; read newspaper/magazine articles and online editorials.
- Discuss your ideas with others to appreciate different perspectives and the ways they are communicated.
- Revise rhetorical devices.

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Resource	Study Skill	What to do
Checklists		Your GCSE exercise books have all your work and notes from the last two years. Now is the time to go back and use them to revise and assess your strengths and weaknesses.
Revision Guides and Workbooks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CGP English Language Complete Revision and Practice workbook is an excellent resource for students to practise and develop the language paper exam skills. • Extracts and questions are also available in your Language Revision Booklet.
Past Papers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will find sample papers in the shelves outside L24. You can use the question format and mark schemes located here to test yourself using any suitable text.
GCSEPod		Log in to GCSEPod and use the podcasts to review your understanding. Access Mr. Bruff online for tips on the Reading questions / Narrative and Descriptive tasks. Ensure clips relate to the current AQA specification 8700 .
After school support		This takes place on Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Lower School block. Bring along any questions or work you need help with. Autumn sessions will be via invitation.

How can parents help?

Please encourage your child to make full use of all the resources and support available. Please encourage them to do the following:

- **Read regularly.** Students should use all available resources, including the library, to access a range of fiction and non-fiction texts ('Essential Articles' are particularly useful and can be found in the library).
- **Use their GCSE exercise books for revision.** Students should revisit texts, questions, responses and feedback to revise reading and writing strategies.
- **Practise skills.** Students should revise the techniques they have been taught and practise the skills-based questions that appear on both papers. This can be done using their Language Revision booklet, any suitable texts of their choosing, as well as through accessing practice questions from their class teacher or from the shelves outside L24.
- **Improve technical skills.** Students could record new vocabulary and actively use it in their speech and writing. They should also practise checking, editing and correcting all of their written work, including work completed in other subjects.
- Make full use of class time and teacher expertise.
- Draw up a realistic revision timetable and stick to it.

Please encourage your child to:

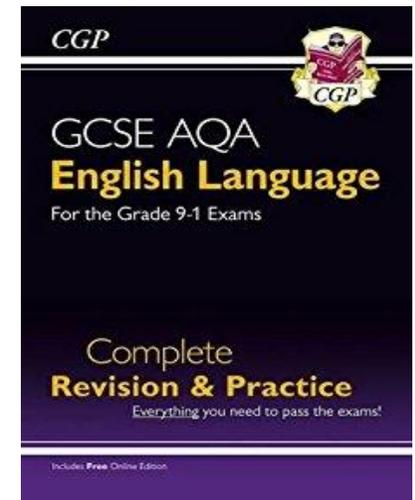
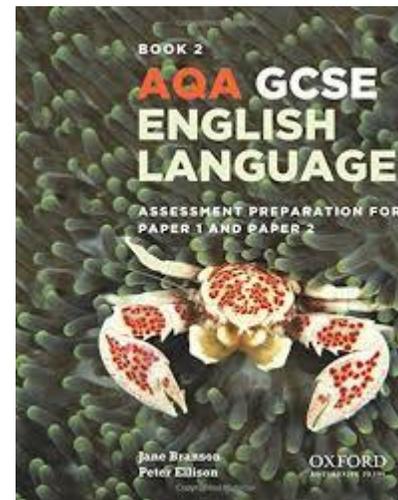
- Know and apply their SPaG target
- Vary their revision for interest and effectiveness.
- Identify their weaknesses and work on addressing them.
- Eat healthily, get rest, sleep well and take time off too.

Further advice and support is available on the parents' section of the school website.



NORTHGATE
High School

GCSE English Language AQA (8700)



Advice for Effective Revision