

# AQA GCSE English Language Revision Guide

**Exam:** Your mock exam will be in the final two weeks of this term.  
This will be **Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing.**

**Section A – Writing about/analysing a fiction text extract.**  
(15 mins reading/planning, 45 mins writing).

**Question 1:** - Reading comprehension. Find information from the text and list points.

**Question 2:** - Analysis of language. Eg. ‘How does the writer use language to....?’  
Words/phrases/language techniques/sentence forms.

**Question 3:** - Analysis of structure. How does the reader respond to the structure of the extract? Identify and analyse structural techniques.

**Question 4:** - Evaluation of an aspect of the text.

**Section B – Creative Writing** (45 mins)

**Question 5:** You have to write a narrative or descriptive piece inspired by a picture.

**To prepare for this exam:**

- Revise the notes/work/ extracts/past questions from class.
- Read a range of high quality fiction texts and extracts.
- Think about: Understanding the main ideas of the text.
  - : Inference – what does the text suggest?
  - : How are language features used?
  - : How is the text structured to interest the reader?
  - : Practise your creative writing in timed conditions.
- Be clear on the timings for each question, and what each question asks you to do.

## General Revision Tips

- Make (and stick to) a **revision timetable** – this is absolutely crucial.
- **Active** revision – write, annotate, revise with someone else, mind maps etc.
- Make **revision cards** (to break information down into manageable chunks).
- Use **past papers** and **revision notes**.
- **‘Bitesize’** – revision needs to be done in 1-2 hour sessions – any more than that and you will lose focus/concentration.
- **Sustained** – keep going from now until the exam.
- **Ask** a teacher if you are unsure about anything. (Cont. over....)

# AQA GCSE English Literature Revision Guide

**Exam:** Your mock exam will be in the final two weeks of this term.  
This will be Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19<sup>th</sup> century novel.

There will be two questions.

**Question 1:** - **Shakespeare: Macbeth.** You have to write in detail about an extract from the play (chosen by the exam board) and then write about the play as a whole. This could be in relation to the themes/ ideas/ characters in the extract.

**Question 2:** - **Dickens: A Christmas Carol.** You have to write in detail about an extract from the novel (chosen by the exam board) and then write about the novel as a whole.

**How to revise:**

- **Re-read, revise and prepare** your exam texts:

**Macbeth**  
**A Christmas Carol**

- You should be revising and making notes about the plot, how language is used, structure, social context, characters, themes, ideas and attitudes of people at the time the story is set/was written.
- You will need to know the texts very well. This means thorough revision of the whole of both texts, as extracts can come from anywhere in the play/novel.
- Learn relevant quotations from both texts – particularly about characters and themes.