

Overview of exams	Layout of Paper 1	Question 3		Question 4
<p>English Language Paper 1 – 1hr 45</p> <p>An unseen extract from a short story or novel. 50% of GCSE grade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four reading questions One creative writing tasks <p>English Language Paper 2 – 1hr 45</p> <p>Two non-fiction extracts about the same topic. 50% of GCSE grade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four reading questions One persuasive writing task <p>English Literature Paper 1 – 1hr 45</p> <p>You need to write an essay for each of these texts. You don't have a copy of the text, but you will have an extract from the book. 40% of GCSE grade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Christmas Carol – Dickens Romeo and Juliet - Shakespeare <p>English Literature Paper 2 – 2hrs 15</p> <p>You need to write an essay for each of these texts. You don't have a copy of the text, but you will have an extract from the book. 60% of GCSE grade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Inspector Calls – Priestley Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology Two unseen poems 	<p>Question 1 – 4 marks Find four things...</p> <p>Question 2 – 8 marks How does the writer use language to describe...?</p> <p>Question 3 – 8 marks How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader?</p> <p>Question 4 – 20 marks A student read this extract and said... How far do you agree with them?</p> <p>Question 5 – 40 marks <i>Write a story about ...</i> <i>Describe a setting based on this picture.</i></p> <p>Key Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We advise answer the writing task first as you'll be at your best for writing. You should spend 15 minutes reading the extract carefully and slowly. You should be thinking about the subtext when reading the extract – feelings / thoughts / relationships / power / class/ themes There are two types of paper. A character's moment of discovery or change. An event that causes drama. Extracts tend to be the opening of a story or novel but can be any genre. 	<p>This question is testing your ability to explain why the writer structured the piece in the way they have. Why focus on that at the start? What does it symbolise?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are aiming to write two paragraphs. The structure for your paragraphs should follow this: Comment on what the writer has focused on / Explain what the symbolism of the focus is for the character or theme - Explain why the writer focused on this at the beginning / middle or end At no point should you be referring to techniques like simile, metaphor, personification, adjectives or verbs. <p>Writers focus on the following things for these particular reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characters so that we understand what they think / feel in the situation. Setting so that get a sense of the mood / atmosphere or to foreshadow what is going to happen in the story. Objects so that our attention is draw to something or symbolise something deeper or meaningful. Weather so that the mood is created or to symbolise something about the characters. Action so that the pace is increased or to increase danger. 		<p>This question is testing your ability to have an opinion based on what you have read and use evidence from the text to support your opinion.</p> <p>Structure for writing (OSMD)</p> <p>Opinion – I disagree ... Story – We see this when ... Method – The writer uses [technique] to ... Development – Under the surface, the writer is showing ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You need to aim for two or three paragraphs. You should be exploring the subtext when answering this question – show the examiner you know what is really going on. There's no marks for agreeing or disagreeing with the statement. You are marked on the quality of your explanation. Break the statement down – there will be two separate opinions to discuss. One paragraph for each one. You must focus on the extract given. It is really important that you refer to a technique or structure device in your explanation. Exploring subtle things and precise bits of the text will get you higher marks.

