

#TRANSFORMINGLIVES



SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND MATHS
GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

TRANSITION PACKAGE

WELCOME & COURSE INFORMATION

Throughout the course, you will be taught by one of the GCSE English team:

- Stacey Carberry
- Sam Costello
- Victoria Hughes
- Joanne Potts

When studying AQA GCSE English Language, students will draw upon a range of texts as reading stimulus and engage with creative as well as real and relevant contexts. Students will have opportunities to develop higher-order reading and critical thinking skills that encourage genuine enquiry into different topics and themes.

This course will ensure that students can read fluently and write clearly. Students will be able to demonstrate a clear control of standard English and write grammatically correct sentences, deploying figurative language and analysing texts.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

GCSE English language consists of three parts:

Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

Section A: One piece of literary fiction.
Section B: Descriptive or narrative writing.
Written exam: 1-hour 45 minutes.
80 marks
50% of GCSE

Paper 2 – Writer's Viewpoints and Perspectives

Section A: One non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text.
Section B: Writing to present a viewpoint/ transactional writing.
Written exam: 1-hour 45 minutes.
80 marks
50% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment: Spoken Language

Teacher assessed.
Presenting and responding clearly to questioning.

HOW CAN I PREPARE FOR THIS COURSE?

The only physical item that is essential for the course is a pen; however, revision guides are important in aiding development and knowledge throughout the course – look for AQA GCSE English 9-1 revision materials including books and online resources.

Furthermore, a good foundation of knowledge regarding vocabulary and, crucially, a capable reading ability can help greatly; therefore, reading a range of fiction and non-fiction materials can prove to be highly beneficial.

To best prepare for the course, complete the following three tasks:

KEY TASKS

1. Write down the **definition** and at least **two examples** of each of the following language features:

Simile

Onomatopoeia

Alliteration

Personification

Sensory language

Adjectives and adverbs

Metaphor

Sentence variety

2. Read a short extract from Ray Bradbury's *A Sound of Thunder* and, using any writing technique you have previously been taught, answer the question that follows.

It came on great oiled, resilient, striding legs. It towered thirty feet above half of the trees, a great evil god, folding its delicate watchmaker's claws close to its oily reptilian chest. Each lower leg was a piston, a thousand pound of white bone, sunk in thick ropes of muscle, sheathed over in a gleam of pebbled skin like the mail of a terrible warrior.

How does the writer use language here to describe the T-Rex?

3. 'Homework has no value and should be scrapped'.

Imagine you are giving a speech to fellow students and teachers. Using no more than **200 words**, attempt to successfully convey your opinion on this subject using a range of persuasive features.



KEY CONTACTS:

Marie Dollin – Head of School:
Stacey Carberry – Deputy Head of School:
Sam Costello – GCSE English Lecturer:
Victoria Hughes – GCSE English Lecturer:
Joanne Potts – GCSE English Lecturer:

Marie.Dollin@hartlepoolfe.ac.uk
Stacey.Carberry@hartlepoolfe.ac.uk
Sam.Costello@hartlepoolfe.ac.uk
Victoria.Hughes@hartlepoolfe.ac.uk
Jo.Potts@hartlepoolfe.ac.uk