

How to Revise for your Final English Language Exams

English Language Paper 1: The Fiction One

1 x fiction extract

- 4 Reading questions
- 1 Writing task:

Write a description based on an image or write a story

English Language Paper 2: The Non-Fiction One

2 x non-fiction extracts

- 4 Reading questions
- 1 Writing task:

Write to explain or persuade or argue (maybe a speech, a letter or an article)

How to revise English Language (Tick once done):

Tick once
done

- Learn the **key ingredients** and **strategy** for each of the reading questions and the writing task (use your revision cards)
- Go on Seneca Learning to practise the different questions or watch Mr Bruff's revision videos
- Practise planning/writing the opening to the writing tasks

Challenge: Try a past paper in timed conditions

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English Language Paper 1: Fiction

Question 1 – Finding information

List four pieces of information from a specific part of the text (always near the beginning)

- ❖ 4 marks

Question 2 – The Language Analysis One

This will focus on a short section from only one of the texts

- ❖ It generally asks: How is language used to show...?

- ❖ Aim to make 2-3 (P)ETE paragraphs

Evidence: *The writer shows us that...* [quote]

Technique: *The use of _____ implies/emphasises/draws attention to...*

Explain: *This helps the reader to think/feel/understand how...*

- ❖ You need to know some techniques/methods for this question

- ❖ 8 marks

Question 3 – The Structure One

Usually: How has the text been structured to engage the reader?

- ❖ Aim to make 3 points thinking about the beginning, middle and end of the extract. What are we shown and why?

- ❖ Use words like:

zooms in/out

focus

focus

shift in perspective

juxtaposition / contrast

- ❖ Use a quote to demonstrate each point

- ❖ Explain the significance of what we see: *This suggests that.../helps the reader to understand how.../Emphasises that...*

- ❖ 8 marks

Question 4 – The Evaluation One

- ❖ This asks you explain HOW FAR you agree with a statement about the extract

- ❖ Aim to write 3 PETE paragraphs

Point: I agree/disagree with the statement because...

Evidence: *We see this when...*

Technique: *The use of _____ implies/emphasises/draws attention to...*

Explain: *This helps the reader to think/feel/understand how...*

- ❖ You need to know some techniques/methods for this question

- ❖ 20 marks - 30 minutes

English Language Paper 2: Non-Fiction

Question 1 – The True and False One

- ❖ True and false statements to shade in

- ❖ 4 marks

Question 2 – The Summary One

- ❖ Compare an aspect of WHAT the two texts are about (eg What do they tell us about surfboards?)

- ❖ You usually have to find DIFFERENCES between the two texts

- ❖ Aim to make 2-3 points:

In Source A we learn... [support with a quote], however in Source B we learn... [support with a quote]

- ❖ Pull it together with some inference: *This suggests that...*

- ❖ 8 marks

Question 3 – The Language Analysis One (think of the magpie)

- ❖ This will focus on a short section from only one of the texts

- ❖ It generally asks: How is language used to show...?

- ❖ Aim to make 3 PETE paragraphs

Point: *The writer is showing us...*

Evidence: *We see this when...* [quote]

Technique: *The use of _____ implies/emphasises/draws attention to...*

Explain: *This helps the reader to think/feel/understand how...*

- ❖ You need to know some techniques/methods for this question

- ❖ 12 marks

Question 4 – The Comparison and Analysis One

- ❖ This asks you to compare the ideas of the writers (WHAT they think) and HOW they get their ideas across to the reader

- ❖ Aim to write 2 PETERETER paragraphs

Point: The writer in Source A thinks...

Evidence: *We see this when...*

Technique: *The use of _____ implies/emphasises/draws attention to...*

Explain: *This helps the reader to think/feel/understand how...*

Relate to the second text: However in Source B the writer thinks...

Evidence: *We see this when...*

Technique: *The use of _____ implies/emphasises/draws attention to...*

Explain: *This helps the reader to think/feel/understand how...*

- ❖ Relate to context: *We see how in the Victorian era... however in modern day...*

- ❖ You need to know some techniques/methods for this question

- ❖ 16 marks - 25 minutes

How to Revise for your Final English Literature Exams

Literature Paper 1

Macbeth: Analyse an extract and link it to the whole play

19th Century Text: Analyse an extract and link it to the whole novel

How to revise Macbeth:

Tick once done

1. **Know the text as well as possible**

- Re-read key scenes (1:3 meeting the witches; 1:5 and 1:7 persuading Mac to murder Duncan; 2:2 the murder scene; 3:1 the banquet scene; 4:1 Mac returns to the witches; 5:1 Lady M sleepwalks)
- Or... watch summaries on YouTube

2. **Learn the key content and ingredients:**

- Make revision cards on the main characters (Macbeth, Lady Macbeth, Witches, Banquo) using the 'five finger method'
- Make and learn a revision card for Social Context and BIG IDEAS and another for Methods (extract and whole text)

3. **Apply your knowledge** by mind-mapping key themes (eg Violence + Ambition; Loyalty): What do we see across the text? How is it presented? Does it change? Why is it important?

Challenge: Plan past questions and try writing one in timed conditions

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How to revise Jekyll and Hyde:

1. **Know the text as well as possible**

- Re-read the novel / Listen to the audiobook online
- Or... re-read key chapters (Ch.1: The Story of the Door; Ch.4: The Carew Murder and Ch.8: The Last Night) – You could use the audiobook.
- Or... watch chapter summaries on YouTube

2. **Learn the key content and ingredients:**

- Make revision cards on the main characters (Jekyll/Hyde/Utterson/Dr Lanyon) using the 'five finger method'
- Make and learn a revision card for Social Context and BIG IDEAS and another for Methods (extract and whole text)

3. **Apply your knowledge** by mind-mapping key themes (eg Mystery + Suspense/Deception/Good vs Evil): What do we see across the text? How is it presented? Does it change? Why is it important?

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How to Revise for your Final English Literature Exams

Literature Paper 2

Modern Text (Inspector Calls / Lord of the Flies): Write a character or theme-focused essay
Power and Conflict Anthology: Compare the poem selected in the exam with one of your own choosing (link by theme)

Unseen Poetry: Write an essay on a poem you've not seen before plus a short comparison of methods between that poem and a second unseen poem

Tick once done

How to revise the Modern Text:

1. Know the text as well as possible

- Re-read key sections (or listen to the audiobook)

[Lord of the Flies: Ch 1 meeting the boys; Ch 5 discussing the 'beastie'; Ch 9 the death of Simon; final few pages]

Inspector Calls – the beginning and ending of each act

- Or... watch summaries on YouTube

2. Learn the key content and ingredients:

- Make revision cards on the main characters using the 'five finger method'
- Make and learn a revision card for Social Context and BIG IDEAS and another for Methods

3. **Apply your knowledge** by mind-mapping key themes (eg responsibility or social class in Inspector Calls; human nature, fear or ideas about leadership and power in Lord of the Flies): What do we see across the text? How is it presented? Does it change? Why is it important?

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How to revise the Power and Conflict Poetry

1. Know the poems as well as possible

- Read and re-read the poems
- Watch Mr Bruff's 5-minute revision videos on YouTube

2. Learn the key content and ingredients

- Make a revision card for each poem. Use MILES: methods/ideas/language (3 quotes will do) /emotions/structure plus any context you know

3. **Apply your knowledge** by creating mind maps that compare the poems: What are they suggesting about power or conflict? How is it presented? Why are the poets' choices important? Which poems are good to compare?

Challenge: Plan past questions and try writing one in timed conditions

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How to revise for the Unseen Poetry

1. Know your strategy for the two different questions

2. Make a revision card for terminology and poetic features – what are you looking out for?

Challenge: Plan past questions and try writing one in timed conditions

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