

Revision Menu

Use these ideas to help plan your revision if you are unsure what to do. There is no chunk of time too small or too large that you can't fit in some English revision.

There are two sides of English, the skills-based side and the content of Literature. You need to do a combination of revision activities. Don't just focus on the short activities. You could do more of these each week, but you should also complete past papers too.

If you have 15 - 20 minutes...					
<p>10 Minute Quick Plan</p> <p>Using past paper questions, spend 10 minutes planning your response. This could be lang or lit. Reading or writing.</p>	<p>Quiz a Friend</p> <p>Decide on a topic, each of you writes 10 questions and then quiz your partner.</p>	<p>Read a Scene</p> <p>Read a scene from Macbeth and then summarise at the end.</p>	<p>Find a Past Paper</p> <p>Practise your 15 minutes reading time.</p>	<p>Short Questions</p> <p>Complete a timed Paper 1 Question 2 or 3.</p>	<p>Openings and Endings</p> <p>Write the opening or the ending paragraph to a story about a special place or a secret or a life changing event.</p>
<p>Short Questions</p> <p>Complete a Paper 2 question 2 or 3</p>	<p>10 Minute Character Profiles</p> <p>Choose a character from one of your texts. Create a profile. You could add to this each time.</p>	<p>200 Word Story</p> <p>Write a 200 word story on the themes of: obsession, isolation, redemption, addiction, fear, ambition, loyalty, inequality.</p>	<p>200 Word Speeches</p> <p>Write a 200 word speech expressing your viewpoint on the topic "Everyone should have the right to strike", "Mobile phones should be banned from gigs" or "prison isn't a punishment." or "We are too obsessed with celebrities."</p>	<p>Quotation Flashcards</p> <p>Choose a character, theme, poem from one of the literature texts and create a minimum of 3 quotation flashcards.</p>	<p>Write the Plot</p> <p>Summarise one of your literature texts. You can't spend more than 10 minutes doing this.</p>

If you have 30 minutes...

<p>Read a Chapter</p> <p>For this you will need your copy of 'A Christmas Carol'.</p> <p>Read through each chapter (or Stave for ACC) and check your understanding.</p> <p>Summarise the chapter</p>	<p>Read an Act</p> <p>For this you will need your copy of An Inspector Calls.</p> <p>Take 30 minutes to read each act and check through your notes and annotations.</p> <p>You could also do this with Macbeth, but this may take you longer depending on the act.</p>	<p>Read the Opening of a Book</p> <p>Analyse how the writer has structured the opening 2 -3 pages to have an impact on the reader.</p>	<p>Reading Non-Fiction</p> <p>Choose an Online Opinion Piece</p> <p>Predict what is about from the title.</p> <p>Note any questions you have as you are reading.</p> <p>Re-read to clarify what you are unsure of.</p> <p>Summarise the article in less than 100 words.</p>	<p>Beginning, Middle and End</p> <p>Choose a character from one of the literature texts and track their character development at the beginning, middle and end of the text.</p> <p>Include quotations to support your ideas.</p>	<p>Mirror Characters</p> <p>Choose two characters that are opposites (E.g Scrooge and Fezziwig, Macbeth and Macduff, Inspector and Mr Birling)</p> <p>Create VENN diagrams showing how they are different and why the writer has done this.</p>
<p>Explode a Quotation</p> <p>Choose 3 quotations from the text of your choice and analyse them in detail. What is the effect on the reader?</p> <p>You should change the character or theme each time.</p>	<p>Extended Planning</p> <p>Choose a topic that you aren't as confident with.</p> <p>Spend time really planning the perfect answer.</p> <p>Write it up and self-assess.</p>	<p>Unseen Poem</p> <p>Go to:</p> <p>https://poetrysociety.org.uk</p> <p>Or</p> <p>https://www.theguardian.com/books/series/poemoftheweek</p> <p>Analyse their poem of the day/week.</p>	<p>Writing an Essay</p> <p>Turn one of your 10-minute plans into an essay.</p> <p>Self-assess your essay using the marking criteria.</p>	<p>Question Fours</p> <p>Complete a timed Language Paper 1 or 4, self-assess using the mark scheme.</p>	<p>Heroes Vs Villains</p> <p>Explain how the character in one of the texts is either a hero or a villain. Support your ideas with quotations from the texts.</p>

If you have 45 minutes to an hour...

<p>Mind Map</p> <p>A real mind map is a thing of beauty! Choose a theme, character or poem from the anthology and create a mind map for all the factors that surround that character.</p> <p>You should include quotations and methods used</p>	<p>Plot Timeline</p> <p>Take the texts or the poems and then create a timeline of what happens in the story.</p> <p>Display this in your room to prompt you of what happens when.</p>	<p>Section B Question 5s</p> <p>Section B of Language Paper One and Two takes 45 minutes!</p> <p>Plan, complete and review this section of the exam in 45 minutes so you practise this process.</p>	<p>Talk Through the Paper</p> <p>Take a past paper for any section of the course and talk it through with a friend, parent or even your pet and explain how you are going to approach the question.</p>	<p>Mr Bruff</p> <p>Watch Mr Bruff YouTube videos on answering question for Literature and Language questions</p>	<p>Literature Questions</p> <p>Each of the literature questions can be completed in 45 - 50 minutes.</p> <p>See below for links to the AQA website for past papers too.</p>
<p>Context Research</p> <p>Do wider research into the context of the literature texts you are studying.</p> <p>Create a revision poster or resource that you can display to help you.</p>	<p>Wider Academic Reading</p> <p>https://www.gulpfiction.co.uk</p> <p>https://www.bl.uk/</p> <p>https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone/macbeth</p> <p>Make sure you are engaging with these texts, make notes too.</p>	<p>Section A Questions 1 - 4</p> <p>Complete a Paper One or Two Section A under timed conditions.</p> <p>Use the links in the Section B/Question 5 section for past paper resources.</p>	<p>Redrafting Past Papers/Responses</p> <p>Find a previous answer that you have completed in class. Go back all the way to Year 10. Redraft it making improvements based on what you now know.</p>	<p>Organising your Folder/Revision Resources</p> <p>NB You should only do this once or twice otherwise it becomes a procrastination activity!</p> <p>Clear out what isn't useful from your folder so you have relevant worksheets and notes easily to hand.</p> <p>Well organised revision is effective revision.</p>	<p>Using the Revision Guide</p> <p>If you have access to a revision guide and workbook, choose a section or chapter that you want to work through.</p> <p>Keep your notes and go back to them in future.</p>

If you have longer/time frame optional...

Full Past Papers	Listen and Learn	Online Revision	Online Revision	Transformations	Revision Clock
<p>https://www.aga.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700/assessment-resources?f.Resource+type%7C6=Question+papers</p> <p>Complete a full paper in timed conditions. Use this to help RAG rate your topics of choice.</p>	<p>Listen to this podcast, then make notes on what has been said. Use this to help when completing timed answers.</p> <p>https://podtail.com/en/podcast/gcse-english-revisionpod/</p>	<p>Go to:</p> <p>https://quizlet.com/en-gb/content/gcse-english-language</p> <p>https://quizlet.com/en-gb/content/gcse-english-lit</p> <p>Complete the different revision activities. Make sure you prioritise your areas of development.</p>	<p>Go to</p> <p>https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/</p> <p>Complete the different revision activities. Make sure you prioritise your areas of development</p>	<p>Go through your notes in your folder.</p> <p>Can you now highlight the most relevant sections and transform them into a new document/revision resource.</p> <p>This is also an excellent opportunity to use some of the example answers your teacher has shared with you.</p>	<p>This is a way for you to organise your time.</p> <p>First 10 - 15 minutes: review your topic, consider your areas of strength and development, re-read past answers.</p> <p>Next 30 Minutes: plan and write a new answer from what you have reviewed.</p> <p>Last 15 minutes: use the mark scheme to review your response. You can then use these notes in your first 15 minutes when you come back to your topic.</p>

Important Links

AQA site for past papers:

Literature

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702/assessment-resources?f.Resource+type%7C6=Question+papers>

Language

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700/assessment-resources?f.Resource+type%7C6=Question+papers>

Top Tips

- Be prepared beforehand, half an hour easily becomes 20 minutes by the time you have got a cup of tea and a biscuit. Get your drinks and snacks ready, so you can power through and get a full revision session in.
- Plan your time - schedule breaks for fresh air, catch up with a friend/family and getting more drinks and snacks. Make sure you take some time away from your desk between activities.
- Be honest with yourself. Are you REALLY revising hard or are you randomly reading and highlighting things and making your notes look pretty? Give yourself a grade of 1 - 10 for effort, enthusiasm and productivity after each revision session. How can you make it better next time if your session didn't go as well?
- Just as much as this is about doing too little, you can't sustain too much either! you won't be ready for effective sessions if you are working all hours. Plan effectively
- Use the pomodoro technique to stay focused and be efficient!
- Set up a revision group with your friends and use this as an opportunity to share your responses to ask for critical feedback or to encourage each other to revise.

Using the Pomodoro Technique

This is a way of developing your productivity. It is named after the shape of the tomato shaped cooking timer that the creator (Cirillo) used to time each session.

A pomodoro = 25 minutes

So set a timer on your phone or borrow the kitchen timer and use this to help with your revision!

See the image below for how to break up your time. Don't do this if you are doing a full timed paper though! You should be learning to focus for extended periods of time then.

THE POMODORO TECHNIQUE®

A SIMPLE METHOD TO BALANCE FOCUS WITH DELIBERATE BREAKS



1 PLAN YOUR TASKS
How many pomodoros might you need?

2 DO 1 POMODORO
Time for 25 mins then take a 5 min break

NO SNEAKY WORKING!

PROTECT YOUR POMODORO!



3 REPEAT x 4 POMODOROS
Then take a longer break



CONCEIVED BY FRANCESCO CIRILLO

sketchplanations