

## Year 9 English Exams

Your exams will take place in the week commencing **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May**.

You will have two exams on different days: a Reading Exam and a Writing Exam.

### The Reading Exam (Explorations in Creative Reading)

You will have three questions to answer in 45 minutes. There are 32 marks available for this paper.

To begin with you should read the source in the exam booklet, which will be an extract from a fiction text (one that you have not studied). Spend between five and ten minutes reading this. You may annotate and highlight the extract in this time.

#### Question 1

- This question will ask you to focus on a specific part of the text (it will give you line numbers) and ask you to list four things relevant to the question.
- The question will be worth 4 marks.
- You should spend 5 minutes writing your response.

#### Question 2

- This question will require you to read a short section from the source, which will be reprinted in the exam paper. You will then explain how the writer uses language to present a character, moment or idea. You will be given bullet points to help guide your response.
- The question will be worth 8 marks.
- You should spend 10 minutes writing your responses.

#### Question 3

- This question will ask you to focus on the second half of the source. Again, it will give you specific line numbers as a reference. You will be asked to write a response to a statement made about the text (it will be an opinion given about the text by someone). You will be given bullet points to help organise and structure your response - you should use these like a checklist to make sure you keep your response focused.
- The question will be worth 20 marks.
- You should spend 20 minutes writing and then checking your response.

### The Writing Exam (Explorations in Creative Writing)

- You will have 45 minutes to plan, write and check through your response.
- You will have the choice of TWO tasks - you **MUST** only write your response to ONE of these two tasks.
- One task will ask you to write a response inspired by an image given to you in the exam paper. The other task will ask you to describe a place or a situation.
- You will be assessed on your accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as your overall content, structure and style.
- There are 40 marks available in this exam.

### Ways that you can revise and prepare

1. Revise some of the key language features and devices you have looked at in lessons for example: narrative perspective, metaphors, similes, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia, pathetic fallacy, superlatives, rhetorical questions, repetition, emotive language, sensory imagery, sentence structures, punctuation, paragraphing, adjectives, adverbs, verbs and so on.
2. Explore an extract (one or two paragraphs) from a fiction book you've read recently and identify any devices the writer has used and the effects created by the devices. Consider **WHY** the writer used these devices in the text.
3. Practise selecting/retrieving quotations from an extract in a fiction text to explore **HOW** and **WHY** the writer uses language or structure in an interesting way.
4. Read over the targets and advice you have been given by your teacher this year and think about how you can improve upon your classwork and assessments based upon the targets you've been given.
5. BBC Bitesize revision has some related revision activities: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3>