

EdExcel English Language

To support your child's preparations, we strongly recommend purchasing copies of the relevant study guides. These are available to buy from the school shop, Waterstones, or online at www.amazon.co.uk.

English Language (Section A of each paper)

Ask your child about the approaches they need to take for each of the different types of reading questions: analysis (Question 3, Papers 1 and 2); evaluation (Question 4, Paper 1 and Question 6, Paper 2); identifying similarities and synthesis of evidence (Question 7a, Paper 2); comparison of how ideas and perspectives are presented (Question 7b, Paper 2).

Writing: Imaginative and Transactional

The best pieces of imaginative writing focus on just a few moments in time.

There are some simple techniques that your child can use in any piece of imaginative writing to craft their ideas effectively. These are: fragments, questions, exclamations, sentences starting with EDINGLY, ellipsis, precise verbs, dialogue, semi-colons, compound sentences.

Ask your child what these techniques are and why they might use them in their writing; see if they can give you an example of these techniques in context.

For transactional writing, it is important that your child considers PAF: the purpose, audience and form of their writing; this will determine the style and level of formality they should adopt. Again, there are some simple techniques that can be applied to any piece of transactional writing, regardless of the PAF: fragments, rhetorical questions, exclamations, sentences starting with EDINGLY, triples, direct address to the reader, semi-colons, precise verbs, statistics, repetition.

For any writing task, please remind your child to PLAN and PARAGRAPH!

Homework

As we move towards the final exams, your child will be set a weekly reading homework on Show My Homework requiring them to read a short text and answer 5 questions.

Please support your child in completing these homeworks. They should also be regularly reading excerpts from various 19th Century fiction texts and 20th/21st Century non-fiction texts and thinking about writers' choices; there are plenty of extracts on-line.

Support

Lots of resources will be placed on Show My Homework.

We are available after school in H11 every Wednesday and Thursday to support students in anything that they are struggling with: they just need to come along with an idea of what they would like to work on. Breakfast sessions will begin after Easter.

We will be offering holiday support sessions during May half term ahead of the final exams.

Exam Dates

Paper 1 (19th Century Fiction and Imaginative Writing): 4th June 2019

Paper 2 (Non-fiction and Transactional Writing): 7th June 2019