

English Literature and Language: Revision Topics

English Literature Paper 1

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

Revise the following characters:

- Romeo
- Juliet
- Mercutio
- Tybalt
- Benvolio
- Friar Lawrence
- Paris
- Prince
- Lord and Lady Capulet
- Lord and Lay Montague
- Abraham, Balthasar, Gregory and Sampson (Act I, Scene i)

Look at the relationship between the characters

The development of the characters

Their role within the play

Make connections between plot, character, theme and context:

- Elizabethan/Renaissance society and expectations
- Family structure and expectations
- Marriage and the role of women
- Conflict
- Honour
- Love
- Fate
- Religion
- Responsibility.

A Christmas Carol

Revise the following characters:

- Ebenezer Scrooge
- Jacob Marley
- Fred
- The Ghosts
- The Cratchit Family
- Characters from Scrooge's past, present and future (e.g. the charity collectors, bell, fan etc.)

Make links between the characters, theme, plot and context.

- Setting
- Family
- The spirit of Christmas
- Redemption
- Poverty (Malthus and the 1834 Poor Law)
- Social Responsibility
- Charity and education in the Victorian era.
- Allegory/parable/Dickens' intent.

English Literature Paper 2

Love and Relationship Poetry.

Revise all fifteen poems. You will be expected to compare two poems in the exam and you will be given a copy of the poem stated in the question:

- Lord Byron, 'When We Two Parted'
- Percy Bysshe Shelley, 'Love's Philosophy'
- Robert Browning, 'Porphyria's Lover'
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning, 'Sonnet 29 – I think of Thee!'
- Thomas Hardy, 'Neutral Tones'
- Maura Dooley, 'Letters from Yorkshire'
- Charlotte Mew, 'The Farmer's Bride'
- Cecil Day-Lewis, 'Walking Away'
- Charles Causley, 'Eden Rock'
- Seamus Heaney, 'Follower'
- Simon Armitage, 'Mother any Distance'
- Caron Ann Duffy, 'Before You Were Mine'
- Owen Sheers, 'Winter Swans'
- Daljit Nagra, 'Singh Song!'
- Andrew Waterhouse, 'Climbing my Grandfather'

Explore: Form, structure, meaning, language and imagery.

Make links between themes:

- Romantic love/longing/fulfilment/loss
- Familial love/strong bonds/independence/admiration/rebellion
- Destructive love
- Nature
- Distance
- Desire and longing
- Getting older
- Death
- Memory