

# GCSE Study - Paper 1 Language - Parental Knowledge Organiser

## Expectations and Content

### **What is this unit about and why do we teach it?**

This unit introduces students to the first GCSE Language Paper, which focuses on reading and writing fiction. Students study extracts from some of the best writers in the English Language from the 19th century. Analytical writing is explicitly taught and practised, and students are encouraged to see the links between what they're reading from great authors and what they could be inspired to create themselves.

### **Key terminology taught:**

- analytical paragraph
- cyclical structure
- emotive imagery
- juxtaposition
- all word classes
- extended metaphor
- allusion
- climax
- pathos
- semantic field
- pathetic fallacy
- protagonist
- punctuation types
- motif
- themes
- all sentence forms
- symbolism

## If your child needs support

### **Suggested activities to help:**

- Encourage your child to read quality fiction, even if it is just extracts. Ask your child's teacher for recommendations or look on the following sites:  
<http://www.randompassages.com/>
- Revise key terminology by making quizzes on Quizlet.com for your child to complete or making simple flashcards to practise with your child
- Go to the British library website (<http://historicaltexts.jisc.ac.uk/>) to find a range of 19th century texts that you can analyse. Try to work out what the texts are about and how they use language devices to emphasise key ideas. If you have an e-reader most 19th century texts are free!
- Practising analytical paragraphs will be very beneficial. Use the model on the inside back cover of their exercise book as a guide
- Vocabulary is very important:  
<https://Vocabulary.com>  
<https://7littlewords.com>
- Find your child a random picture. They can then create a page of detailed description based on this picture.
- Students should be completing Tassomai tasks every day
- Encourage your child to access the resources on Google Classroom

## If your child needs extension

### **Questions to discuss with your child:**

- Why do we read and study literature? Who benefits and how?
- Why is literature so important for society?
- Who is the most influential author ever to write?
- Who is your favourite author?

### **Challenge activities to complete:**

- Create a giant map of the history of English fiction. Start with Beowulf, then Chaucer, then Austen, then modern times. Look at how common themes have changed and progressed
- Have a family film night with popcorn and all the frills. Discuss the camera shots and angles. What does the camera focus on and why? How does the director want the audience to feel?

### **Suggested further reading:**

Students should be reading as much as possible in preparation for this exam. Your child will need to be comfortable reading and understanding 19th Century (by Charles Dickens, for example) through to 21st Century texts.

- Any extracts from a 19th century novel:  
<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/AQA-8702-19C-KS3.PDF>