

# GCSE – Paper 1 Language – English 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 both the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> 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
- Anadiplosis
- Juxtaposition
- All word classes
- Extended metaphor
- Allusion
- Climax
- Pathos
- Semantic field
- Protagonist
- Motif
- Themes
- Symbolism

## If your child needs support

### Suggested activities to help:

- Encourage your child to read quality fiction, even if it's just extracts. Ask your child's teacher for recommendations or look on the following sites for multiple choices:

[https://readingzone.com/index.php?zone=sz&page=extracts\\_download](https://readingzone.com/index.php?zone=sz&page=extracts_download)

<http://www.randompassages.com/>

<https://www.readersread.com/excerpts/genera/>

- Revise key terminology by making quizzes on Quizlet.com for your child to complete or making simple flashcards to practise with your child.
- Practising analytical paragraphs will be very beneficial as these are the bread and butter of the exam - break down each element and see which ones your child needs to focus on. Use the MEGA MAP to help.
- Your child should be encouraged to create their own short stories.
- Your child should try to increase their reading speed where possible and may need help and motivation to do this.
- Your child should also work on their vocabulary as much as possible, which can be done here:

<https://Vocabulary.com>

<https://PowerVocab.com>

<https://7littlewords.com>

## 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?

### Challenging 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.
- Explore the English literature BBC sounds Podcasts  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p06w4v4x>

### Suggested further reading:

**Students should be reading as much as possible in preparation for this exam. Students should now be reading more challenging fiction and providing you are happy with the content, you could start by looking at these prestigious lists:**

- Man Booker Prize
- Guardian Fiction Prize
- Women's Prize for Fiction
- Carnegie Medal
- Kate Greenaway Medal
- Costa Book Prize