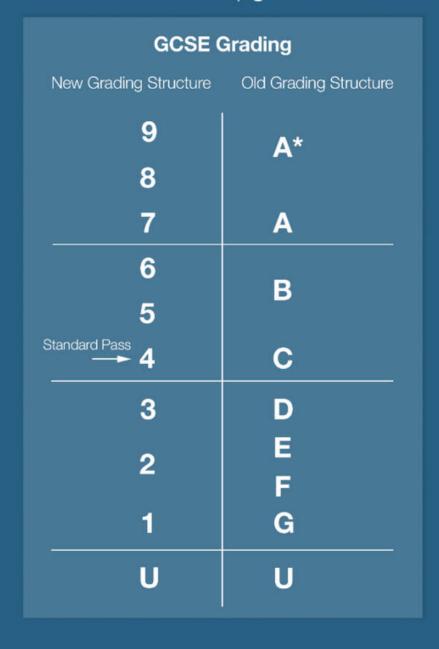
# AQA English Language and English Literature GCSEs

# General points

- All pupils are required to study both English Language and English Literature.
- English Language and English Literature are 100% examination qualifications with no option of Foundation or Higher Tier entry. All students sit the same exams and there is no Coursework or Controlled Assessment.
- English Literature exams are closed book, which means no texts allowed.
- SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation + Grammar) is worth 20% of the Language GCSE and carries a small weighting in Literature.

### Grades 9-1



# Structure of the exams (prior to Covid changes)

# **English Language**

## **English Literature**

#### Paper 1 1 hour 45 minutes

Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

**Section A** – Reading – fiction

**Section B** – Writing – Descriptive or Narrative

#### Paper 2 1 hour 45 minutes

Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

**Section A** – Reading – non-fiction

Section B – Writing to present a Point of View (Argue/Persuade)

#### Paper 1 1 hour 45 minutes

**Section A** – Shakespeare ('Romeo and Juliet')

Section B – 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel ('A Christmas Carol')

#### Paper 2 2 hours 15 minutes

Section A – Modern Drama ('An Inspector Calls')

Section B – Power and Conflict Poetry

Section C – Unseen poetry

# Supporting students at home...

#### Know when internal exams are:

November Mock Exams commence Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Nov (for approximately 2 weeks)

**English Literature Paper 1** 

**English Language Paper 1** 

March Mock Exams commence Mon 7<sup>th</sup> March (for approximately 2 weeks)

**English Literature Paper 2** 

**English Lang Paper 2** 

# Supporting students at home...

- Read/watch/listen to set texts for Literature 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'A Christmas Carol' – discussing/making notes on different sections/chapters/themes/characters/context and learning key quotes.
- Read a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction texts to prepare for the Language Papers e.g. novels, short stories, magazine/ newspaper articles, leaflets, adverts, autobiographical/biographical writing (online or otherwise). As you read, consider the perspectives of the writers and language devices they use why have they been used and what is the impact on the reader?
- Make technical accuracy a real focus this will affect marks, especially English Language!

# Supporting students at home...

- Keep up-to-date with homework set on Insight and Seneca Learning to continually revise/practise content.
- As we revise content in school students can chunk their revision at home by making flashcards, mindmaps, Powerpoints, or any other visual aids that are useful this will ensure no 'cramming'.
- Complete practice exam questions/papers concentrate on keeping to the timings given for these, especially as the year goes on, as time is a key factor in exams. Immediately act on marking and feedback given.
- The CGP revision guides are good and available on Amazon/from the school reception. There are also useful websites: bbcbitesize.com; englishbiz.co.uk; mrbruff on youtube.com; sparknotes.com; as well as online lessons from Oak Academy.