



Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

Educating Women of the Future

English Language/Literature Key Stage 5 Curriculum

	Topic/Big Question	Focus
Year 12	The Handmaid's Tale (Atwood)	We study this novel in preparation for Paper 1 Section B (Imagined Worlds). We work through the text exploring plot, theme, setting and character applying taught context relating to Atwood's contextual influences and other dystopian literature. Students are taught skills of linguistic analysis, drawing on previous knowledge while introducing them to new, more high order techniques required at this level.
	Browning poetry	Students are taught a selection of poems by Robert Browning from the AQA Anthology for Paper 1 Section C (Poetic Voices). They learn to analyse the language, form and structure of each poem and consider each one in the context of the wider anthology. They will focus on the presentation of time, place, people, and events within the poems.
	The Kite Runner (Hosseini)	We study this novel for Paper 2 Section A. We work through the text using study questions as a stimulus for exploration and consideration of the plot, characters, themes, issues and setting of the novel. The students will be taught key information and Hosseini's contextual influences. They will then learn how to re-cast a specific section of the text in response to exam questions and also to then evaluate their own recasting within specific word limits.
	Drama text	The choice of drama texts is either Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire' or Miller's 'All My Sons'. They study this play in preparation for Paper 2 Section B (Dramatic Encounters). They will learn how to analyse the play as a piece of spoken language and will be introduced to new linguistic techniques to assist their analysis alongside different dramatic techniques employed by the specific playwright. They will also be taught specific and relevant context relating to the play and be shown how to apply this in their essays.
	Paris Anthology	In this unit, students work through an anthology of texts connected with the theme of Paris. These texts are a mixture of linguistic, visual, auditory and multimodal texts. Students are taught how to analyse and compare them using new and familiar tools of analysis. They learn a range of information about Paris drawing on schematic knowledge and developing their understanding of the history and culture of the city. The students are encouraged to consider the ways in which Paris is represented in each text and the use of classic or unexpected tropes.
	Coursework	At the end of Year 12, students are introduced to the coursework unit which is an independent investigation into a theme (currently Black Lives Matter or Feminism). They will be introduced to some fiction and non-fiction texts and then they will then have a range to choose from later in Year 13 when they produce their coursework.

	Topic/Big Question	Focus
Year 13	The Handmaid's Tale (Atwood)	In Year 13, we return to the novel with a specific focus on preparing for the exam. We revise and further develop understanding of the contextual influences and explore some of the wider, more complex issues arising from the novel. We introduce more high order analytical skills in our approach of textual analysis in order that students are fully prepared for the exam questions.
	Browning poetry	We will return to the poems and revise them all. The focus will be on exam preparation in Year 13; the students will be taught specifically how to approach the questions and they will practise and develop their skills of text selection, comparison and analysis.
	The Kite Runner (Hosseini)	In Year 13 we will revise the text and remind students of the key narrative techniques used by the writer. The students will then be coached specifically for the exam; examples of text re-castings will be shared and they will be involved in detailed development of their own skills.
	Drama text	We will revise the text looking again at plot, structure and characterisation. We will revise the contextual factors in greater detail. The focus of revision will be exam preparation.
	Paris Anthology	In Year 13, we will continue our study of the Paris Anthology in order to cover the entire content. They will develop their skills by starting to compare the texts and respond in detail to exam style questions.
	Coursework	In Year 13, students will be involved in their coursework investigations. The themes suggested will be 'Feminism' and 'Black Lives Matter'. Students will read and analyse a range of texts, literary and non literary during their investigation. They will be taught how to structure their writing and how to maximise their skills in producing their final coursework piece.