

## How to approach the English mock paper

**Theme:** The theme of the exam will be on the inside of the paper.

**Timing:** Look at the inside cover as it will outline the number of sections on the paper.

It will also state how much time you should spend on each section.

### Shakespearean text

- Key scenes/moments
- Characters
- Themes
- Key quotes
- How to direct/stage a scene

### Poetry

- Poetic techniques (language)
- Revise 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year poems
- Know the theme (the story) and techniques being used in each poem
- Adapt the poems that you know well to fit the question that you are being asked

### Fiction

- Key scenes/moments
- Key characters – the relationship between the main characters
- Plot
- Setting
- Themes
- Style
- Important quotes to highlight themes and the nature/characteristics of each character

### Reading Comprehensions

- Read all the questions carefully and highlight key words
- Remember to use the PEA structure
- Know the various features of writing

### Film

- The grammar of film (mise-en-scène)
- Key characters
- Key moments
- Key themes

## Functional Writing

- Revise the layout of a diary entry, newspaper article, letters (formal and informal), emails, blogs, etc.
- Use the handouts 'Reference Guide for JC Functional Writing' and 'Functional Writing - Complete guide and sample answers' as a guide.

## General Tips

- Read all the questions carefully – highlight key words
- Make sure that you answer all aspects of the question
- Make sure you look at how many marks a question is being awarded and plan accordingly, e.g. one paragraph = 5 marks
- Overall, be confident in each question that you answer. No “I think”; more of “I believe”, “I feel” – be assertive
- Be imaginative/creative – you are trying to impress the examiner

## Overall

- Attempt all questions – there is no such thing as a “silly” answer
- Write out a plan for each answer: introduction, body of essay, conclusion (use the 'Optional Rough Work' box)
- Use paragraphs – use the PEA writing structure for each paragraph
- Be mindful of your spelling, grammar and punctuation – read through your answers before you hand up your paper (Do not leave the exam until it is over!)
- If you run out of time, write down some bullet points

