



Westbourne House School Revision – Christmas Term



Y8 ENGLISH REVISION CHECKLIST

The Exam(s) will consist of:

- 8CE – Two papers:
 - Paper 1: Prose Comprehension and Essay – duration 75 minutes
 - Paper 2: Poetry Comprehension and Creative Writing – duration 75 minutes
- 8S – One paper:
 - NB: the exam differs in length from 90-120 minutes depending on the school/CASE paper

Equipment you will need for the exam:

- Fountain pen and spare cartridges
- Ruler
- Highlighters

TOPIC	WHAT TO REVISE	DONE?
8CE – Paper 1 Prose Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Look at examples of non-fiction writing – travel writing, personal writing etc• Learn definitions of vocabulary typically used in questions – describe, explain, discuss, illustrate, evidence, example etc• Pupils should be able to identify all of these techniques and comment on their effectiveness: similes, metaphors, hyperbole, alliteration, onomatopoeia, personification• PEE structure• Read regularly• Learn new vocabulary and test yourself	
8CE – Paper 1 Essay Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Features of persuasive writing• Features & structure of discursive writing• Letter layout• Characteristics of a speech• PEE structure• Introductions and conclusions• Revision of linking connectives• Comparing and contrasting	
8CE – Paper 2 Poetry Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poetic terms: stanza, enjambment, simile, metaphor, alliteration, assonance and sibilance, onomatopoeia, personification, perspective, rhyme, rhythm, tone, imagery, couplet• Thinking about form (shape) and reasons for this• PEE structure• Understand difference between 1st/3rd person	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at a selection of poetry – modern and classic – always look for the poem’s narrative (its story) • Read poetry regularly 	
<i>8CE – Paper 2</i> Creative Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literary devices (pupils should be able to use the following): similes, metaphors, alliteration, personification, onomatopoeia, adjectives • Powerful verb choices will be expected • Openings – look at different ways to engage reader: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ descriptions of setting; description of character; dialogue; action • Endings • ODCCR – structure of narrative writing (Opening, Development, Complication, Crisis, Resolution) 	
<i>8CE – Paper 1 & 2</i> Grammar and Punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils should be able to both identify and correctly use the following: full stops, capital letter, commas, colons, semi-colons, speech marks, exclamation/question marks • Pupils should be able to identify the following: nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, connectives/conjunctions, prepositions and interjections • Pupils should be able to use embedded clauses 	
<i>8CE – Paper 1 & 2</i> Spelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spelling is taken into account; always try your best 	

<i>8S Exam</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much of the material in the CE English revision notes above is relevant, although there are some differences in emphasis. For example, there is no particular emphasis on persuasive or discursive writing. • Revision for 8S is largely an abstraction in the sense that there is no set text upon which the candidates can be examined. The group will be looking at texts in order to develop an ability to approach any unseen literature with confidence. • The examiners will be expecting to see a secure grasp of all matters of punctuation and grammar. Spelling is expected to be strong, although allowances may be made for specific learning difficulties. • The texts are not taken from children’s books and a wide vocabulary will be expected. Revision of this area might be useful. • All English scholarship papers set demanding texts, using a broad sweep of genre and historical setting; 19th century novels are a popular choice. Poetry, both traditional and modern, is very often set for comprehension. Although revision of individual set texts is not required, the candidates will need to develop their ability to understand and empathise with the authors’ intentions and to be able to comment effectively on the passages. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CASE exam consists of one paper (approx 100 minutes). There are usually two very demanding texts and the questions are very open ended. There are no short questions. • One or two schools set their own scholarship papers. These are generally of about the same length and the texts are often equally demanding. Some, however, have shorter questions. The candidates will be well prepared for anything the examiners care to throw at them! 	
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NOTES/TIPS:

- For any further information or guidance about revision or the actual exam, please contact your English teacher or the Head of English – Miss Alice (afisher@westbournehouse.org)