

Higher English Useful Information, Websites and Revision Tips

Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation:

- **Use SCHOLAR and practice the question types.** You can ask your teacher for your login details if you don't have them.
- Use the BBC Bitesize sites for their tips on how to answer the different types of questions.
- Complete the SQA Specimen papers and Past Papers available for free on their website, and mark with the marking schemes. Buy Higher English Past Papers, Practice papers and 'old' Higher past papers to practise your RUAE skills.
- Use the My E-Tutor website to help you with their page on Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation.
- Buy the SQA endorsed How to Pass Higher English for CfE (How To Pass - Higher Level) book. The older version is also still very useful – even though it's not specific to Curriculum for Excellence. The 'SNAP!' Revision books are good too.
- Practice! There's tons of stuff out there if you look online. Ask your teacher if they have anything else you could work through. Remember to consult the feedback they give you after classwork and assessments and ask questions if you're still struggling with how to improve.
- Sign up for e-Sgoil webinars and online courses; they can sometimes be found through SCHOLAR or through their website directly.

Critical Essay Writing:

- Use the BBC Bitesize sites for their tips on improving critical essays.
- Use the English Department's resources to show you how to write good introductions, essay paragraphs, analyse and evaluate correctly – check your class Team as a first port of call.
- Read over your notes and texts so that they are firmly embedded in your mind. You should revise English at least once a week for a whole night – or better, revise a little each night so it's firmly implanted in your mind by the time the final exams come!!
- Use the SQA website to build yourself a 'Revision Timetable' and start now. For Higher – it's about the practice for an A. Timing is almost always one of the biggest issues!
- Practice building 'skeleton essays' and essay plans which have your introduction points laid out, your PEE/PCEAR paragraphs and conclusion. These are great to help you work out structure issues, so you definitely include a quote, analysis and evaluation, as well as refer back to the question/task.
- Time yourself writing critical essays so that you are comfortable writing in 45 – 50 minutes. Practice, practice, practice!

Scottish Set Text Section:

- Read over your Scottish Text regularly – you cannot learn it all the night before! Take it slowly; read it regularly and your notes too.
- Print off blank extracts of your text (it is available online, or your teacher can provide an electronic copy) and annotate them from memory – see what you already know and add to them daily.
- Ensure you understand what the unusual/old fashioned words and phrases mean- these should also be annotated.
- Build tables of comparisons between characters, setting, themes or anything else you could possibly compare, or use One Sheet Revision sheets for each chapter (available from your teacher)
- Practice the 10-mark answer by making comparisons between the different chapters on themes; narrative voice; depiction of setting; character; techniques; key scenes... the list goes on and on... You can use the SQA Past Papers for practice 10-mark questions- or your teacher can provide you with some examples.
- Use the SQA website and the Critical reading past papers to see what types of questions they ask for your Set Text.
- Look at the various YouTube videos linked in the resources on Teams- these provide a helpful recap of the chapters, and explain the themes, character, setting etc in straightforward terms.
- Revise – there's nothing better than good old-fashioned hard work. Attend study; ask questions; do extra work and get it marked. Your best resource is your teacher!

Useful Websites:

BBC Bitesize for Higher: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zqxhfg8>

SQA Exam Board Website - Higher English: <http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47904.html>

My E-tutor website: <https://www.youtube.com/user/myetutorUK>

SCHOLAR website: <https://scholar.hw.ac.uk/>

e-Sgoil website: <https://www.e-sgoil.com/>

