



Thomas Mills
High School & Sixth Form

Thomas Mills High School & Sixth Form – English Literature Curriculum (Year 11)

The English Literature curriculum at Thomas Mills High School aims to foster a lifelong appreciation of literature through the study of diverse texts from different time periods. Pupils are supported to become critical, thoughtful and articulate readers and writers, with a strong foundation in textual analysis and interpretation.

The curriculum is structured around three key areas of development:

- Substantive knowledge: knowledge of literary texts, forms, contexts and conventions

Pupils study key set texts from the AQA English Literature specification: a modern drama or prose text (An Inspector Calls or Animal Farm), a Shakespearean tragedy (Macbeth), and a selection of poems from the Power and Conflict anthology. They learn about plot, character, theme, structure, and how texts reflect social, historical and political contexts.

- Ways of knowing: pupils learn 'how to know' about literature

Pupils are taught how to respond analytically to literary texts, using evidence to support interpretations and exploring the writer's craft. They learn how to annotate, structure essays, and plan comparative responses. Emphasis is placed on exploring language and structure, evaluating interpretations and developing independent insights.

- Personal knowledge: pupils reflect on their own responses to texts

Pupils are encouraged to form and express personal interpretations of texts, considering how their views are shaped by their own values and experiences. They explore the emotional, philosophical and ethical dimensions of literature, and are supported to discuss and debate different viewpoints with empathy and confidence.

Exploration, debate and critical engagement underpin the English Literature curriculum. Pupils are challenged to think deeply about human experience, society and the power of language, while gaining the academic skills they need for GCSE success and beyond.



Year 11		
Term	Knowledge and Skills	Useful Links
1 Literature Paper 1 The 19th Century Novel: 'A Christmas Carol' Preparation and revision for January preparatory examinations	Knowledge: Pupils will read the text and understand the way Dickens uses language to convey meaning. They will explore context, language and its effects. They will practise both extract and whole text analysis Skills: • Read, understand and respond to texts, analyse language, form and structure using relevant subject terminology • Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written • Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.	https://www.bl.uk/works/a-christmas-carol https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk (search A Christmas Carol) https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/christmascarol/ https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcs8qty
Assessments	• Understanding context in 19th text. Pupils will research and write a piece about the context of 'A Christmas Carol'. • Practice examination questions. Pupils will build on examination skills and techniques with multiple timed essays in exam conditions • Ongoing examination revision/practice	



2 Preparatory examinations and feedback	Knowledge: After the exams pupils will revisit and check knowledge. There will be opportunities to consolidate knowledge, address any gaps and improve skills Skills: • Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas, select and synthesise evidence • Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure, analyse writers' ideas and perspectives and how these are conveyed, communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively • Read, understand and respond to texts, analyse language, form and structure using relevant subject terminology, show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written, use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxqncwx https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702 https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff https://www.senecalearning.com https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/english/english-literature-gcse https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk
--	---	---



Assessments		
Ongoing practice assessments and essays ahead of examinations		
3 Revision and Exam preparation for literature papers 1 and 2	Knowledge: Pupils will revisit all texts from across the course. They will embed knowledge, skills and hone examination technique Skills: - Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas, select and synthesise evidence - Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure, analyse writers' ideas and perspectives and how these are conveyed, communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively - Read, understand and respond to texts, analyse language, form and structure using relevant subject terminology, show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written, use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxqncwx https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702 https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff https://www.senecalearning.com https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/english/english-literature-gcse https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk



Thomas Mills
High School & Sixth Form

Assessments	• Ongoing practice assessments and essays ahead of examinations	