



Year 10

GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

Mrs Mann – Curriculum
Area Leader for English



Aim High



English Language

Each exam is equally weighted

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

Fiction

(1 hour 45 minutes)

Section A (50%):

- Read **one** extract of fiction, from either the 20th or 21st century.
- 4 questions which build up in difficulty

Section B (50%):

- Descriptive or narrative writing.

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

Non-fiction

(1 hour 45 minutes)

Section A (50%):

- Read **two** extracts, one non-fiction and one literary non-fiction. One will be from the 19th century, the other from the 20th or 21st.
- 4 questions which build up in difficulty.

Section B (50%):

- Writing to present a viewpoint.



Be Determined



English Language

Spoken Language Assessment

- It is a requirement from all exam boards that students **must** complete a Spoken Language assessment.
- This is a **presentation** that students need to deliver to an audience (their classmates).
- It assesses their ability to communicate clearly and appropriately, to listen to and respond to questions and to use Standard English.
- It is assessed by the classroom teacher and moderated by the exam board.





English Language

What skills are being assessed?

Reading Assessment Objectives

- Identify and interpret information and ideas from a text.
- Analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers.
- Compare writers' ideas and perspectives.
- Evaluate texts critically.

Writing Assessment Objectives

- Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively.
- Organise information and ideas effectively.
- Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect.
- Accurate spelling and punctuation.





English Literature

Paper 1: Shakespeare and 19th Century Fiction

(1 hour 45 minutes)

Section A:

Macbeth - essay question

Section B:

Frankenstein – essay question

40%

Paper 2: Modern Drama & Poetry

(2 hours 15 minutes)

Section A:

An Inspector Calls – essay

Section B:

Poetry Anthology – Power and Conflict

Section C:

Unseen Poetry

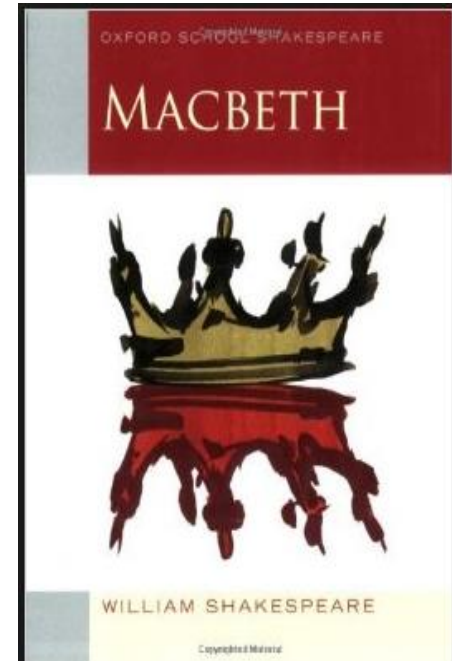
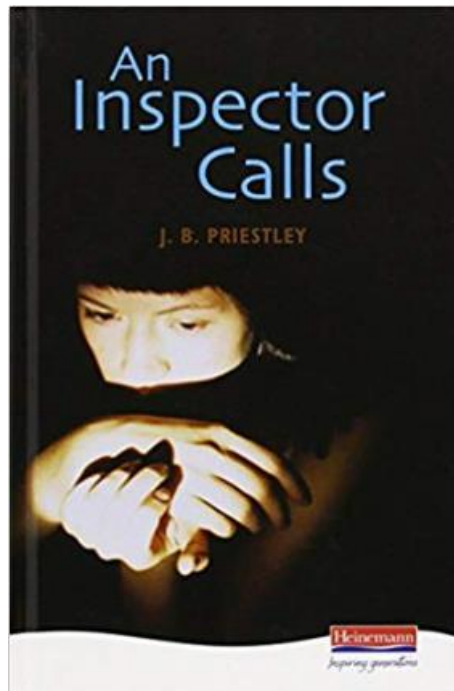
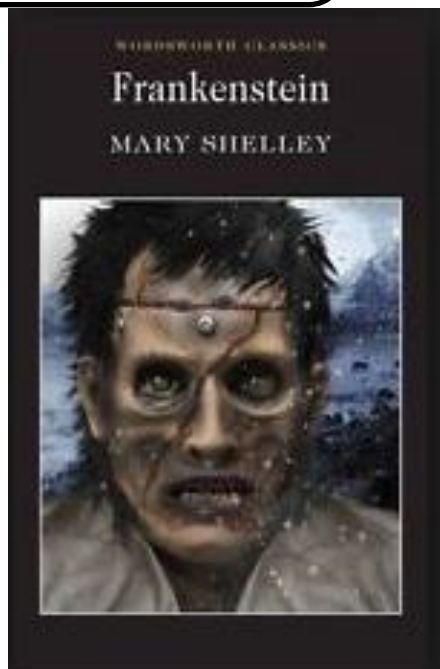
60%





English Literature

Students will need
their own copy of
these texts





English Literature

What skills are being assessed?

A01: Read, understand and respond to texts, using textual references for support.

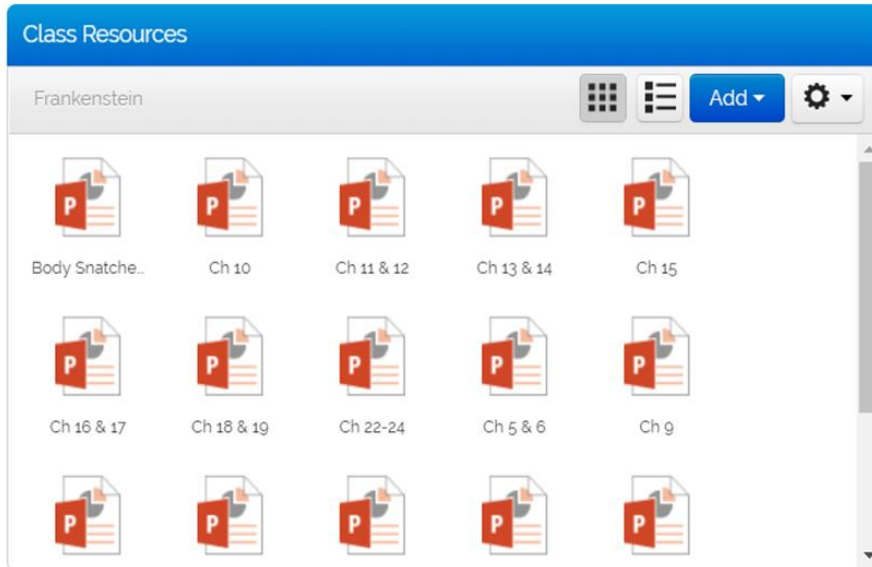
A02: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects.

A03: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.





Useful Resources



Class resources:

Powerpoints from lessons,
chapter by chapter
summaries etc.





Useful Resources

The screenshot shows the LitCharts website interface for the novel *Frankenstein*. At the top, there's a navigation bar with a home icon, a search bar, and a page indicator showing 'Page: 1 of 25'. Below this, the LitCharts logo is displayed alongside the text 'Get hundreds more LitCharts at www.litcharts.com'. The main title 'Frankenstein' is prominently featured in a red banner. Below the title, there's a section labeled 'INTRODUCTION' with a sub-header 'BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF MARY SHELLEY'. This section provides a detailed biography of Mary Shelley, mentioning her parents, her husband Percy Bysshe Shelley, and her role in the Romantic movement. To the right of the introduction, there's a 'KEY FACTS' section listing various details about the novel, including its full title, publication date, literary period, genre, setting, climax, antagonist, and point of view. Below the introduction, there's a 'HISTORICAL CONTEXT' section discussing the Gothic genre and the Romantic movement. To the right of the historical context, there's an 'EXTRA CREDIT' section featuring a 'GHOST STORY' and 'THE TALE OF TWO FRANKENSTEINS'. At the bottom of the page, there's a 'PLOT SUMMARY' section. The entire page is framed by a blue border with navigation icons.

Page: 1 of 25 Automatic Zoom

LitCharts

Get hundreds more LitCharts at www.litcharts.com

Frankenstein

INTRODUCTION

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF MARY SHELLEY

Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley was the daughter of the philosopher William Godwin and the writer Mary Wollstonecraft, who wrote "Vindication of the Rights of Woman" (1792). Shelley's mother died in childbirth and she was raised by her father. At age 18 Shelley ran off with Percy Bysshe Shelley, a leading British Romantic poet, who she married in 1816. The couple had a son, but after her husband died in a shipwreck in 1822, Mary Shelley fell into poverty. She continued to write fiction to support herself. *Frankenstein* (1818) was her first and by far her most successful work of fiction.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Most critics consider the Gothic genre a reaction to the "Age of Reason," a movement in 18th-century British and European art and politics that stressed the power of the human mind above all. Empowered by an unchecked faith in humanity, people set out to reshape society: The American and French Revolutions erupted, and the Industrial Revolution forced people into long, grueling days in factories. The Gothic novelists aimed to represent the dark side that accompanied this age of apparent human progress. At a time when writers and thinkers had begun to believe in the "infinite perfectability of man," Gothic novelists portrayed human beings as woefully imperfect and at the mercy of far more powerful forces, such as nature and death.

RELATED LITERARY WORKS

The Gothic novel flourished in English literature from the publication of Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto*, which established the genre in 1764, until about 1820. Gothic novels emphasized mystery and horror, and almost always contained dark forests, castles, the supernatural, trap doors, secret rooms, and other similar elements now familiar from "horror" movies. Yet unlike *Frankenstein* is one of the most famous novels in the Gothic genre. It was written at a time when the Gothic novel was slowly giving way to the literary movement of Romanticism, and the novel shares the Romantic emphasis on the "sublime" power of nature. In writing *Frankenstein*, Shelley also drew heavily on John Milton's seventeenth-century

KEY FACTS

- Full Title: *Frankenstein, or, The Modern Prometheus*
- When Published: 1818
- Literary Period: Switzerland and London, England; 1816–1817
- Genre: Gothic novel
- Setting: Switzerland, France, England, Scotland, and the North Pole in the 18th century
- Climax: The Monster's murder of Elizabeth Lavenza on her wedding night to Victor
- Antagonist: The Monster
- Point of View: *Frankenstein* is told through a few layers of first-person narratives. Walton is the primary narrator, who then recounts Victor's first-person narrative. In addition, Victor's narrative contains the monster's first-person story as well as letters from other characters.

EXTRA CREDIT

A Ghost Story

On a stormy night in June of 1816, Mary Shelley, her husband, and a few other companions, including the Romantic poet Lord Byron, decided to try to write their own ghost stories, but Shelley couldn't come up with any ideas. A few nights later, she had a dream in which she envisioned "the pale student of unhallowed arts" kneeling beside his creation—the monster. She began writing the story that became *Frankenstein* the next morning.

The Tale of Two Frankensteins

Shelley published the first edition of *Frankenstein* anonymously, perhaps due to her concern that such a grim and violent tale would not be well received by her audience if they knew her gender. She revised the novel and published it under her real name in 1831. Some key differences exist between the editions, namely that in the first edition, Elizabeth is Alphonse's niece and, therefore, Victor's cousin. (In the 1831 edition, the more popular version and the one used in this Outline, the Frankensteins adopt Elizabeth from another family).

PLOT SUMMARY

Robert Walton, the captain of a ship bound for the North Pole, writes a letter to his sister, Margaret Saville, in which he says

Lit charts:

Great for summarising plot, characters and themes. Promotes higher level discussion about texts.



Be Brave



Useful Resources



British Library Frankenstein

Links to articles and wider contextual information

BBC Documentary 'Birth of a Monster'

Documentary about Shelley's life and creation of the novel



Monstrosity and Humanity

Article on the boundaries between 'monsters' and humanity



'The Other' in Frankenstein

Academic article on the concept of 'the Other'



Pennsylvania University articles

209 articles covering a range of aspects in Frankenstein

10 Possible meanings

BBC article exploring Shelley's intentions

Independent article on Mary Shelley

Article about Shelley's life and writing Frankenstein

Wider reading:

Range of articles to help students to develop their wider knowledge of a text.





Revision Guides



Be Supportive



Support

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Be Supportive