

First Year English Revision List

Poetry – Choose 4 poems studied in class this year and make notes for yourself using the following guidelines.

- The title of each poem and who wrote it.
- What happened in each poem?
- What kind of language and poetic techniques are used?
- What's the main message?
- Did you like the poem or not? What impression did it make on you? Explain why.
- What is the mood of the poem?

For all of the above you need to be able to support your points with quotes.

Fiction – Revise one of the novels you studied in class this year by making notes under the following headings.

- The way the novel begins and ends and what I thought of the beginning and ending.
- A character I liked. A character I disliked. A character I found interesting. You must be able to explain in detail why you felt this way about each character using examples from the novel to prove your points.
- Describe an exciting scene, a happy scene and a scene which made you feel sad. You must be able to explain clearly why each scene made you feel this way giving specific examples from the novel.
- Choose a main theme and trace how it is developed from the beginning through the middle and to the end of the novel. For example you could examine how the theme of *Growing Up* is developed in *Wonder* and show how Auggie changed a lot during the story.

Skills– Punctuation and spelling.

- Know how to use capital letters, full-stops, commas, apostrophes and speech marks
- Correct spelling mistakes and learn to spell key words.

Comprehending questions

On the exam there will be an unseen poem or text (an article or an extract from a novel) followed by comprehension questions. You can't revise for this but you can learn the tactics:

- **Read the questions carefully and underline key words to make sure you know what you are being asked – then answer the question asked!**
- **Answer in full, clear sentences**
- **Include as many relevant points as you can in each answer**
- **Back up your points with examples from the text**

If you work your way through this list over the coming weeks you will be very well prepared for your summer exam. Good luck!