

# How to Help Your Child Revise for English Language and English Literature GCSEs

## English Language:

- Read the **top tips sheet** and test them to make sure they know the different sections of the exams and what they are required to do
- Provide them with **factual reading material** such as magazines, newspapers and online articles from reputable sites (e.g. BBC News, The Guardian)
- **Discuss the reading material** with them to check their understanding and ability to read between and beyond the lines
- Encourage them to do **past papers/** sections from past papers under exam conditions (they can give these to their English teacher to mark). These past papers are available on the WJEC website: <http://www.wjec.co.uk/index.php?subject=51&level=7&list=paper>
- Test them on their **persuasive techniques** (listed on top tips sheets)

## GCSE English Literature:

- Buy copies of the examined texts:  
Top set: 'Blood Brothers' by Willy Russell  
'Lord of the Flies' by William Golding  
'To Kill a Mockingbird' by Harper Lee  
OR  
Mid Set: 'An Inspector Calls' by J.B.Priestley  
'Heroes' by Robert Cromier  
'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck
- Encourage them to **read and re-read** the texts
- Use revision materials on **GCSE Bitesize** for all of the set texts  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english\\_literature/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english_literature/)
- If they are reluctant readers **read the text aloud** to them- it may sound silly but last year some students found bedtime stories very useful!
- Provide them with a **highlighter** to use in class and exams
- Make sure that they **read over their notes** in exercise books and their marked mock exam answers, so that they know how to improve
- Test them on their **key quotes** which they will need to learn (in the next two weeks they will have revision booklets with lists of key quotes to annotate)
- If your child wants to re-do a paper at home, they can ask their English teacher for specific guidance; as we spend most of Term 4 and 5 doing past papers we are keen for them not to have attempted them beforehand, as this can give a false impression of their progress.