

Edexcel: English Literature

Do's & Don't's

2016 - 2017



Paper 1: 1hr 45mins

The 'Drama' paper

Section A: Shakespeare

- Ensure that quotations/evidence is used to support responses in the 'extract' part of the question.
- Ensure that you allow 55 minutes for this section (30 minutes is recommended for the extract question).
- Read the questions carefully – identify what it wants you to comment on in terms of themes and character.
- You must give a personal response in terms of 'the audience'.
- Use analytical language: '*Shakespeare presents the theme of...*' '*the character is presented as...*'
- Use correct literary terminology.
- Don't forget to link to context and staging!

Section B: Blood Brothers OR An Inspector Calls

- Same as the above! Except...
- Ensure you can remember or paraphrase some key quotations from the play.
- Choose only ONE question (you have a choice of two).
- Ensure that you allow 50 minutes for this section

Paper 2: 2hrs 15mins

The 'Poetry and Prose' paper

Section A: 19th C Fiction:

A Christmas Carol

- Ensure that quotations/evidence is used to support responses in the 'extract' part of the question.
- Ensure that you allow 55 minutes for this section.
- Remember to use literary terminology.

Section B: Anthology and Unseen Poetry

- Ensure that quotations/evidence is used to support responses and zoom in to word level analysis.
- You must focus on language, structure and form to lead toward what ideas are presented in the poems.
- Allow 35 minutes for the anthology question and 45 minutes for the unseen poetry question.
- Remember to use literary terminology.
- It's YOUR interpretation that counts!