



Structure of Exam

The January PPEs will involve 2 exams:

Language Paper 1 (1 hour 45 minutes, 80 marks available, 40 for reading section and 40 for writing section).

Literature Paper 1 (1 hour 45 minutes, 64 marks available: Shakespeare section and Sherlock Holmes section).

In Summer 2018, you will sit **4 exams** in total.

Exam Paper Links:

The AQA website has links to specimen papers and mark schemes for all papers.

- Language Paper 1 [specimen paper](#).
- Language Paper 1 [mark scheme](#).
- Literature Paper 1 [specimen](#).
- Literature Paper 1 [mark scheme](#).

We will share many more sample papers with you: always feel free to take them home to practise / revisit.

All study guides also have their own version of sample papers and exam-style questions.

Useful Websites/Apps/Books:

- You can find a high quality film version of ‘The Sign of Four’ [here](#), and a good audiobook [here](#). The full text is available [here](#).
- For ‘Romeo and Juliet’, No Fear Shakespeare has a [plain English translation alongside the whole play](#).
- Mr Bruff videos on Youtube take you through individual questions. He also has a [step by step guide to ‘Romeo and Juliet’](#).
- You will regularly be sent revision packs and sample questions – keep checking your email and Show My Homework.
- Your teachers can get free flash cards for you if you need some. Just ask!
- CGP guides are all very useful. The school sell these regularly but you always buy them independently if you need them quickly. The [Love and Relationships poetry guide](#) is particularly good, and CGP also sell their own [practice papers](#).
- Some students find the [PiXLit App](#) useful for evidence. Please ask your English teacher for login details. You can use this App on a smart phone, PC or tablet.

How to revise:

- **Focus on one question or section at a time.** Start with your **worst questions**.
- Aim to complete **practice questions** to check your understanding.
- Check **your PLC / tracker for that question** (yellow folder), or try to remember... what is your current performance/mark for that question?
- Find any **teacher targets** you have been given for this question.
- Check **support sheets/packs** for that question and watch **revision videos** (see above). You will be emailed/given many revision resources during Year 11.
- Re-read some of your **previous attempts** at this question (red folder / exercise book). Check the **mark scheme** to see if you are missing anything.
- For **Literature**, re-read the play or poem or listen to the audiobook to make sure you know exactly what happens.
- **Revise key evidence using flash cards.**

Tips to Answer Common/Extended Questions:

Language Paper 1 Timing: Reading 5 mins, Q1 5 mins, Q2 10 mins, Q3 10 mins, Q4 25 mins, Q5 45-50 mins, then proofread. Write down your timings before you start the paper... and stick to them!

For Q4 (20 marks), you should evaluate the statement at the start of each of your sections / paragraphs before analysing a piece of evidence in detail, referring to writer’s methods and untangling layers of meaning. It’s fine to write extended sections on 3-5 carefully-chosen pieces of evidence.

For Q5 (40 marks), plan and pay close attention to SPAG.

Literature Paper 1 Timing: Shakespeare question 50 mins, Sherlock question 50 mins, then proofread.

Spend half your time on the extract and half on the rest of the text.

Make a range of critical points which answer the question. Really explore the text in detail.

Mention the reader and writer.

Use evidence and comment on the effect of the writer’s methods.

Link your points to context.