

Higher English - Advice for Prelim Revision

Paper 1 - RUAE

- ◆ **If asked to explain** please use *own words* even if not asked.
- ◆ **If asked to comment on “the writer’s use of language” – an analysis question – think:**
 - word choice,
 - imagery,
 - sentence structure,
 - tone.
- ◆ **Analysis questions** need to comment on the words chosen – associations/connotations – use the stem “this word suggests . . .”
- ◆ **Sentence Structure questions – think:**
 - word order
 - punctuation
 - sentence length
 - parallels
 - repetition
 - contrasting statements
 - listingIdentify technique **and effect**.
- ◆ **Imagery questions** need to say what the literal root is as well as the metaphorical image is: **Just as... so too....**
- ◆ **Passage two** – practise picking out the main ideas of the passage. Identify similarities and/or differences with the main ideas in passage one.
- ◆ **What can I do to revise?**
 - Read quality newspapers highlighting word choice, imagery and sentence structure.
 - Practise papers (Hodder Gibson and SQA) – self mark and home in on difficult questions
 - Read over notes on different types of questions.
 - Know how to answer questions on: word choice, imagery, sentence structure and tone.
 - Practise summarising in your own words.

Paper 2 – Critical Essay

Know your text inside out and learn quotations – short but significant ones.

- ◆ **Be able to spot questions on:**
 - opening and ending
 - turning point
 - characterisation and relationships
 - setting
 - narrative stance (if applicable)
 - theme
- ◆ **Be flexible. Answering the question is key. Make sure you have planned essays with different questions.**
- ◆ **In your essay:**
 - read the question, highlighting the key words; decide on four or five areas to answer on; keep your topic sentences tight to the question; show a knowledge of the whole text; support your answer with short significant quotations; refer to the writer often.
- ◆ **Practise writing essays:**
 - without texts, without notes, timed 45 minutes.

Paper 2 – Scottish Texts

- ◆ **Know the ideas in your texts/learn selected quotations**
- ◆ **Be able to spot questions on:**
 - persona
 - techniques (eg word choice/imagery)
 - structure
 - theme
- ◆ **Know how to answer the last question (worth 10 marks)**
 - 2 marks – identify commonality**
 - 2 marks – quote and comment on given text (no marks for quotation)**
 - 6 marks – quote and comment on other text/s (marks for quotation)**

