



ARMADALE ACADEMY

Higher English How to Pass Guide

for parents and carers

Exam Breakdown and links to key SQA Documents

- Breakdown of Exam: Paper I: RUAE (90 minutes) Paper II: Critical Reading – Critical Essay and Set Text (90 minutes)
- Exam Components: Exam: 70% & Portfolio: 30%
- <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47904.html>
- <https://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/Subjects/English/higher>

Resources to support your child

The following websites are useful for revision materials:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zqxhfg8>
- <https://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/Subjects/English/higher>
- <https://education.gov.scot/nelo/search/?phase=NQ&subjectName=English&orderBy=dateDescending>
- Scholar

Internal resources include:

- Class Teams have a range of resources for revision of all areas of the course
- The school library has past paper books that pupils can withdraw

Practical Strategies to support your child

- Answering Past Paper questions and then marking these using the SQA Marking Instructions which are available from the SQA website. Pupils can also hand them in to their teachers for marking.
- Working with your child on timed questions, such as the 10-mark question for the Scottish Set Text.
- Revising the formulae for the different question types in the RUAE paper – making flashcards and asking them to tell you how to answer the various question types.
- Encourage them to read articles from newspapers such as The Scotsman, The Guardian and The Herald (as this is often where the RUAE passage is taken from)
- Encourage your child to make posters of key quotations and put them up around the house so that they can learn them off by heart. Ask your child to explain each quotation to you.
- Mind map critical essay plans for all possible questions around Character, Structure and Theme.
- Encourage your child to record their own revision notes and to listen to them when on the bus or walking to school.
- Online quizzes on a topic can help them revise in a fun way.

How can you support your child?

- Ask questions about what they have been revising – ask them to teach you about what they've learned.
- Make a study timetable together, focusing on areas of development.
- Watch the Study Skills sway and use the strategies to help them find revision methods that work for them. <https://sway.office.com/jmTVD1oHi2SavdBH?ref=Link>
- Encourage them to study in a quiet space, if possible. In addition, ensure they take breaks.
- Encourage them to ask for help from teachers and peers.