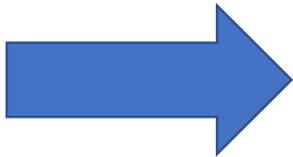## Smaller, smaller, smallest

To remember all the key points for an English Literature exam, you need to know the texts inside out. How can you remember everything?
Firstly, mind map and transfer notes onto A3 for each poem/character, practise and learn. Create a detailed essay plan like we practise in class together. Then shorten this on to A4 and finally onto small revision cards.
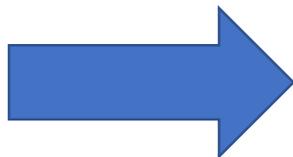
This method is useful because it helps you remember lots of key points. By progressing to shortening your notes and having bullet points, you will eventually only need prompts to revise. They can also be referenced right up to outside of the exam hall!

Playback

Make a list of ideas/key points about a character/theme/plot – at this point you can refer to your texts if you wish to support. Then, cover these ideas up – record yourself using the device on your smart phone. Once you have recorded what you can remember from your list, uncover your notes, play back your recording and see how much you have remembered.

This method is useful because revision can involve a lot of writing to consolidate knowledge. However, with this method the use of technology will help reduce some of the writing time whilst still allowing you to revise and check your own knowledge. You can also listen to your notes whilst on the go, or even in bed before you go to sleep!

The expert in anything was once a beginner.

EDUCATION IS NOT THE LEARNING OF FACTS, BUT THE TRAINING OF THE MIND TO THINK.
– ALBERT EINSTEIN

2 SEPARATE LITERATURE EXAMS
KEY TEXTS TO REVISE:

COMPONENT 1 = 2 HOURS
SECTION A = 'Romeo and Juliet' – extract (15 marks) and essay (25 marks, 5 marks awarded for SPAG). 1 hour on this section.

SECTION B = Anthology Poems – Given a printed poem by the exam board out of the anthology that you must analyse (15 marks), then you have to compare to another poem from the anthology of your choice which has a similar theme (25 marks).
1 hour on this section.

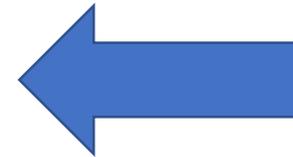**COMPONENT 2 = 2 HOURS 30 MINUTES**
SECTION A = 'Blood Brothers' – One question only that needs you to analyse the extract provided and ALSO comment on the play as a whole (40 marks, 5 are for SPAG).
45 minutes on this section.

SECTION B = 'A Christmas Carol' - One question only that needs you to analyse the extract provided and ALSO comment on the novel as a whole (40 marks).
45 minutes on this section.

SECTION C = Unseen poetry – 2 tasks, task 1 you analyse an unseen poem provided (15 marks), task 2 you then have to compare to another unseen poem provided which will contain similar ideas/themes (25 marks).
I hour on this section.

Word Webs

Word webs involve making links between key words or concepts in a topic area. To create a word web write down the key words of your topic and draw lines/arrows between the words. Then along the line/arrow explain the links between the words. For literature texts, the word webs could be characters, themes and plot progression.
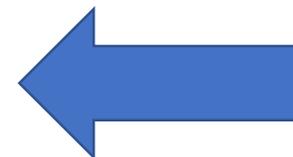
This method is useful because it will help you develop your understanding of the plots. It can also help you make connections between characters, understanding relationships that exist and what impact a character's actions can have on another characters.

If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough.
– Albert Einstein
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Reflection Triangles

Reflection triangles can be used to focus closely on key characters and themes in texts. Draw a large triangle, on the three sides have 3 separate headings: what I know, what quotations link to this, how this fits into the plot. You then need to answer these headings in as much detail as possibly (hopefully without looking at the texts to help).

This method is useful because it is a visual reminder that can help trigger key ideas about characters/plot/themes. You could also cut out the triangles, put these on a wall/table and see which other triangles can tessellate with it and why (enabling you to make further links).

If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you. If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you.