



Curriculum Overview for students

What are we learning in English in Year 7?



WHEN	MAIN TOPICS	KEY SKILLS	ASSESSMENT DETAILS
HALF TERM 1 <i>The History of the English Language</i> <i>Beowulf</i>	<i>Learning about how and why English has changed over time</i> <i>Beowulf</i> <i>Discovering more about the Anglo-Saxon context to the poem</i>	<i>Writing to explain</i> <i>Simple, compound and complex sentences</i> <i>Using a range of punctuation, including colons and semicolons</i>	Writing assessments: producing a leaflet about the History of English and a diary entry from Grendel's perspective Reading assessment: analysing language used in the fight scene
HALF TERM 2 <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>	<i>The prologue to The Canterbury Tales and the Nun's Priest's Tale</i> <i>Portraits of the Miller, the Wife of Bath, the Knight and the Prioress</i> <i>Learning about life in the Middle Ages</i>	<i>Writing to describe and compare</i> <i>Using quotations</i> <i>Employing a range of sentence types in our work</i>	Writing assessments: writing a story with a clear moral Reading assessment: comparing two key characters
HALF TERM 3 <i>Shakespeare: The Tempest</i>	<i>The Tempest</i> <i>Script and speech writing</i> <i>Understanding the wider context to the play: colonialism</i>	<i>Writing to argue</i> <i>Structuring speeches and scripts</i> <i>Topic sentences and paragraph structure</i>	Writing assessments: writing a speech arguing for or against the teaching of Shakespeare in schools Reading assessment: analysing a section of text in which two key characters fall in love at first sight
HALF TERM 4 <i>Literature from the Eighteenth Century</i>	<i>Extracts from 'Gulliver's Travels', Defoe's writings and Hogarth's poems and art-work</i> <i>Satire and humour</i> <i>The Eighteenth Century context</i>	<i>Writing to persuade</i> <i>Thesis statements</i> <i>Using paragraphing for effect</i> <i>Using persuasive techniques</i>	Writing assessments: can you write a letter to your local MP about a modern-day injustice? Reading assessment: can you compare how two islands are described?
HALF TERM 5 <i>Gothic Literature</i>	<i>Extracts from 'The Raven', 'The Tell-Tale Heart' and 'Dracula'</i> <i>Tension and drama</i>	<i>Writing creatively</i> <i>Using punctuation accurately and for effect</i>	Writing assessments: can you explore how Poe creates tension in 'The Tell-Tale Heart'? Reading assessment: can you compare how two islands are described?
HALF TERM 6 <i>Romantic Poetry</i>	<i>Contemporary poetry and poems by Blake, Wordsworth and Tennyson</i> <i>Poetic techniques</i>	<i>Writing to inform</i> <i>Creating a newspaper article</i> <i>Memorising poetry</i>	Writing assessments: writing a newspaper article Reading assessment: comparing a poem from the Romantic period with a modern poem? Final end-of-year assessment

Resources to help you:

All PDFs of the texts we read will be shared on Google classroom so that you can re-read them or read ahead. [Mr Bruff's youtube channel](#) has some great videos on different writing styles e.g. descriptive writing; you can also use the activities available on [BBC Bitesize](#). The games and pre-tests on [www.spellingstars.com](#) will help you to memorise your weekly spellings.