

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

## Syllabus



### 4ème

#### ORGANISATION



#### HOMEWORK

Students will be expected to complete **30-45 minutes** of work outside of class time per week. This will be a combination of reading the class 'Book Club' book, and a short piece of writing connected with the work being done in class. 'Book Club' ensures a variety of shared reading outside of class, designed to develop vocabulary and reading fluency.

#### EXAMPLE 'BOOK CLUB' BOOKS

*Clap When You Land* by Elizabeth Acevedo  
*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee  
*Cider with Rosie* by Laurie Lee  
*Between Shades of Gray* by Ruta Sepetys

#### UNITS

##### Unit 1 – Travel Writing

Pack your suitcase and come on a journey across the world, as we look at the genre of travel writing. From humorous accounts of holidays gone wrong, to life changing treks across inhospitable terrain, we'll explore the ways in which people have written about their experiences of encountering new places and peoples from the nineteenth century to the present day. You'll develop your own writing skills as you learn the techniques of the best travel writers, and then produce a piece of travel writing of your own.

This unit will culminate in the production of an extended piece of travel writing, based on your own life experiences.

##### Unit 2 – War Poetry

How have people's attitudes towards war changed over time? You'll attempt to answer this question through looking at a range of war poetry, from Tennyson's response to the Crimean War in the 1850s, to contemporary poetry that explores the impact of the Iraq war. We'll look at women's experiences on the Home Front, as well as those of men on the battlefield, to help us build a bigger picture of the emotional impact of war on those who have lived through it. You'll have the opportunity to explore a range of material, such as paintings, documentaries and photographs, alongside the poetry, and you will produce a portfolio of creative work in response, alongside an analytical essay.

This unit will culminate in the production of a poetry portfolio as well as an analytical essay.

## UNITS

**Unit 3 – The Gothic**

Prepare to be enthralled as you share in the experience of reading Daphne Du Maurier’s classic twentieth century novel *Rebecca* with your class. You’ll develop your understanding of writers’ techniques and narrative devices, alongside starting to explore literary genre and theory through a study of the Gothic. You will be taught through a combination of Socratic seminars, independent and group work activities, and will learn to write analytically as well as trying your hand at producing your own piece of Gothic literature.

This unit will culminate in the writing of a literary essay, as well as a piece of recreative writing based on *Rebecca*.

**Unit 4 – Shakespeare and Comedy**

Discover how Shakespeare made his contemporary audiences laugh as you read his romantic comedy *Much Ado About Nothing*. We’ll explore conventions of Shakespearean theatre, comedic techniques, and different ways in which directors have interpreted the play over time. We’ll watch film and theatre versions to supplement our reading, and you’ll work with your classmates to create your own contemporary interpretation of the play.

This unit will culminate in the writing of a literary essay, as well as the devising of a contemporary version of the play to perform as a group.

**Unit 5 – Playwriting**

Get your creative juices flowing as you learn how to plan, structure and write your own play. You’ll be taught a brief history of theatre to help you understand the different theoretical approaches you could take to your own work, before looking at some examples of classic plays to inspire you. We’ll then create our own writing workshop, where you’ll get writing your own play, regularly sharing your work in progress with your classmates to get feedback to help you improve. This will culminate in a rehearsed reading of a key scene of your very own play!

This unit will culminate in the production of a complete playscript.

ACADEMY  
Jeannine Manuel

\*Please note that all named texts are subject to change, as each class’ syllabus will be tailored to suit the needs and interests of students\*