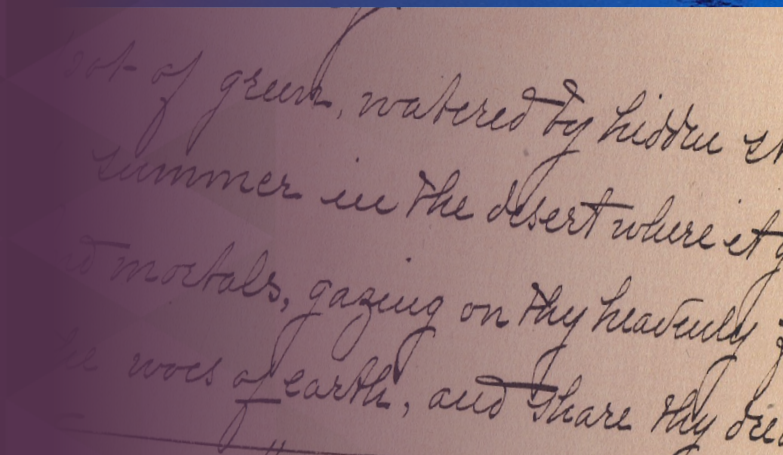


AQA GCSE
English Literature
Teaching and
Revision Essentials



AQA GCSE English Literature

Teaching and Revision Essentials

Titles contained within this booklet have been compiled to support the teaching and learning of the AQA GCSE English Literature specification. The playlists can be accessed by teachers as well as students wishing to guide their exam revision.

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AQA GCSE

English Literature

Shakespeare



Essential viewing




Supplementary viewing



Resources available





Context

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Shakespeare's World	The Life and Times of Shakespeare	13 min	Positioning Shakespeare historically and geographically is a must if we are to appreciate his works. This study opens in the wider context of Elizabethan and Jacobean England and narrows to Shakespeare's familial, personal and creative profile. We also nail down the main forms and genres in which he wrote, along with key techniques such as iambic pentameter.	http://clickv.ie/w/11Np
 Shakespeare's Works and Workplaces	The Life and Times of Shakespeare	13 min	Educators looking to introduce students to features of Shakespeare's plays and the places where they were presented: this is your stop. This concise presentation offers students of all abilities a path to clearly understanding the main features of a Shakespearean play – from the page to the stage – and to put themselves in the picture as audience members.	http://clickv.ie/w/21Np
 Shakespeare's Footprints	The Life and Times of Shakespeare	8 min	The world over, teachers hear the lament 'why do we have to study Shakespeare?' from their students. Here are the answers to that ubiquitous question! This densely packed and student-friendly programme includes well-known examples from his plays and a look at his contribution to the English lexicon to demonstrate Shakespeare's enduring impact on language and the study of literature.	http://clickv.ie/w/41Np
 The Genius of Shakespeare		39 min	Sir Richard Eyre examines Shakespeare's dramatic legacy. The programme includes interviews with actors who discuss Shakespeare's life & work. These are illustrated by extracts from the plays themselves.	http://clickv.ie/w/61Np
 Shakespeare: The Legacy with John Nettles		43 min	What is the Bard's lasting legacy? Actor John Nettles reflects on the legendary playwright's life.	http://clickv.ie/w/81Np
 All episodes	Simon Schama's Shakespeare	59 min/episode	Simon Schama argues that it is impossible to understand how Shakespeare came to belong 'to all time' without understanding just how much he was of his time.	https://clickv.ie/w/yMml

View the playlist for Shakespeare: Context at:
<https://clickv.ie/w/9kol>

Macbeth


Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Why Study Macbeth?	Shakespeare in Conversation: Macbeth	9 min	Over 400 years after Shakespeare's death, his plays continue to be studied, discussed and performed around the world. This video delves into the literary devices used in 'Macbeth' and its major themes, explaining how they contribute to the timeless nature of the play. Valuable insights from experts at the Shakespeare Schools Foundation make this essential viewing for secondary English and Drama students studying the play.	https://clickv.ie/w/-v6p
 Historical Context of Macbeth	Shakespeare in Conversation: Macbeth	10 min	Like all works of literature, 'Macbeth' is a reflection of the time in which it was written. This video discusses the historical context of the play, including the ascension of James I, the Globe Theatre and how audiences would have responded to the opening scenes. Valuable insights from experts at the Shakespeare Schools Foundation make this essential viewing for secondary English and Drama students studying the play.	https://clickv.ie/w/dw6p
 Macbeth and Lady Macbeth: A Scene Study	Shakespeare in Conversation: Macbeth	10 min	At the heart of the 'Scottish Play' are the characters of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth and their relationship. This video discusses one of their key scenes - Act 1, Scene 7 – explaining the meaning of the scene and discussing the language used within. Valuable insights from experts at the Shakespeare Schools Foundation make this essential viewing for secondary English and Drama students studying the play.	https://clickv.ie/w/vw6p
 Scenes from a Marriage: Power Play	Shakespeare in Conversation: Macbeth	12 min	A central component of the 'Scottish Play' is the relationship between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth. This video explores the shifting nature of their relationship across four key scenes: Act 1, Scene 5; Act 2, Scene 2; Act 2, Scene 3 and Act 3, Scene 2. Valuable insights from experts at the Shakespeare Schools Foundation make this essential viewing for secondary English and Drama students studying the play.	https://clickv.ie/w/yw6p
 The Queen, My Lord, Is Dead: The Relationship's Demise	Shakespeare in Conversation: Macbeth	10 min	A central component of the 'Scottish Play' is the relationship between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth. This video explores the nature and deterioration of their relationship in two key scenes: Act 3, Scene 4 and Act 5, Scene 5. Valuable insights from experts at the Shakespeare Schools Foundation make this essential viewing for secondary English and Drama students studying the play.	https://clickv.ie/w/3w6p
 Macbeth: Minor Characters	This Is Shakespeare!	15 min	The horror effects that Shakespeare intended to communicate through his play, Macbeth, pale into insignificance when we witness the truly awful acting of Trevor Kervis' amateur theatre production. In this programme, the roles of minor characters are explored in terms of their effects on the delivery of the themes of the play. Trevor's production is a tragedy in every sense.	https://clickv.ie/w/5w6p

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Macbeth: Dramatic Techniques	This Is Shakespeare!	13 min	Never before has Shakespeare's 'Scottish play' been performed quite like this. Trevor Kervis, director unextraordinaire, strikes again in this farcical look at the dramatic techniques in Macbeth that have made it a favourite among thespians since Elizabethan times. Students will enjoy the quirky characters and upbeat analysis that feature in the programme. If 'all the world's a stage' then Trevor Kervis must be the clown.	https://clickv.ie/w/NMml
 Macbeth: The Tragic Pair	Tragic Lovers and Tragic Pair	48 min	This programme is an enormously valuable historical, literary and dramatic analysis of the essence of Macbeth showing how the significant parts of the drama tie together with scenes from the play. The hosts Rebecca Flynn and Gary Taylor introduce 'Macbeth: The Tragic Pair' using the stunning backdrop of the Scottish Highlands to lift the veil covering the language, plot, themes, geographical and historical background to The Tragedy of Macbeth, first published in 1623.	https://clickv.ie/w/bNmI
 Macbeth (1971)		134 min	Director: Roman Polanski. Based on William Shakespeare's The Tragedy of Macbeth, about the Highland lord who becomes King of Scotland through deceit, treachery, and murder, it stars Jon Finch as Macbeth and Francesca Annis as Lady Macbeth.	https://clickv.ie/w/2NmI
 Macbeth	Shakespeare: the Animated Tales	26 min	The Thane of Glamis, receives a prophecy from a trio of witches that one day he will become King of Scotland. Consumed by ambition and spurred to action by his wife, Macbeth murders his king and takes the throne for himself.	https://clickv.ie/w/8NmI
 Macbeth (1983)	The BBC Television Shakespeare	147 min	A 1983 BBC television presentation of Shakespeare's Macbeth. This was broadcast as part of the 37-play BBC Television Shakespeare project.	https://clickv.ie/w/BNmI
 Macbeth	Shakespeare told	87 min	Top chef Joe Macbeth has worked hard to make Duncan Docherty's restaurant a success. So, when he's told it'll all be his one day, what's to stop him taking it now?	https://clickv.ie/w/ni4p

View the playlist for Macbeth at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Bkol>

Romeo and Juliet

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Romeo and Juliet: Themes	This Is Shakespeare!	14 min	Novice director Trevor Kervis is at the helm of an amateur production of Romeo and Juliet. And it isn't long before his inexperience as a director is revealed and the rehearsals begin to fall apart. This programme takes a comical look at specific dramatic techniques and their impact on the play's themes of fate, love and hate.	https://clickv.ie/w/zOmI


Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Romeo and Juliet: Minor Characters	This Is Shakespeare!	19 min	Picture the scene - a dodgy amateur impresario intends to stage a production of Romeo and Juliet and enlists the help of a motley cast whose performances would have the Bard turning over in his grave. This light-hearted programme is designed to help viewers grasp the importance of minor characters in Shakespeare's famous tragic romance, and for this performance, 'tragic' is the right word.	https://clickv.ie/w/5Oml
 Romeo and Juliet	Before the Play Series	52 min	Young Monash University academics Kim Edwards and Erica Hateley, provide a detailed analysis of this text. Discussion covers: characters, setting, themes, plot, structure and imagery. Key scenes from the play are acted out, and will assist students to understand and appreciate this timeless text.	https://clickv.ie/w/8Oml
 Romeo and Juliet: The Tragic Lovers	Tragic Lovers and Tragic Pair	62 min	Romeo & Juliet - The Tragic Lovers, offers insight, commentary and staged performances of Shakespeare's famous tragedy of star-crossed lovers. As a companion to the literary interpretation, actual dramatic scenes filmed in Verona, Italy are used as Shakespeare had intended in his original play.	https://clickv.ie/w/DOml
 Romeo and Juliet (1968)		134 min	Director: Franco Zeffirelli. Romeo and Juliet is Florentine director Franco Zeffirelli's beautiful modern interpretation of Shakespeare's enduring, classic yet tragic love story of 'star-crossed lovers'. Filmed on location in Italy, it was the most commercially successful Shakespeare film.	https://clickv.ie/w/KOml
 Romeo + Juliet (1996)		112 min	Director: Baz Luhrmann. Luhrmann offers a trendy, contemporary re-telling of the classic love story with Leonardo DiCaprio as Romeo and Claire Danes as Juliet. Set in the gangs and gun culture of Verona Beach, the Capulets and the Montagues are two rival corporate dynasties with generations of hatred behind them.	https://clickv.ie/w/LOml
 Romeo and Juliet	Shakespeare: The Animated Tales	24 min	Revenge, love, and a secret marriage force a pair of young star-crossed lovers to grow up quickly — and fate causes them to commit suicide in despair. Contrast and conflict are running themes throughout Shakespeare's play, Romeo and Juliet — one of the Bard's most popular romantic tragedies.	https://clickv.ie/w/WOml
 Romeo and Juliet (1978)	The BBC Television Shakespeare	207 min	A 1978 BBC production of the classic Shakespeare tragic tale of two star-crossed lovers in 14th-century Verona. This was the first broadcast of the 37-play BBC Television Shakespeare project.	https://clickv.ie/w/ZOml

View the playlist for Romeo and Juliet at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Ekol>

The Tempest





Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Context and Background	The Tempest	6 min	Shakespeare was at the height of his success when he wrote <i>The Tempest</i> . This video reveals aspects of the playwright's life and times that influenced the work, including the 'discovery' of new worlds by colonial powers. It also examines the origin and relevance of the masque in Act 4. It is an excellent resource for middle to senior level students of English and Literature.	https://clickv.ie/w/rPmI
 Theme of Power	The Tempest	8 min	Power is a theme Shakespeare visits throughout ' <i>The Tempest</i> '. This video probes that theme – including Prospero's supernatural powers and yearning to resume his dukedom, Antonio's power base in Milan, the murder plot to make Sebastian king of Naples, and more. It also reflects on the personal costs of having power, and surrendering it. Ideal for students of middle to senior level Literature and English.	https://clickv.ie/w/wPmI
 Prospero and Caliban	The Tempest	9 min	Two key characters in ' <i>The Tempest</i> ' are Prospero and Caliban. This video explores the relationship between the dominating, magical ruler of the island and his slave, who is dismissed by some as a monster. But both are very complex and conflicted characters, and central to the play's themes and sub-texts. Middle to senior level students of English and Literature will find this an engaging and informative resource.	https://clickv.ie/w/yPmI
 Dramatic Techniques	The Tempest	7 min	' <i>The Tempest</i> ', not only Shakespeare's final play, also his shortest, unfolds before the audience in real time. This video explores a range of dramatic techniques employed, including its structure based around the three unities, exposition, Caliban's surprising use of verse, soliloquy, Prospero's frequent asides – even early versions of special effects. An outstanding resource for middle to senior level students of English and Literature.	https://clickv.ie/w/2PmI
 Trevor Nunn on <i>The Tempest</i>	Shakespeare Uncovered	59 min	Looks at the magical and mysterious world created in Shakespeare's <i>The Tempest</i> , and the strange personal insights hidden within the last play he ever wrote.	https://clickv.ie/w/9PmI
 <i>The Tempest</i> (1980)	The BBC Television Shakespeare	124 min	A 1980 BBC production of Shakespeare's classic play. This was broadcast as part of the 37-play BBC Television Shakespeare project.	https://clickv.ie/w/CPmI


Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Shakespearean Comedy	Understanding Shakespeare Series	33 min	This programme investigates the nature of comedy by examining Shakespeare's <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> and <i>The Tempest</i> . The presenters discuss the humour, wit and social satire in these plays, and also stress the essential seriousness of great comedy, with its power to advance moral and spiritual values. Aimed at both beginning and more advanced students, the programme shows how live performances will affect their interpretations of the plays.	https://clickv.ie/w/eQmI

View the playlist for *The Tempest* at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Lkol>

The Merchant of Venice

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Merchant of Venice: Themes	This Is Shakespeare!	18 min	Money, relationships, love, choices, race and isolation... The tangled webs woven in Shakespeare's <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> pale into insignificance compared with the director's relationship with his brother Trevor, Bassanio's personal struggle with his dating profile, Antonio's ill-fitting wardrobe and Portia's blunt assessments of proceedings at rehearsal. This entertaining programme provides students with a comical yet pertinent portrayal of the play's themes.	https://clickv.ie/w/JPmI
 Merchant of Venice: Characters	This Is Shakespeare!	17 min	Dubious casting? Methinks not... Portia the witty chameleon, her suitor Bassanio who's indebted to his besty Antonio, the merchant and debtor of Shylock who is...well...played by the director who's out to upstage his brother Trevor – what could go wrong? This programme profiles Shakespeare's complex characters in <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> in a way that students will find quirky and engaging.	https://clickv.ie/w/LPmI
 Merchant of Venice: Dramatic Techniques	This Is Shakespeare!	17 min	Thanks to a winning scratch card, Shakespeare's <i>Merchant of Venice</i> will open tomorrow night. The director (aka Shylock) bounces back, Portia's learnt her lines, Antonio's new shirt is a hit, although Bassanio's battling with his dating psychometric test – oh the suspense; the dramatic irony....	https://clickv.ie/w/MPmI
 The Merchant of Venice (2004)		121 min	Director: Michael Radford. An adaptation of Shakespeare's play about a Jewish moneylender who seeks to forfeit a literal pound of flesh from his Christian nemesis.	https://clickv.ie/w/VPmI

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 The Merchant of Venice (1980)	The BBC Television Shakespeare	157 min	A 1980 BBC production of Shakespeare's classic play. This was broadcast as part of the 37-play BBC Television Shakespeare project.	https://clickv.ie/w/XPml

View the playlist for The Merchant of Venice at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Nkol>


Much Ado About Nothing




Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Much Ado About Nothing (1984)	The BBC Television Shakespeare	148 min	A 1984 BBC television presentation of Shakespeare's classic comedy play. This was broadcast as part of the 37-play BBC Television Shakespeare project.	https://clickv.ie/w/aQml
 Much Ado About Nothing	ShakespeaRe-told	90 min	A romantic comedy set in a south coast regional TV newsroom, charting the relationship between ex-lovers and warring co-anchors Beatrice Evans and Benedick Taylor.	https://clickv.ie/w/dQml
 Shakespearean Comedy	Understanding Shakespeare Series	33 min	This programme investigates the nature of comedy by examining Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing and The Tempest. The presenters discuss the humour, wit and social satire in these plays, and also stress the essential seriousness of great comedy, with its power to advance moral and spiritual values. Aimed at both beginning and more advanced students, the programme shows how live performances will affect their interpretations of the plays.	https://clickv.ie/w/eQml

View the playlist for Much Ado About Nothing at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Rkol>

Julius Caesar

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Julius Caesar	Shakespeare Unlocked	59 min	Three key scenes from Julius Caesar are explored through performance, to unlock the meaning of the language and development of character.	https://clickv.ie/w/hQml

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Julius Caesar		151 min	Film version of the Royal Shakespeare Company's 2012 production of Shakespeare's fast-moving thriller. A vivid story about a struggle for democracy, Julius Caesar is also a love story between two men united by an explosive act of political violence. The setting is a modern African state in which the tyrant Caesar is about to seize power.	https://clickv.ie/w/nQmI
 Julius Caesar (1979)	The BBC Television Shakespeare	161 min	A 1979 BBC production of Shakespeare's great political thriller which tells the story of the conspiracy against Caesar, his assassination and the defeat of his conspirators. This was broadcast as part of the 37-play BBC Television Shakespeare project.	https://clickv.ie/w/qQmI
 Julius Caesar from Donmar Kings Cross		113 min	Phyllida Lloyd directs an all-female Donmar Warehouse production of Shakespeare's great political drama, set in a present-day women's prison.	https://clickv.ie/w/rQmI

View the playlist for Julius Caesar at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Ukol>

AQA GCSE

English Literature

The 19th-century novel



Essential viewing










Supplementary viewing



Resources available

Great Expectations







Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Context and Background	Great Expectations	8 min	This programme delves into the who, what, when, where and why of Great Expectations. Locate Charles Dickens' masterpiece in its historical context and learn about the real-life events that prompted him to pen this beloved bildungsroman. The hero, Pip, is presented against the detailed backdrop of the Industrial Revolution and the age of the 'self-made man'.	https://clickv.ie/w/ESml
 Appearance versus Reality	Great Expectations	10 min	All is not as it seems in young Philip Pirrip's world. Trace the densely woven theme of appearance versus reality through Great Expectations and gain a greater appreciation of Dickens' thematic and stylistic craftsmanship. This programme considers the notions of expectation, gentility, and success and how they are revealed through the characters and plot of this classic novel.	https://clickv.ie/w/GSml
 Joe, Estella and Magwitch	Great Expectations	11 min	The characters of 'Great Expectations' are just as vivid now as when they were created in the 1800s. As Pip journeys from childhood to adulthood, his encounters with an eclectic cast of characters help define his growth and development to maturity. This programme looks at three of the key characters in Pip's progress—Joe Gargery, Estella and Magwitch.	https://clickv.ie/w/IRnl
 Dickens' Writing Style	Great Expectations	7 min	This programme offers insights into the stylistic devices employed by Dickens to great effect in the novel Great Expectations. Learn more about the characteristics and writing style that have contributed to the perennial popularity of this work, including the author's use of specific literary techniques and his highly memorable characters; some quite familiar and some very strange.	https://clickv.ie/w/HSml
 Great Expectations	The Secret Life of Books	29 min	Tony Jordan brings his writer's insight to a popular classic - Charles Dickens's Great Expectations. Jordan investigates why Dickens decided to change the ending of Great Expectations and what this decision reveals about the writer and the man.	https://clickv.ie/w/RSml

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Great Expectations (1946)		113 min	Director: David Lean. Vivid adaptation of the Dickens classic about a poor young orphan who becomes a gentleman of means, thanks to a mysterious benefactor.	https://clickv.ie/w/TSmI
 All episodes	Great Expectations	59 min/episode	Lavish 3-part adaptation of the classic Charles Dickens novel in which orphan Pip becomes a gentleman when his life is transformed by a mystery benefactor.	https://clickv.ie/w/VSml

View the playlist for Great Expectations at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/blol>






A Christmas Carol

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 A Christmas Carol in Context	Literary Contexts: 19th Century Fiction	8 min	Victorian England was heavily shaped by the Industrial Revolution. While some prospered in this society, many others lived gruelling industrial lives from which Christmas offered only a brief reprieve. This programme explores the influences on and Gothic elements of Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'. It provides a valuable accompaniment to senior English students studying this text.	https://clickv.ie/w/vuHp
 A Christmas Carol (1984)		97 min	Director: Clive Donner. George C Scott stars in this adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic festive fantasy. The miserly curmudgeon Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by three ghosts of Christmas.	https://clickv.ie/w/gSml
 A Christmas Carol (2009)		87 min	Director: Robert Zemeckis. Animation based on Charles Dickens's classic novel. Cold-hearted, penny-pinching Ebenezer Scrooge is taken on an eye-opening journey by three ghosts on Christmas Eve.	https://clickv.ie/w/oSml
 A Christmas Carol		72 min	Simon Callow's acclaimed one-man adaptation of the Charles Dickens classic for the small screen.	https://clickv.ie/w/sSml
 Charles Dickens and the Invention of Christmas		58 min	Griff Rhys Jones reveals how Dickens created the idea of a traditional family Christmas through one of his best-known books, A Christmas Carol.	https://clickv.ie/w/xSml
 Christmas	The Charles Dickens Show	19 min	Charles Dickens hosts a chat show. He is joined by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert to discuss the Victorian Christmas.	https://clickv.ie/w/3Sml

View the playlist for A Christmas Carol at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/jlol>




Jane Eyre



Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Jane Eyre in Context	Literary Contexts: 19th Century Fiction	8 min	The lives of women in Victorian Britain were marked by limited opportunities and strict expectations regarding their behaviour. Poor understanding of mental illness and strong beliefs surrounding religious morality influenced society's perception of women. This programme looks into the real-life background to and Gothic aspects of Charlotte Brontë's 'Jane Eyre'. It provides a valuable accompaniment to senior English students studying this text.	http://clickv.ie/w/H1Np
 All episodes	Jane Eyre	59 min/episode	Dramatisation of Charlotte Brontë's classic novel. The series begins with Jane as a neglected orphan child, unjustly punished by her aunt.	https://clickv.ie/w/sTmI
 Jane Eyre	The Secret Life of Books	30 min	Journalist and novelist Bidisha was fascinated by Brontë's Jane Eyre as a teenager, but re-reading the story as an adult left her feeling uncomfortable. Bringing a fresh and critical eye to this classic work, Bidisha reassesses one of literature's most memorable heroines.	https://clickv.ie/w/aTmI
 Jane Eyre (2011)		112 min	Director: Cary Fukunaga. Adaptation of Charlotte Brontë's classic tale set in the 1840s. A mousy governess who softens the heart of her employer soon discovers that he's hiding a terrible secret.	https://clickv.ie/w/kTmI
 Being the Brontës		58 min	Martha Kearney, novelist Helen Oyeyemi and journalist Lucy Mangan travel to Haworth Parsonage, the home of Charlotte and her sisters Emily and Anne.	https://clickv.ie/w/uTmI
 The Brontës at the BBC		59 min	An exploration of the BBC's love affair with the lives and works of the Brontë sisters - Charlotte, Emily and Anne - which has proved irresistible to drama and documentary makers.	https://clickv.ie/w/xTmI

View the playlist for Jane Eyre at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/zlol>

Frankenstein



Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Context and Background	Mary Shelley's Frankenstein	9 min	Influenced and educated by her parents, Frankenstein's author, Mary Shelley, grew up in a world of radical artists and writers. Her immortal novel explores various themes of early 19th century Romanticism. This clip looks at Mary Shelley's background and major influences on her thinking and writing, giving students of English literature a broader understanding of the nature and significance of this notable work.	https://clickv.ie/w/cgnl
 Frankenstein and the Monster	Mary Shelley's Frankenstein	10 min	When Victor Frankenstein created his monster he never named it, yet its complex personality and struggle for identity and acceptance provides a profound insight to the human condition. This clip examines the troubled relationship between Frankenstein and the monster, and the role of other characters in the novel, including William, Dr Clerval, Elizabeth, and Captain Walton. It is an ideal resource for English literature students.	https://clickv.ie/w/dgnl
 The Pursuit of Knowledge	Mary Shelley's Frankenstein	9 min	Mary Shelley's novel Frankenstein delves into a range of themes, which were particularly popular among 19th century Romantics, and which have been perennial favourites of numerous writers since. This clip highlights some of those themes, including the pursuit of knowledge and the responsibility involved with acquiring it, what makes us human, and the power of nature. It is a valuable resource for students of English literature.	https://clickv.ie/w/egnl
 Writing Style	Mary Shelley's Frankenstein	8 min	In Frankenstein, Mary Shelley employs writing styles reflective of early 19th century literature. This clip explores a range of those styles, including using a series of letters to develop a narrative, structuring a narrative concentrically, and the inclusion of Gothic elements like horror, suspense, and poetic descriptions of wild, remote settings. It assists students of English literature to gain a fuller appreciation of this important novel.	https://clickv.ie/w/hgnl
 Mary Shelley's Frankenstein (1994)		115 min	Director: Kenneth Branagh. A tale of fear and revenge in a faithful adaptation of Mary Shelley's original Gothic novel. A young 18th-century scientist dares to challenge the heavens by creating life - with the resulting monster a hulking innocent at large in the human world.	https://clickv.ie/w/BTml
 Frankenstein	The Secret Life of Books	30 min	In Mary Shelley's Frankenstein manuscripts, Alice Roberts finds someone concerned with the act of creation itself and evidence of husband Percy's collaborative role.	https://clickv.ie/w/DTml

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Frankenstein: Birth of a Monster		58 min	The extraordinary story of how the 19-year-old Mary Shelley created Frankenstein, one of the world's most terrifying monsters. Daughter of Mary Woolstencraft, wife of Percy Bysshe Shelley and close friend to Lord Byron, Mary Shelley's life was every bit as extraordinary as her most famous work. Dramatising the adventures, love affairs and tragedies of her young life, the film shows how her monstrous creation reflected her own extraordinary experiences.	https://clickv.ie/w/GTml
 Frankenstein: A Modern Myth		48 min	From Boris Karloff to Mel Brooks, Frankenstein has fired the imagination of generations of artists who have created their own interpretation of this Gothic masterpiece. Written by a 19-year-old girl nearly 200 years ago, this was the first and greatest myth of the modern scientific age.	https://clickv.ie/w/HTml

View the playlist for Frankenstein at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Ll0l>



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde in Context	Literary Contexts: 19th Century Fiction	8 min	The 19th century was a time of shifting morals, behaviours and beliefs. People led secret double lives, leading authors and scientists alike to become fascinated with human psychology. This programme investigates the inspiration behind and Gothic influences on Robert Louis Stevenson's 'Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'. It provides a valuable accompaniment to senior English students studying this text.	https://clickv.ie/w/Uy6p
 Ian Rankin Investigates: Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde		57 min	Crime writer Ian Rankin investigates The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. Starting with Robert Louis Stevenson's nightmare in September 1885, Rankin traces the roots of this story, which stretches back to Stevenson's childhood. Grave-robbers, hallucinatory drugs and prostitution all play their part in the disturbing account of Henry Jekyll's double-life, as Rankin's journey takes him into the yeasty draughts and unlit closes of the city that inspired the tale - Edinburgh.	https://clickv.ie/w/NRml

View the playlist for The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde at:







<https://clickv.ie/w/nl0l>

The Sign of Four






Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
  The Sign of Four in Context	Literary Contexts: 19th Century Fiction	7 min	Police approaches towards the investigation of crimes changed greatly in the 19th century. In London, there was an explosion in the number of detectives and true crime stories experienced a surge in popularity. This programme delves into the inspiration for and Gothic features of Arthur Conan Doyle's 'The Sign of Four'. It provides a valuable accompaniment to senior English students studying this text.	http://clickv.ie/w/D1Np

View the playlist for The Sign of Four at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/rz6p>**Pride and Prejudice**

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
  Jane Austen's World	Pride and Prejudice	7 min	When Jane Austen wrote Pride and Prejudice, women authors were frowned upon. So what inspired her to create such a timeless literary masterpiece? This programme explores Austen's life and the context in which she wrote about social complexities in Regency England. This informative resource provides students of English and Literature with a useful insight into the life and times of Jane Austen.	https://clickv.ie/w/Wfnl
  Themes of Wealth and Pride	Pride and Prejudice	8 min	Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice carries a number of themes that are just as prevalent in our lives today as they were in Regency era England. This video explores some of those themes, including pride, love, wealth and prejudice, and how they play out in the lives of the novel's main characters. It is an excellent resource for students of English and Literature.	https://clickv.ie/w/Yfnl
  Characters	Pride and Prejudice	8 min	Jane Austen created a fascinating and engaging range of characters in Pride and Prejudice. This video analyses the character and function of the story's witty, high-spirited heroine, Elizabeth Bennet, her interactions with the other characters and the complexity of personality traits that make this romantic novel a true classic. It is an engaging and powerful learning resource for students of English and Literature.	https://clickv.ie/w/agnl

AQA GCSE English Literature **The 19th-century novel**

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Austen's Writing Style	Pride and Prejudice	9 min	A big reason why Pride and Prejudice is considered such an outstanding literary work revolves around the writing style and literary techniques employed by Jane Austen. This programme examines various techniques including her comprehensive use of dialogue, irony and her authorial voice. It gives students of English and Literature a deeper understanding of one of the key literary aspects of this classic novel.	https://clickv.ie/w/bgnl
 Pride & Prejudice (2005)		119 min	Director: Joe Wright. Keira Knightley and Matthew Macfadyen star in this acclaimed adaptation of Jane Austen's classic novel.	https://clickv.ie/w/aUml
 All episodes	Pride and Prejudice	52 min/episode	Award-winning adaptation of Jane Austen's classic Regency romance starring Colin Firth and Jennifer Ehle.	https://clickv.ie/w/dUml
 The Real Jane Austen		56 min	Drama-documentary about the life of Jane Austen. Anna Chancellor, a relative of Jane Austen, explores the woman behind the acclaimed novels through readings and reconstructions.	https://clickv.ie/w/hUml
 Jane Austen: Behind Closed Doors		59 min	In a fresh take on Jane Austen, Lucy Worsley traces the houses Jane lived in to show just how much they influenced her work.	https://clickv.ie/w/jUml

View the playlist for Pride and Prejudice at:

https://clickv.ie/w/_lol

AQA GCSE

English Literature

Modern text





 Essential viewing

 Supplementary viewing

 Resources available


An Inspector Calls

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Context and Background	An Inspector Calls	8 min	Set in 1912, the play unfolds during turbulent times in Britain as workers formed unions, and demanded better wages and conditions. This clip explores class divisions at the time, as well as the context of the play's first London performance in 1945. The story is told by a presenter and scene re-enactments – an ideal resource for middle and senior secondary level students of English and Literature.	https://clickv.ie/w/tgnl
 Inspector Goole	An Inspector Calls	8 min	Inspector Goole, an impressively authoritative and purposeful figure, is the focus of this clip. We also examine the way Priestley reveals the key character, who takes on a role more akin to that of a judge than an investigating officer. With content delivered via a presenter, and through scene re-enactments, it is a valuable resource for middle and senior secondary level students of English and Literature.	https://clickv.ie/w/ygnl
 Social Responsibility	An Inspector Calls	8 min	This clip explores how Priestley conveys his beliefs about community and social responsibility in the play. Driven simply to look after their own interests, each member of the upper-crust Birling family are shown by Inspector Goole to have contributed to the demise of Eva Smith through their own selfishness. Featuring a presenter and re-enactments, it's an ideal resource for middle and senior secondary level Literature students.	https://clickv.ie/w/wgnl
 Dramatic Style	An Inspector Calls	8 min	In this clip, we examine the devices and dramatic styles Priestley employs to influence the audience's response to the play's characters and events – including genre, structure, suspense, speech, melodrama and dramatic irony. Combining a presenter and re-enactments of various scenes, this is an excellent resource for middle and senior secondary level students of English, Literature and Drama.	https://clickv.ie/w/ygnl
 An Inspector Calls (1954)		77 min	Director: Guy Hamilton. Based on the famous stage play, Alastair Sim stars as the mysterious policeman whose arrival at a family celebration triggers strange events and life-changing revelations.	https://clickv.ie/w/2gnl

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 An Inspector Calls (2015)		86 min	Director: Aisling Walsh. The film is set in 1912, and follows the events of a single evening on which the wealthy Birling family is holding a celebratory dinner party. The festivities are interrupted by a visit from a police inspector, Inspector Goole, who is investigating the recent suicide of a local young woman.	https://clickv.ie/w/Ggnl



View the playlist for An Inspector Calls at:
<https://clickv.ie/w/kmol>


Blood Brothers

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Blood Brothers in Context	Literary Contexts: 1980s British Fiction	9 min	Willy Russell's 'Blood Brothers' chronicles the social circumstances that lead two brothers to tragedy. Although set in the 1960s and 70s, the musical reflects the social issues and attitudes of the time the play was written in the early 1980s. This video examines the historical and social context of the musical and provides a valuable accompaniment to Senior English students studying the film.	https://clickv.ie/w/Tgnl

View the playlist for Blood Brothers at:
<https://clickv.ie/w/pmol>


The History Boys

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 The History Boys in Context	Literary Contexts: 1980s British Fiction	10 min	Alan Bennett's 'The History Boys' is set in 1983, a time when England was rife with class conflict and political reform. This video examines the events and tensions that inform Bennett's play, from the changing roles of teachers to the social attitudes towards the gay community. It provides a valuable accompaniment to Senior English students studying The History Boys.	https://clickv.ie/w/lhnl
 The History Boys (2006)		107 min	Director: Nicholas Hytner. An unruly class of gifted and charming teenage boys are taught by two eccentric and innovative teachers, as their headmaster pushes for them all to get accepted into Oxford or Cambridge.	https://clickv.ie/w/ohnl

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Being Alan Bennett		60 min	Documentary providing a rare glimpse into the life of Alan Bennett, one of the UK's best-loved writers, with interviews, archive footage and new work.	https://clickv.ie/w/vhnl



View the playlist for The History Boys at:
<https://clickv.ie/w/tmol>





The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time: From Page to Stage		59 min	Examining how the National Theatre turned one of Britain's most popular books into a multi award-winning theatre production.	https://clickv.ie/w/8hnl

View the playlist for The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time at:
<https://clickv.ie/w/ymol>

Lord of the Flies


Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Context and Background	Lord of the Flies	8 min	What do World War II, the Holocaust and the development of nuclear weapons have to do with a story about boys stranded on a deserted island? This programme shows how mid-20th century social conditions and political upheaval are reflected in Golding's fiction. It also explains how his personal experiences affected his writing and how the story was influenced by popular fiction of the era.	https://clickv.ie/w/Nhnl
 Ralph and Jack	Lord of the Flies	8 min	These characters like and admire each other at first, but by the end of the novel Jack is hunting Ralph to the death. This programme explores the nature and significance of these two main characters, and how Golding uses the struggle between them to expose opposing values and priorities. It demonstrates how the characters represent completely different notions of leadership and government: democratic versus fascist.	https://clickv.ie/w/Qhnl



Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Theme: Evil	Lord of the Flies	7 min	This programme analyses how Golding uses the novel to explore the nature of evil. Making detailed reference to the text, it examines the escalation of evil, how characters embrace or reject evil to different degrees, how evil comes to be symbolised by the beast, and how Simon recognises its source and is destroyed by it.	https://clickv.ie/w/Thnl
 Golding's Writing Style	Lord of the Flies	8 min	This programme provides detailed analyses and examples of Golding's methods, and the key elements of his writing style. It explains the concepts of fable and allegory, and explores Golding's complex use of symbolism with particular reference to the conch, the fire, clothing and Piggy's glasses. The programme also investigates Golding's use of realistic dialogue, and detailed description, to portray characters and convey ideas.	https://clickv.ie/w/Vhnl
 Lord of the Flies (1963)		87 min	Director: Peter Brook. Compelling film adaptation of William Golding's disturbing tale of a group of schoolboys stranded on a remote island following a plane crash. Their attempts to form a community end in disaster as they gradually revert to primitive savagery in the struggle to survive.	https://clickv.ie/w/ainl
 The Dreams Of William Golding	Arena	89 min	The Dreams of William Golding reveals the extraordinary life of one of the greatest English writers of the 20th century. With unprecedented access to the unpublished diaries in which Golding recorded his dreams, the film penetrates deep into his private obsessions and insecurities.	https://clickv.ie/w/ninl

View the playlist for Lord of the Flies at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Bmol>

Animal Farm



Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Animal Farm		26 min	Led by an engaging presenter with a touch of dark humour, this programme explores the context and background of Orwell's popular classic, the characters of Napoleon, Snowball and Boxer, the theme of propaganda and Orwell's deceptively simple writing style.	https://clickv.ie/w/Linl

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Animal Farm (1954)		68 min	Directors: John Halas and Joy Batchelor. An animated film based on the book by the same name. A successful farmyard revolution by the resident animals vs. the farmer goes horribly wrong as the victors create a new tyranny among themselves.	https://clickv.ie/w/TinI
 Animal Farm (1999)		85 min	Director: John Stephenson. When the animals take over the farm, they think it is the start of a better life. They dream of a world where all animals are equal, but soon the pigs take control and Napoleon becomes the leader.	https://clickv.ie/w/YinI

View the playlist for Animal Farm at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Gmol>

Never Let Me Go

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Never Let Me Go (2010)		96 min	Director: Mark Romanek. Dystopian drama based on the novel by Kazuo Ishiguro. The story of three friends who are tragically born to lead short lives, and the love triangle that forms between them in their brief time together.	https://clickv.ie/w/cjnI
 Kazuo Ishiguro	Talking Books at Hay Festival	23 min	Born in Nagasaki, Japan, Kazuo Ishiguro, author of 'Never Let Me Go', is one of the most celebrated contemporary fiction authors in the world. He talks to Martha Kearney about his notable career.	https://clickv.ie/w/mjnI

View the playlist for Never Let Me Go at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/Nmol>

AQA GCSE English Literature Poetry



Essential viewing




Supplementary viewing



Resources available

Understanding poetry




Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 English: Poetry	Bitesize	120 min	English GCSE exam revision programme. This edition focuses on the skills students will need for paper 2 of their exam on poetry.	https://clickv.ie/w/Djnl
  Sonnets	Know Your Poetry	9 min	Find out exactly what sonnets are and what they're for. Even better, dissect two famous ones ('Shall I compare thee to a summer's day'; 'How Do I Love Thee') with the help of our two enthusiastic presenters. This in-depth look at the Petrarchan and Shakespearean sonnet forms offers students specific technical detail that is easy to grasp and apply in their studies.	https://clickv.ie/w/Sjnl
  Dramatic Monologues	Know Your Poetry	9 min	Discover the ancient roots of the poetic form of dramatic monologue and all its very special qualities. Then, dive into the Victorian era and plumb the depths of Tennyson and Browning's most famous dramatic monologue poems.	https://clickv.ie/w/Ujnl
  Unstructured Poetry	Know Your Poetry	10 min	This clip discusses the 19th century explosion of free verse poetry including famous pieces from Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman; the phenomenon of spoken word (or performance poetry); and some common complaints against the multifaceted unstructured poetry genre.	https://clickv.ie/w/Wjnl
  Dedications	Know Your Poetry	10 min	An entertaining and fact-filled introduction to understanding the purpose, tone and structure of poetic dedications. With an emphasis on various types of ode and a close analysis of a classic elegy, this celebration of dedications will engage and equip students embarking on a poetry study.	https://clickv.ie/w/enol
  Short Form Poetry	Know Your Poetry	9 min	This fun introduction to short forms offers both an overview and a close look at four forms: haiku, cinquain, limerick and triolet. Sample poems and specific information about their crafting will aid students in their study and appreciation of poetry.	https://clickv.ie/w/snol

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Narratives	Know Your Poetry	10 min	Learn about the ancient origins of narrative poetry, typical elements and popular forms like ballads, idylls and epic poems. Beloved classics including Beowulf, The Man from Snowy River and Paradise Lost are discussed.	https://clickv.ie/w/unol

View the playlist for Understanding poetry at:
<https://clickv.ie/w/Hnol>

Love and relationships





Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 The Romantics	Poetry: Between the Lines	30 min	Presented by rapper Akala, this programme explores the poetry of the Romantic period through the work of Wordsworth, Byron, Blake, Shelley and Keats.	https://clickv.ie/w/JjnI
 Episode 3: Eternity	The Romantics	60 min	Series presented by Peter Ackroyd about a group of visionary writers. Byron, Keats and Shelley lived short lives but the radical way they lived them would change the world.	https://clickv.ie/w/rVnI
 The Power of Poetry		29 min	Poems looking at how different characters choose to seize the day. The poets include Andrew Marvell, Thomas Hardy, Tennyson and Edmund Waller.	https://clickv.ie/w/HYnI
 The Heart Of Thomas Hardy		60 min	Griff Rhys Jones explores the life and work of Thomas Hardy. From his modest roots on Dorset, Hardy went on to become one of the most celebrated writers in the world.	https://clickv.ie/w/8VnI
 Seamus Heaney	Something To Write Home About	29 min	A tribute to Seamus Heaney, exploring his home ground, the boundaries and divisions and 'the possibility of true understanding'.	https://clickv.ie/w/RVnI
 Seamus Heaney Talks To Kirsty Wark		29 min	Seamus Heaney talks to Kirsty Wark about his lifelong passion for poetry, living through the Troubles in Northern Ireland and his fascination with the ancient past.	https://clickv.ie/w/ZVnI
 Seamus Heaney: A Life In Pictures		39 min	A tribute to Seamus Heaney using BBC Northern Ireland's rich and unique television archive. The programme explores how television has portrayed the late Co Derry poet and how he has used television as both writer and presenter.	https://clickv.ie/w/bVnI
 Simon Armitage - Writing Poems		29 min	Simon Armitage goes behind the scenes of all his poems featured in the GCSE AQA anthology to help viewers understand and visualise the building blocks that create them.	https://clickv.ie/w/fVnI

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Simon Armitage in Conversation with Tony Harrison		59 min	Poets Simon Armitage and Tony Harrison discuss their craft and careers.	https://clickv.ie/w/jWnI
 Carol Ann Duffy	Poetry Please	9 min	Compilation of works from the past 20 years by Carol Ann Duffy, Britain's first ever woman Poet Laureate, read by herself.	https://clickv.ie/w/GWnI
 Carol Ann Duffy	The South Bank Show	53 min	Carol Ann Duffy is Britain's biggest-selling living poet. She talks to Melvyn Bragg about her appointment as Poet Laureate, and her work for both adults and children.	https://clickv.ie/w/MWnI

View the playlist for Love and relationships at:
<https://clickv.ie/w/-nol>

Power and conflict

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 The Romantics	Poetry: Between the Lines	30 min	Presented by rapper Akala, this programme explores the poetry of the Romantic period through the work of Wordsworth, Byron, Blake, Shelley and Keats.	https://clickv.ie/w/JjnI
 Episode 1: Liberty	The Romantics	60 min	Peter Ackroyd reveals how the radical ideas of liberty that inspired the French Revolution opened up a world of possibility for British writers such as Blake and Wordsworth.	https://clickv.ie/w/mYnI
 Episode 3: Eternity	The Romantics	60 min	Series presented by Peter Ackroyd about a group of visionary writers. Byron, Keats and Shelley lived short lives but the radical way they lived them would change the world.	https://clickv.ie/w/rVnI
 The Power of Poetry		29 min	Poems looking at how different characters choose to seize the day. The poets include Andrew Marvell, Thomas Hardy, Tennyson and Edmund Waller.	https://clickv.ie/w/HYnI
 Episode 1: William Wordsworth	A Poet's Guide to Britain	29 min	In 1802, Wordsworth, the great Romantic poet of nature and the man famous for writing about the Lake District, daffodils and clouds, penned a short but electrifying poem about the stinking, filthy, heaving city of London. The poem was a captivating, sublime portrait of the city at dawn which still has the power to catch one's breath.	https://clickv.ie/w/6YnI
 Wilfred Owen - A Remembrance Tale		59 min	Jeremy Paxman presents a docudrama about First World War poet Wilfred Owen, telling the story of his life from a childhood in Shropshire to his death at the Battle of the Somme.	https://clickv.ie/w/MYnI

Title	Series	Length	Description	Link
 Seamus Heaney	Something To Write Home About	29 min	A tribute to Seamus Heaney, exploring his home ground, the boundaries and divisions and 'the possibility of true understanding'.	https://clickv.ie/w/RVnI
 Seamus Heaney Talks To Kirsty Wark		29 min	Seamus Heaney talks to Kirsty Wark about his lifelong passion for poetry, living through the Troubles in Northern Ireland and his fascination with the ancient past.	https://clickv.ie/w/ZVnI
 Seamus Heaney: A Life In Pictures		39 min	A tribute to Seamus Heaney using BBC Northern Ireland's rich and unique television archive. The programme explores how television has portrayed the late Co Derry poet and how he has used television as both writer and presenter.	https://clickv.ie/w/bWnI
 Ted Hughes	Poetry Sessions	49 min	Documentary examining the life and work of the Poet Laureate through archive readings by the poet himself and interviews with friends, critics and fellow poets including Anne Stevenson, John Carey, Al Alvarez, and Simon Armitage.	https://clickv.ie/w/JYnI
 Ted Hughes - Stronger Than Death		90 min	Documentary looking at how the life of Ted Hughes shaped his work as a poet. Contains some strong language and some upsetting scenes.	https://clickv.ie/w/YYnI
 Simon Armitage - Writing Poems		29 min	Simon Armitage goes behind the scenes of all his poems featured in the GCSE AQA anthology to help viewers understand and visualise the building blocks that create them.	https://clickv.ie/w/fWnI
 Simon Armitage in Conversation with Tony Harrison		59 min	Poets Simon Armitage and Tony Harrison discuss their craft and careers.	https://clickv.ie/w/jWnI
 Carol Ann Duffy	Poetry Please	9 min	Compilation of works from the past 20 years by Carol Ann Duffy, Britain's first ever woman Poet Laureate, read by herself.	https://clickv.ie/w/GWnI
 Carol Ann Duffy	The South Bank Show	53 min	Carol Ann Duffy is Britain's biggest-selling living poet. She talks to Melvyn Bragg about her appointment as Poet Laureate, and her work for both adults and children.	https://clickv.ie/w/MWnI

View the playlist for Power and conflict at:

<https://clickv.ie/w/xool>

Notes



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