

### What your child will learn each half term

This overview shows the key topics, skills, and knowledge your child will be learning in **English** in **Year 7**. It helps families understand what's being taught, how it builds on previous learning, and how you can support your child at home.

- **What we are learning:** The topic or focus for the half term.
- **Key knowledge & skills:** What students should understand and be able to do.
- **How we assess learning:** knowledge checks, practical tasks, written responses and formal assessments.
- **Key words to know:** Vocabulary students will learn and use.

Half term	What we are learning	Key knowledge & skills	How we will assess learning in this unit	Homework	Key vocabulary for this unit
HT 1 & 2	Trash by Andy Mulligan  A Hero's Journey	<b>Modern and 19<sup>th</sup> Century Fiction:</b> <i>Trash: A Hero's Journey</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the novel's setting, including slums and dump sites like 'Smokey Mountain' in the Philippines.</li> <li>• Explore the context and culture of Greek heroes such as Heracles and Theseus.</li> <li>• Develop empathy by understanding characters' situations and perspectives.</li> <li>• Write about characters, generating points, analysing techniques, examining word connotations, and explaining effects on the reader.</li> <li>• Annotate texts and select focused, relevant evidence.</li> <li>• Understand quotations, including how to select and embed them.</li> <li>• Learn key terms for language analysis, including connotations and semantic fields.</li> <li>• Embed evidence and justify personal opinions in responses.</li> <li>• Define characteristics of traditional heroes, mythological heroes, and bildungsroman heroes.</li> <li>• Compare heroes across texts and explain what makes them heroic.</li> <li>• Describe characters following the conventions of a hero, inspired by textual study.</li> </ul>	<p>Knowledge check on key vocabulary, characters, and events from the novel.</p> <p>Short written task on reading responses linked to characters from the novel.</p> <p>Longer written task on tracking a character's development throughout a text.</p> <p>Longer creative writing task: creating a hero.</p> <p>Formal speaking and listening presentation in groups of three.</p>	<p>1 x 60 minutes reading per week.</p> <p>1 x writing, vocabulary, or knowledge recall task.</p> <p>To be completed in homework booklets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protagonist</li> <li>• Bildungsroman</li> <li>• Heroic</li> <li>• Connotations</li> <li>• Characteristics</li> <li>• Dialogue</li> <li>• Action</li> <li>• Synonyms</li> <li>• Narrative</li> <li>• Myth</li> </ul>
3	<b>Non-Fiction: News and Media</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the structure, purpose, and audience of non-fiction news articles.</li> </ul>	Knowledge check on key vocabulary and language techniques.	1 x 60 minutes	<p>Audience</p> <p>Bias</p> <p>Influence</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify different purposes behind news writing and how content and style change accordingly.</li> <li>Adapt language and tone to engage the intended audience.</li> <li>Use punctuation accurately for clarity and effect, including full stops, capitals, question/exclamation marks, quotation marks, commas, and apostrophes.</li> <li>Communicate ideas clearly and persuasively using emotive language, facts, statistics, rhetorical questions, and personal pronouns.</li> <li>Use clauses and varied sentence structures to create effect.</li> <li>Craft clear topic sentences and maintain coherence and consistency in writing.</li> <li>Proofread and edit work to improve clarity, cohesion, and accuracy.</li> <li>Plan, research, draft, and refine articles, reports, letters, leaflets, and speeches.</li> <li>Analyse tone, structure, and language in texts to understand impact on the audience.</li> <li>Develop group discussion skills, including listening, responding, and contributing ideas respectfully</li> </ul>	<p>A range of non-fictions writing tasks.</p> <p>Paired speaking and listening opportunities.</p> <p>Formal assessment point 1 assessing knowledge and skills taught throughout the year so far.</p>	<p>reading per week.</p> <p>1 x writing, vocabulary, or knowledge recall task.</p> <p>To be completed in homework booklets.</p>	<p>Persuade</p> <p>Opinion</p> <p>Structure</p> <p>Investigate</p> <p>Significant</p> <p>Reveal</p> <p>Controversial</p>
4	<b>Diverse Voices in Poetry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore important world issues and see how they relate to events and experiences closer to home, supporting understanding of non-fiction and discussion skills.</li> <li>Read and study a variety of poems by diverse poets to think about ideas of identity, different cultures and traditions.</li> <li>Enjoy reading poems while learning how poets express ideas and create meaning, developing comprehension and interpretation skills.</li> <li>Identify and analyse how language, structure, and poetic devices create effects and meanings</li> <li>Write structured responses to poems, explaining meanings, commenting on</li> </ul>	<p>Knowledge check on key vocabulary and poetic techniques.</p> <p>Paired formal oracy assessment.</p> <p>Short and longer reading responses linked to themes and ideas within poems.</p>	<p>1 x 60 minutes reading per week.</p> <p>1 x writing, vocabulary, or knowledge recall task.</p> <p>To be completed in homework booklets.</p>	<p>Culture</p> <p>Heritage</p> <p>Individuality</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Multiculturalism</p> <p>Prejudice</p> <p>Stereotypes</p> <p>Refugee</p>

		<p>techniques, and exploring the impact of words on the reader.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss ideas, share opinions, and support them with examples.</li> <li>• Produce imaginative writing using personal experiences and ideas.</li> </ul>			<p>Aspirations Paradise Sanctuary Precarious Courage</p> <p>Tradition Community</p>
<b>5 &amp; 6</b>	<b>A Midsummer Night's Dream</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the context of Elizabethan/Jacobean England and how it influenced Shakespeare.</li> <li>• Know the conventions of a play, including stage directions, asides, and soliloquies.</li> <li>• Apply presentational devices to 'read' Shakespeare effectively.</li> <li>• Use inference, selection, and retrieval skills to explore context, themes, and characters.</li> <li>• Analyse key scenes to understand character development and plot structure.</li> <li>• Write analytical paragraphs, generating points, commenting on techniques, examining word connotations, and explaining effects on the reader.</li> <li>• Develop creative writing skills using characters as inspiration.</li> <li>• Describe characters in line with genre conventions, inspired by study of the play.</li> </ul>	<p>Knowledge check on key vocabulary, characters, events, and dramatic techniques.</p> <p>Formal individual oracy assessment.</p> <p>Short and longer reading responses linked to themes and ideas within play.</p> <p>Creative writing tasks.</p>	<p>1 x 60 minutes reading per week.</p> <p>1 x writing, vocabulary, or knowledge recall task.</p> <p>To be completed in homework booklets.</p>	<p>Comedy Shakespeare Protagonist Antagonist Dialogue Soliloquy Gesture Audience Character Discourse Analysis</p>