

EDUQAS GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

PAPER 1 — MACBETH & POETRY

MACBETH

KNOW THE PLAY

Revise:

- Key events and turning points
- Macbeth's changing character
- Lady Macbeth and her changing role
- Banquo, Macduff, Malcolm and the witches
- Important relationships
- Key scenes and their significance

KEY THEMES

Ambition • Power • Kingship • Guilt • Supernatural • Violence • Fate & Free Will • Gender

Ask yourself:

What does Shakespeare show?

How does he show it?

Why does it matter?

ANALYSE LIKE AN EXAMINER

Look closely at:

LANGUAGE

Words • Imagery • Metaphor • Simile • Symbolism • Repetition • Contrast

FORM

Soliloquies • Dialogue • Dramatic irony • Tragedy

STRUCTURE

Beginnings • Turning points • Character development • Contrasts • Endings

QUOTATIONS

Learn **short, flexible quotations** that can be used for different characters and themes.

Point → Evidence → Analyse → Context → Link



POETRY ANTHOLOGY

KNOW YOUR POEMS

For each poem, revise:

THEME — What is it about?

MESSAGE — What is the poet saying?

METHODS — How does the poet communicate ideas?

CONTEXT — Why might the poet have written it?



POETIC METHODS

LANGUAGE

Imagery • Metaphor • Simile • Symbolism • Word choice • Repetition • Tone

FORM

Sonnet • Dramatic monologue • Free verse • Regular/irregular form

STRUCTURE

Stanzas • Rhyme • Rhythm • Enjambment • Caesura • Repetition • Shifts in tone



COMPARISON

When comparing poems, think:

WHAT is similar/different?

HOW do the poets present it?

WHY might they present it differently?

Use:

Similarly...

In contrast...

Whereas...

Both poets...

However...

This suggests...



Don't just compare what the poems say — compare HOW the poets say it.



YOUR EXAM TOOLKIT

AO1 — WHAT?

- ✓ Clear argument
- ✓ Relevant quotations
- ✓ Understanding of the text

AO2 — HOW?

- ✓ Language
- ✓ Form
- ✓ Structure
- ✓ Writer's methods
- ✓ Effects and meanings

AO3 — WHY?

- ✓ Relevant context
 - ✓ Connect context to the text
 - ✓ Explain its significance
-



REMEMBER

**KNOW IT → QUOTE IT → ANALYSE IT →
CONTEXTUALISE IT (Poetry) → LINK IT**

Don't just tell the examiner what happens.

Show them how Shakespeare and the poets create meaning.

Revise smart. Use short quotations. Analyse closely. Make every paragraph count.