

<b>SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE</b>	<b>EXAM BOARD AND CODE: OCR J351</b>
<b>NUMBER OF PAPERS:</b> 2 papers (J351-01) Communicating information and ideas; Exploring effects and impacts (J351-02)	<b>LENGTH OF PAPERS: 120 MINUTES</b>
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b> Black pen (and spare)	<b>WEBSITE LINK:</b> <a href="http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/168996-specification-accredited-gcse-english-language-j351.pdf">http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/168996-specification-accredited-gcse-english-language-j351.pdf</a>

### Topics to be revised

#### Paper 1

**Section A (1 hour, 15 minutes):** Reading information and ideas - response to non-fiction texts (reading 2 sources and answering questions on each one and both together)

- Identifying writers' viewpoints and selecting specific information from texts
- Comparing writers thoughts and ideas and how these are conveyed
- Explaining, commenting on and analysing how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology
- Evaluate and judge texts critically, arguing for and against a statement about the texts and supporting views with relevant textual references
- **Section B (45 minutes):** Writing for audience, impact and purpose - choice of two non-fiction tasks
  - Communicating clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences
  - Organising information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts

#### Paper 2

**Section A (1 hour, 15 minutes):** Reading information and ideas - response to unseen prose or literary non-fiction texts from the 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> centuries (reading 2 sources and answering questions on each one and both together)

- Identifying writers' viewpoints and selecting specific information from texts
- Comparing writers thoughts and ideas and how these are conveyed
- Explaining, commenting on and analysing how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology
- Evaluate and judge texts critically, arguing for and against a statement about the texts and supporting views with relevant textual references
- **Section B (45 minutes):** Writing imaginatively or creatively - choice of two tasks, possibly including a story, autobiography or descriptive piece.
  - Communicating clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences
  - Organising information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts

## Revision Tips

Read lots of media articles and non-fiction writing

- Read a good biography!
- Practise answering the different styles of questions – you can apply these questions to articles you find on websites or in the newspapers
- Practise your writing under timed conditions. Forty-five minutes is a long time - you will need to practise generating and mind-mapping ideas for different tasks
- Familiarise yourself with the conventions for different forms of writing: letters, news articles and speeches, for example.
- Brush up on your spelling, punctuation and grammar

### Useful websites:

OCR website for sample papers, examples of candidate responses and examiner comments

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-english-language-j351-from-2015/>

### GCSE Bitesize Links:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/writing/>

### News websites including:

BBC News website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

The Guardian website <http://www.theguardian.com/uk>

Daily Mail website <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/index.html>

Telegraph website <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/>

Mr Bruff videos – <https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff>

## Exam Hints

### Section A (Reading):

- Read the question carefully so that you answer on the correct source and address the focus of the question
  - Use short quotations from the sources
  - Question 1s – carefully select the words or phrases you are asked to find; answer in full sentences with a relevant short quotation to back your points when required
- Language and structure questions – back your ideas with short quotations from each text. Be clear and concise. Make a wide range of points and try to be perceptive and detailed in your analysis. Do not forget structure - how the text begins and ends is always worth considering. Are there any places where the writer suddenly changes direction?
- Follow the bullet-points and use textual references to back your ideas. Develop every point as far as you can and try to take into account the type of texts and how differences in audience and purpose might guide the writers' styles. Which text achieves its purpose more powerfully and why?

### Section B (Writing):

Before you start make sure you know who you are writing for (audience), why you are writing (purpose) and what type of text you are writing (genre). Adapt your language accordingly. Use your relevant writing techniques. Always proof-read and check for accuracy.

- The question says “In this writing you SHOULD...” That means you MUST cover those bullet-points to get the marks.