

As teachers of English at Harrow High, we want our learners to be critical thinkers and readers who are equipped with the knowledge and skills with which to make their own choices and decisions throughout their lives and who are compassionate, conscientious and creative. We want our learners to be effective communicators and we believe that mastery of the written and spoken word is fundamental to ensuring our learners have every opportunity to succeed in life.

Subject: English Year 11 English Literature GCSE 19 th century Novel: 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens	
<p>S k i I I s</p>	<p><u>Learners will be able to:</u></p> <p>AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts. Learners should be able to: maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response and use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations</p> <p>AO2: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate</p>
<p>K n o w l e d g e</p>	<p><u>Reading</u> <u>Learners will need to know:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The historical, social, political, cultural context of Victorian Britain • The literary context and audience receptions of a Victorian novella –didacticism in Victorian Literature • Features of a novella as a literary form • The plot of a full-length play and its key characters, setting, events and themes • Literary concepts of foreshadowing, tension, imagery and figurative language, cyclical structure, characterisation and symbolism, narrative voice • Linguistic concepts and terminology used to identify them including imperative verbs, compound adjectives, asyndetic and syndetic listing, interrogative and exclamatory phrases, sibilance, assonance, juxtaposition. • Human concepts of morality, philanthropy, misanthropy, fear, poverty, redemption, forgiveness, greed • Concept of literary criticism
<p>R a t i o n a I e</p>	<p>Year 11 learners study the novella 'A Christmas Carol' as part of Edexcel Literature's Component 2: 19th Century Novel. Learners draw on their knowledge of Victorian Britain from their study of Oliver Twist and Coram Boy at Key Stage Three, demonstrating their understanding of the inequalities in society during the 19th century, whilst being introduced to the notion of didacticism in literature. They will continue to develop their ability to analyse language, structure and form at a more advanced level and will be introduced to a range of linguistic terminology in preparation for their GCSE examinations; this also provides a good foundation for further study of English at A Level.</p> <p>The study of 'A Christmas Carol' gives all learners the opportunity to study a canonical literary text from nineteenth century Britain and to develop a personal and critical response to its characters, themes and message. Learners are also taught to understand the way in which literary purpose and readers' receptions change over time and are introduced to literary criticism alongside this.</p> <p>The novella explores issues around wealth inequality, the role of benevolence and the need to show empathy and compassion for those less fortunate than ourselves. There are opportunities for learners to discuss the relevance of these themes in 21st century Britain and, in doing so, to understand the universal nature of literature, whose message, characters and themes often transcend the centuries.</p> <p>Exposure and engagement with the language and syntax of a nineteenth century literary text also aids learners with their study of AQA English Language Paper 2, where they must read and demonstrate their understanding of the language and content on unseen nineteenth century texts.</p>