

Year 10 Academic Year English

Our Year 10 Academic Year English course focuses on building key skills necessary for the Year 11 IGCSE examination alongside reviewing spelling, punctuation, and grammar. Each lesson will focus on a grammar review, a new skill and will introduce and prepare students for the examinations in Year 11.

Building Key Skills

The Year 10 course will introduce students to fundamental skills required for the English IGCSE. The IGCSE exams requires students to deploy a range of different skills together. For example, the ability to summarise is impossible to achieve unless you have the three basic skills: the ability to skim, scan and select.

The ability to write in a range of forms and for a range of purpose and audiences is a vital part of success at IGCSE level. We will review key writing conventions in the Year 10 course. In Year 10 we look at key reading skills, key technical skills, key writing forms and writing for purpose.

This course prepares students fully for the Year 11 Academic Year English course which looks to apply the key skills, extended writing, composition, approaching written coursework, speaking, and listening and exam practice.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar Preparation for iGCSE and GCSE examinations.

IGCSE examiners love good spelling, punctuation, and grammar. If your spelling, punctuation, and grammar is not perfect, you could lose big marks in subjects like English, History, Geography and Religious Studies.

IGCSE marking schemes generally include a few marks that can be allocated for good spelling and grammar. If your answer paper is littered with errors, you'll miss out on an easy few extra mark, that could mean the difference between two different grades. Even if you consider yourself to be a grammar fiend, you'd be amazed at the simple mistakes it's possible to make under pressure – writing "write" instead of "right", for instance, or similarly elementary errors that you'd never make under normal circumstances. If you have enough time at the end of the exam (ideally, try to plan to have enough time), you can spend it checking through your essays to ensure that your spelling and grammar is impeccable. If your handwriting is difficult to read, this could lose you marks as well, so if you spot words that could be clearer, strike through them and write them out more clearly just above.

The Year 10 Academic Year English course fully prepares students for Year 11 Academic English learning – where we look to apply key skills and writing conventions for use in coursework and examinations.

As with all courses designed by Jinstar this course is benchmarked against the British National Curriculum for English Language.

Explore the Skill

Locating information: scanning

Scanning is the reading skill that you use after you have skimmed the text. Scanning means looking for particular details or information. You dip in and out, reading certain words or phrases closely to check whether they are useful or not.

Explore the skills

In real life, you scan when you are looking for something particular – for example, the cost of an item or the closing date for an application. To do this, you first decide what you are looking for, then find something that fits that requirement.

Top tip

In everyday life, scanning is like fishing around in your sock drawer looking for the other half of a matching pair!

Key term

dialogue: a conversation

Build the Skill

Build the skills

When you are studying, you may need to select points for a summary, analyse the effects a writer has created or select information to use in a piece of directed writing. You may not have time to read the whole text again. To find the information, you need to *scan*.

The clue is always in the key words of the question. Look at the following question.

Select four unpleasant aspects of the narrator's house.

Here, *unpleasant* and *the narrator's house* are the key words. First, you need to 'unpick' the word *unpleasant*.

unpleasant = not nice, would be uncomfortable to live with, would make daily life hard

Top tip

Remember that scanning is the reading version of matching socks, so you need to look carefully at the one in your hand before you can find its pair.



Develop and Apply the Skill

Develop the skills

Scanning the rest of the sentence around the key words will usually help you find the correct information. This is called using the context. It is particularly important in a selective summary, when you have to summarise information on a particular aspect of a text. Use the whole sentence to clarify factual information, such as the person or place being described.

- 3 How could you use the whole sentence below to work out the specific meaning of the word *migrants*?

Destitute migrants from all over the country jostle with each other for their own handful of sky in [the world's] biggest slum.



Apply the skills

Sometimes you will need to skim a whole sentence or paragraph in order to identify the gist, or a general feeling. You will then go back to scan for the words that are key to creating this effect. This is particularly useful when approaching questions that look at how writers achieve effects.

Lesson -Term 1	Lesson Title	Introduction
1	Key Reading Skills Plurals	Locating Information: skimming, scanning, and selecting Plural means more than one – this lesson will look at the rules to change a singular into a plural.
2	Key Reading Skills Prefixes and Suffixes and double letters	Synthesis Prefixes are letters that get fixed onto the beginning of a word and change its meaning. For example, happy and unhappy. Suffixes are the letter that are added to the end of a word.
3	Key Reading Skill Silent letter and unstressed Vowels	Explicit meaning and implicit meaning character and setting. Silent letters - can make spelling very tricky – such as knowledge and kneel. Vowel sounds can be stressed and unstressed.
4	Key Reading Skill i Before e rule	Emotive Language The i before e spelling rule – what is it and which words break the rule.
5	Key Reading Skill Forming comparatives	Sensory Language Comparing one thing to another is always useful in essays.
6	Key Reading Skill Commonly Misused Words	Recognising fact, opinion, and bias Words that can trip you up with the use and spelling – is it noway or no way???
7	Key Reading Skill Spelling Tricky Words	Analysing and evaluating Spelling tips to spell words perfectly in exams, including other subject commonly misspelt words – History, Geography, English and Religious Studies
8	Key Reading Skill Grammar Test	Understanding the form and purpose of different texts
9	Key Reading Skill Punctuating Sentences	Deducing the audience Punctuating is practice, practice, practice - then it will come naturally. Full stops, exclamation marks, question marks.
10	Key Technical Skill Commas, Colons and Semicolons	Vocabulary and word classes, accurate sentences Using commas, colons, and semicolons correctly in your writing. Using commas in list, parenthesis and in sentences. When do you use a colon and when do you use a semicolon?
11	Key Technical Skill Brackets and Dashes	Sentence punctuation, reported and direct speech Using brackets and dashes in sentences.
12	Key Technical Skill Hyphens	Tense and Verb agreement Which words use a hyphen, which words do not. When should you use a hyphen?
13	Key Technical Skill Apostrophes, Its, and It's	Accurate use of paragraphs, paragraph cohesion Apostrophe for contractions, and to show ownership
14	Key Technical Skill Inverted Commas and Quoting	Audience and level of formality. Voice and role How to use inverted commas to quote in essays.
15	Exam Practice	Review of past exam papers for IGCSE – what the examiner is expecting to see. Model answers

16	End of Term Review and Test	End of Term Review and Formal Test
Term 2		
1	Key Writing forms Pronouns	Conventions of speeches and talks The correct use of pronouns
2	Key Writing forms Who, Which and That	Conventions of interviews The use of who, which and that
3	Key Writing forms Who or Whom, Who's or Whose	Conventions of diaries and journals Who is the subject of a sentence, whom is the object?
4	Key Writing forms Verbs	Conventions of reports Verbs and verb tense – the tense of a verb tells you when it happens
5	Key Writing form Forming the Present Tense	Convention of reports How to form the present tense and avoid silly mistakes
6	Key Writing form Forming 'ing' Verbs	Conventions of news reports and magazine articles You can use 'ing form' - use it to describe ongoing actions.
7	Key Writing form Negatives	Conventions of letters Do not use double negatives!!
8	Writing for Purpose Staying in the Right Tense	Writing to inform and explain Switching tense is a big mistake in exams – learn how to use tense properly.
9	Writing for Purpose Paragraphs	Structuring informative writing How to use paragraphs to improve your work.
10	Writing for Purpose	Writing to persuade, structuring persuasion
11	Writing for Purpose	Writing to argue, structuring paragraphs in argument texts
12	Writing for purpose Checking your work	Writing to explore and discuss Getting into the habit – check what you have written.
13	Writing for purpose How to correct mistakes	Structuring content in discursive writing Getting into the habit – check what you have written.
14	Writing for Purpose	Descriptive writing
15	Writing for Purpose	Narrative writing
16	End of Term Review and Test	End of Term Review and Formal Test