N5/6 Revision/Learning Strategies

Critical Reading Paper (Set Scottish Texts and Exam Texts)

* Mini-essays – using the help-sheet on Glow. You can hand these in for marking to receive further feedback.
* Mind-map or use the revision summary tables on Glow to explore and analyse the key quotes/key concerns of each of the poems. You can also work on picking a key area e.g. presentation of a character and then exploring which poems deal with this area and how the poet depicts this.
* Create pictures/cartoons of key moments/areas of the poems to help your recall of the key concerns of the texts (you can use speech bubbles/thought bubbles etc.)
* Revise and learn key quotes and then get a friend/parent to test you on these. You could do this over Facebook etc.
* Use the tables/grids on Glow to compare and contrast the poems so that you become more familiar with the texts and which ones have key similarities/differences.
* Look at the advice/resources on Glow for revision materials too (annotated poems, web links etc.)
* Make posters for each of the 6 poems on A3 paper with key quotes, ideas, which poems it is similar to/different from and why. You could also do this for the texts you could use for the critical essay.
* Could make a video/recording of you reading out the poem/acting it out /making an animation of the poem etc. as then it will stick in your head much more.
* Practice papers, (critical essays and textual analysis), in timed conditions, and hand in for marking.
* Construct detailed plans for critical essays. Select a critical essay question off the list on Glow and then deconstruct the task (e.g. what do you need to address?) Next, select 5-6 key areas from the text to help you address the task; select key quotes to back up your points and then analyse and evaluate how the writer uses these areas to convey key theme etc. and explore how this makes us feel/what do we learn from it etc.
* Construct symbolism/imagery pictures of key techniques used in the texts and analyse fully how these are used to convey theme/key messages/purpose etc. to the reader/audience.
* Write a paragraph of analysis and evaluation of a key area of the text to practice your quote layout and analysis and evaluation skills. You could select a critical essay question off of Glow to help you focus this analysis on a particular area.

Reading for U, A and E

* Ensure you have revised how to answer each type of question (word choice, imagery etc.)
* Revise key literary techniques so you can identify them in the exam (simile, metaphor etc.)
* Make sure you have revised the key help-sheets off Glow (punctuation, literary terms, types of tone, how to answer the questions.)
* Newspaper work – regularly read the Columnists in the Broadsheet newspapers. Pick one and decide what their stance is on the topic. Next, pick 5-6 areas from the text and identify how the columnist conveys their stance through the use of key techniques, word choice, repetition, analogies etc.)
* Practice Past Papers and then mark these yourself so you can see exactly what the SQA are looking for with the different types of questions.
* Select a Columnist article; make up Close Reading Questions and a mark scheme and then give this to a friend to complete and they can make up one for you too.
* Access the materials and web links on Glow for further help and advice.