

14 October 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing with reference to your child's upcoming English Language GCSE Examination.

As you may be aware, your child has been entered for an English Language GCSE exam in January 2011. This exam is made up of two sections: Section A is an analysis of John Steinbeck's novel 'Of Mice and Men' (worth 40 marks) and Section B gives students a choice of two writing questions – usually consisting of writing a speech, letter, magazine article or a similar task (worth 24 marks). The result of this exam will form 40% of your child's GCSE grade, although there will be an opportunity for students to retake if necessary.

As you can see, the bulk of the exam marks come from the students' responses to the novel, 'Of Mice and Men'. For this reason, I would recommend that, if possible, your child invests in a copy of the CGP GCSE English 'Of Mice and Men' Text Guide. This is a fantastic resource for revision as it deals with all of the major themes and characters in an easy to understand way.

The ordinary price for a copy of this book is £4.50. However, as a school, the publisher has given us a special deal on a bulk order enabling us to sell these to students for £2.50.

If you are able to, please advise your child to see myself with the £2.50 and I will provide him/her with a copy to use for revision over half term, in preparation for the November Mock Exam, and then in the lead up to the real exam in January.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions about the exam, the GCSE format or any other aspect of your child's progress in English.

Yours sincerely



Katie Shchedrova

Key Stage 4 Co-ordinator/ 2ic English Faculty