

KS4 English Vocabulary

Animal Farm

Bourgeoisie	Middle class (esp. those with private property)
Bowlerise	to modify by abridging , simplifying, or distorting in style or content (especially a book or an account of history)
Capitalism	economic system characterized by private or corporate ownership operating in a free market
Communism	A classless system where the means, and process, of production are owned communally.
Comrade	A fellow member of an organisation, often associated with the military.
Complicity	The fact or condition of being involved with others in an activity that is unlawful or morally wrong.
Corrupt	Using a position of power to gain an advantage over others, typically for money.
Cynical	Believing that people are only interested in themselves and are not sincere.
Democracy	Political system where those in power are elected representatives.
dictatorship	Where absolute power is concentrated in a dictator, clique or organisation
Dystopia	An unfair society where there is a lot of suffering, typically an imaginary society in the future, after something terrible has happened.
Hegemony	The position of being the strongest and most powerful, and therefore able to control others. A term typically associated with a country.
Hierarchy	System whereby things are organised or arranged by their importance (or perceived importance).
Indoctrination	The process of repeating an idea or belief to someone until they accept it without criticism or question.
Microcosm	A small place, society, or situation that has the same characteristics as something much larger e.g. Animal Farm is a microcosm of the Russian Revolution.
Obfuscate	To make unclear
Propaganda	Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view.
Proletariat	Working classes esp. industrial workers who lack their own means of production and hence sell their labour
Rebellion	Resistance or violent action organised by a group of people who are trying to change the political system in their country.
Revolution	The forcible overthrow of a government or social order in favour of a new system.
Scapegoat	Someone who is blamed for the wrongdoings, mistakes, or faults of others especially for reasons of expediency.
Seize	To take something quickly and to keep and hold it.
Socialism	Public ownership of property and natural resources . A cooperative view that society should own or control property for the benefit of all its members.
Totalitarian	relating to a system of government that is centralized and dictatorial and requires complete subservience to the state.
Treacherous	Guilty of involving betrayal or deception.
Tyranny	Cruel and oppressive government or rule.
Unity	The state of being united or joined as a whole.

Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Aberration	A departure from what is normal, usual or expected. It is typically unwelcome.
Abhorrent	Inspiring disgust and loathing; repugnant.
Altruism	Selfless concern for the well-being of others.
Bestial	Of, or like, an animal. Savagely cruel and depraved.
Debased	Reduced in quality or value.
Depraved	morally corrupt or wicked.
Dichotomy	A division or contrast between two things that are, or are represented as being, opposed or entirely different.
Duality	The quality or state of having two different or opposite parts or elements.
Ego	A person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance. Negotiates between id and superego.
Empiricism	The theory that all knowledge is based on experience derived from the senses. Stimulated by the rise of experimental science.
Eugenics	A set of beliefs and practices that aim to improve the genetic quality of a human population.
Evolution	The process by which different kinds of living organism are believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the earth.
Feral	In a wild state, especially after escape from captivity or domestication.
Hedonism	The pursuit of pleasure, or sensual self indulgence.
Hypocrisy	The practice of claiming to have higher standards or more noble beliefs than is the case.
Id	The part of the mind in which innate instinctive impulses and primary processes are manifest.
Liminality	Transitional period, or phase of a rite of passage.
Metamorphosis	A complete change or character, appearance or condition.
Pious	Devoutly religious.
Primitive	Human society at a very early stage of development.
Rationality	Being based on reason, logic and clear thought.
Repression	The restraint, prevention, or inhibition of a feeling or quality.
Reputation	The beliefs or options that are generally held about someone or something.
Restraint	Unemotional, dispassionate, or moderate behaviour.
Savage	Fierce, violent and uncontrolled.
Subconscious	The part of your mind that notices and remembers information when you are not actively trying to.
Superego	The part of a person's mind that acts as a self-critical conscience, reflecting social standards learned from parents and teachers.
Suppression	The act of stopping yourself from thinking or feeling something.
Surreptitious	Kept secret, especially because it would not be approved of.
Taboo	Subject, word, or action that is avoided for religious or social reasons:
Transgression	The act or process of breaking a law or moral rule
Unorthodox	Contrary to what is usual, traditional, or accepted.
Vice	A moral depravity or fault in someone's character.

Macbeth

Betrayal	Violation of a person's trust or confidence, of a moral standard.
Corrupt	having or showing a willingness to act dishonestly in return for money or personal gain
Courageous	Brave; not deterred by danger or pain.
Deception	To deliberately cause someone to believe that something that is not true, particularly for personal gain.
Duplicity	Dishonest talk or behaviour; intentional hiding of ones true feelings or intentions.
Ego	The self; the individual as self aware.
Equivocator	Someone who avoids giving a clear and direct answer. Deliberately attempting to mislead.
Fate	Events outside a person's control, regarded as predetermined by a supernatural power
Guilt	Feeling of worry or unhappiness that you have because you have done something wrong.
Hierarchy	A system in which members of an organisation or society are ranked according to relative status or authority.
Hubris	Excessive self pride or confidence.
Inevitable	Certain to happen; unavoidable.
Loyalty	Strong feeling of support or allegiance.
Macabre	Disturbing because concerned with or causing a fear of death.
Machiavellian	Cunning, scheming, and unscrupulous, especially in politics.
Malevolent	Having, or showing, a wish to do evil to others.
Manipulate	To control or influence, a person or situation, cleverly or unscrupulously.
Morality	The extent to which an action is right or wrong.
Natural order	The moral sources from which natural law seeks to derive its authority.
Nihilism	The rejection of all religious and moral principles, in the belief that life is meaningless.
Paranoia	Unjustified suspicion and mistrust of other people or their actions.
Regicide	The action of killing a king.
Remorse	Deep regret or guilt for a wrong committed.
Supernatural	Attributed to some force beyond scientific understanding or the laws of nature.
Temptation scene	a scene reminiscent of Eve's fall in the Garden of Eden, suggesting a character is being offered the opportunity to sin
Treason	The crime of betraying one's country, especially by attempting to kill or overthrow the sovereign or government.
Tyrannical	Characteristic of tyranny; oppressive and controlling.
Valiant	Possessing or showing courage or determination.

Poetry

Contemporary	Belonging to or occurring in the present
Culture	Ideas, customs and social behaviour of a particular society
History	Whole series of past events connected with particular person or thing
Identity	The characteristics determining who a person is
Post-modern	Literary movement breaking with modernism, characterised by self-referential texts and concerned with power and the subjectivity of truth. c.1960 to present
Romantic	Literary movement characterised by celebration of nature, prioritising subjective experience, valuing the emotional and transcendental experiences c.1798-1837

Form

Ballad	A poem consisting of three stanzas, all ending with the same line (refrain). The first three stanzas commonly have eight or ten lines each and the same rhyme scheme.
Dramatic Monologue	A poem in which an imagined speaker addressed a silent listener, usually not the reader.
Elegy	A mournful, melancholy poem, especially a funeral song or a lament for the dead.
Form	Poems are grouped into categories or types, such as sonnets or haikult's rhe generic term for the organising principle of a literary work. In poetry, form is described in terms of elements like rhyme, meter, and stanzaic pattern.
Ode	poem devoted to the praise of a person, animal, or thing. An ode is usually expresses deep feeling. Famously used by Keats a lot.
Pastoral	A poem which deals with the simplicity and beauty of rural country life
Sonnet (Shakespearean)	14 lines poem with . Abab cdcd efef gg rhyme scheme in iambic pentameter about love and romance.
Sonnet (Petrarchan)	14 line poem divided into an octave (outlining the problem) and a sestet (proposing a solution. Often about love or romance
Limerick	A witty, humorous, or nonsense poem, especially one in five-line strict rhyme scheme (AABBA), which is sometimes obscene with humorous intent.
Haiku	A Japanese poem of seventeen syllables, in three lines of five, seven, and five.