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**HOLGATE**  
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# Welcome to English

## An Introduction

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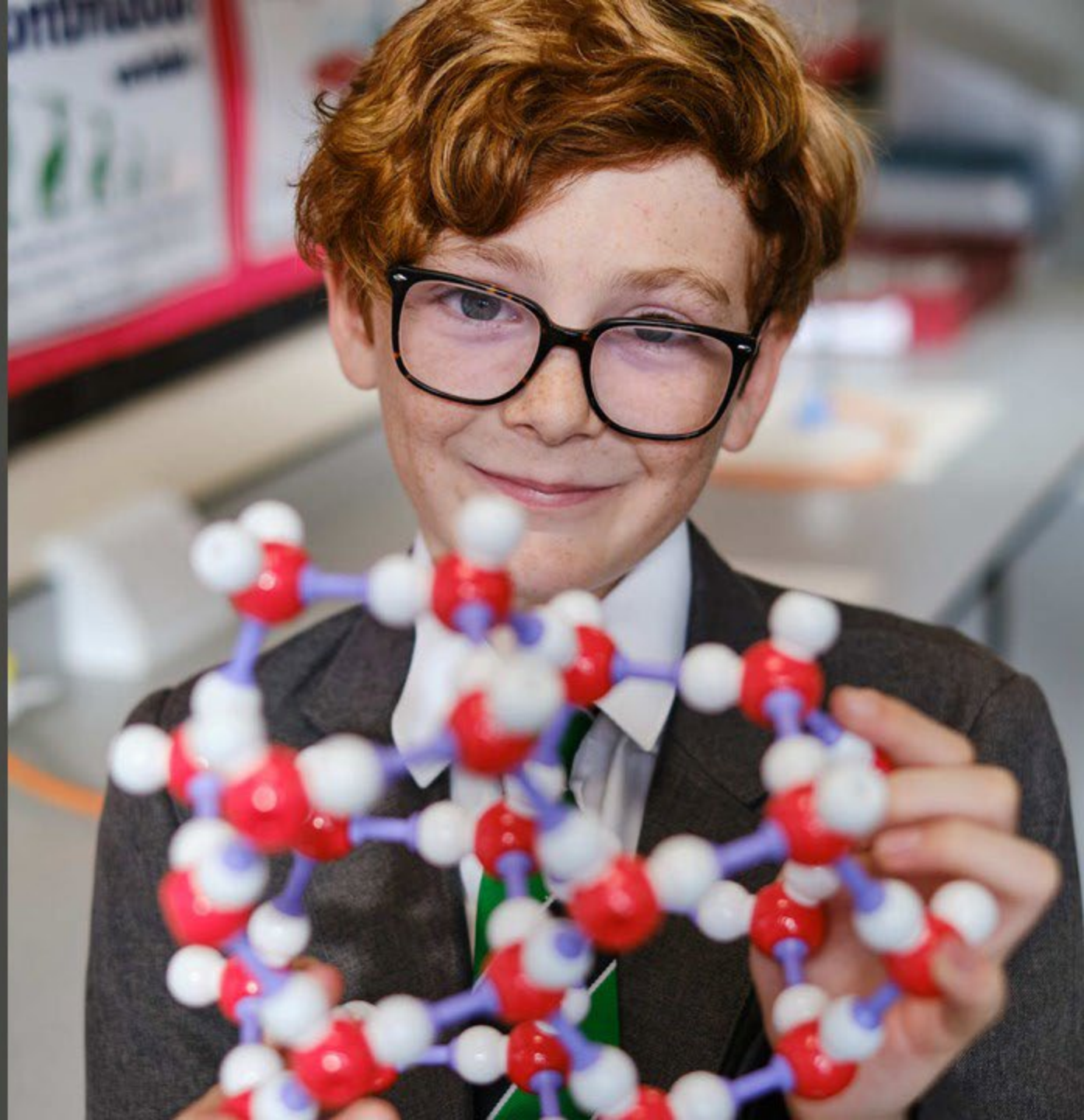
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# Here you will find out everything you need to know about English at The Holgate Academy

- Meet the team of English teachers
- The equipment you'll need for your English lessons.
- What English you need to know when you arrive in year 7 and websites to help you.
- What you will learn in year 7 and when.
- A typical homework activity.
- English knowledge organisers.
- How you can prepare.

# Meet the teachers



# Ms Terrey – Head of English

Likes: Dogs, reading, eating and running

Dislikes: Peas, chipped nail varnish and a messy classroom

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

I can't wait to teach *Island and Isolation* in the summer term as we get to study one of my favourite plays. Plus we get to take part in some drama too!



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# Miss Firman– Assistant Head of English

Likes: Dogs, Walking, Guinea Pigs, Stationery, Sunshine and BBQs.

Dislikes: Ironing, Cauliflower and Littering

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

I love teaching Creative writing skills and sharing creative ideas. I will look forward to teaching how to write diary entries and monologues.



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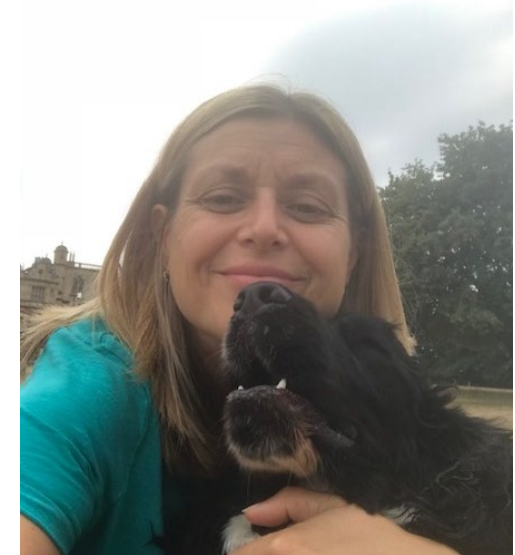
# Mrs Colman – English Teacher

Likes: Dogs (especially Cocker Spaniels), walking, the beach, reading and watching a good box set.

Dislikes: The rain, celery and olives.

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

I'm really looking forward to teaching you our very first novel as it includes lots of topics for us to discuss and I can't wait to hear your thoughts and opinions.



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# Mrs Grundy – English Teacher, Lead teacher for KS5 English

Likes: Swimming, chocolate and talking to people

Dislikes: Queuing, olives and mis-used apostrophes

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

Next year I am really looking forward to studying the book 'Noughts and Crosses' with Year 7, as it raises issues of racism and injustice, which I think are very important for us to think about at the moment.



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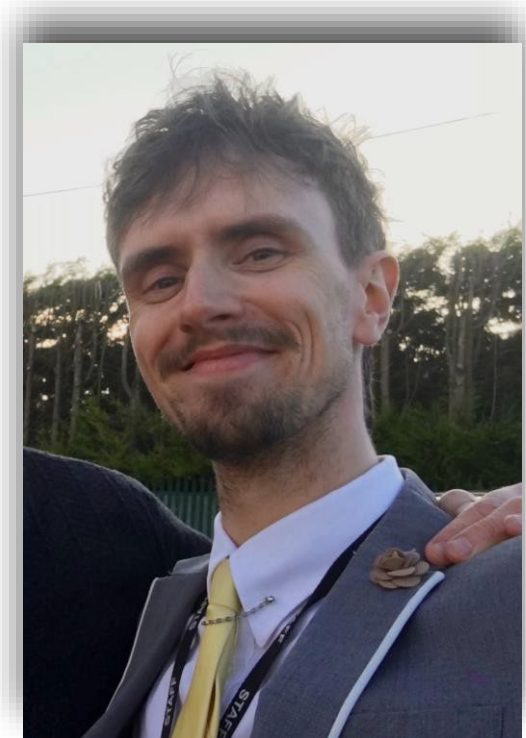
# Mr Morgan – English Teacher

Likes: Music, film and writing.

Dislikes: Camping, rain and football.

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

I've always enjoyed Shakespeare since I was at school so I look forward to teaching *The Tempest*.



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# Miss Hedworth– English Teacher

Likes: Tea, baking, stationary, Disney films

Dislikes: Spicy food, coffee, running!

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

I am most looking forward to teaching the Childhood unit at Year 7 as we get to look at extracts from some of my favourite authors – Charles Dickens and JK Rowling!



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# Mrs Pallett– English Teacher

Likes: Baking, Spending time with my children, Crime Dramas and retro styling.

Dislikes: Flying, mussels and when people use outdoor voices inside.

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

The Victorian Era was most fascinating so I really enjoy teaching Oliver Twist. It never ceases to amaze me the appeal the text still has on a modern audience!



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# Mrs Abbott– English Teacher

Likes: Exploring new places with my family, baking and sunny days.

Dislikes: Running, litter and baked beans.

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

I really enjoy teaching creative writing - it gives me the chance to see your writing skills while helping to develop them. I love to read lots of exciting and interesting ideas.



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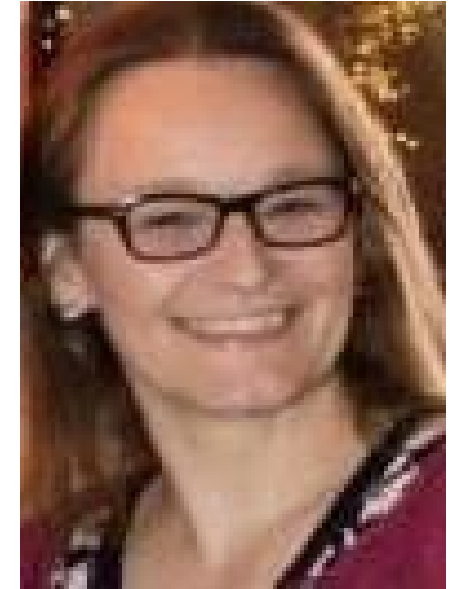
# Ms Sanford– English Teacher

Likes: dogs, reading, tea, music (making it & live music), creativity and mountains.

Dislikes: litter, coffee and desiccated coconut.

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

I'm looking forward to 'The Tempest'. I enjoy teaching Shakespeare and exploring how issues at his time are still relevant to the world we live in and continue to influence the themes in modern texts.



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# Miss Howard – English Teacher

Likes: All things Disney, a new notebook,  
Formula 1 and Football.

Dislikes: Messy books, Manchester City and fish.

What topic are you most looking forward to  
teaching Year 7 and why?

Shakespeare! Although he may seem old and  
boring, the language that he uses can be really  
interesting! Oh, and acting out parts of his plays  
always leads to laughter!



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# Mr Kelly– English Teacher

Likes: playing the drums, horror and science fiction films, and Dr Martens.

Dislikes: American TV, over-paid footballers and all Marvel films!

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

I really enjoy teaching narrative and descriptive writing as it allows us to explore some excellent horror stories and then use our imaginations to help us create our own.



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# Mr Rea– English Teacher

Likes: Border Terriers, Reading, PC gaming and cinema

Dislikes: Socks with sandals, litter, Sunday evenings

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

Creative Writing because I love suspenseful stories. Be prepared to hear some, tell some, read some and write some!



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# Mr Lees– English Teacher

Likes: playing rugby, reading, poetry, military history.

Dislikes: bad manners, football and waste.

What topic are you looking forward to teaching year 7 and why?

Poetry, because we all have some inside us.



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# Ms Peach - Librarian

Likes: I enjoy reading, cake and sunny days.

Dislikes: asparagus, cold weather and traffic queues.

I'm looking forward to hearing about the interesting things that you have all been reading



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Equipment  
you will need  
for your  
English  
lessons







Blue or black pens to complete your written work.

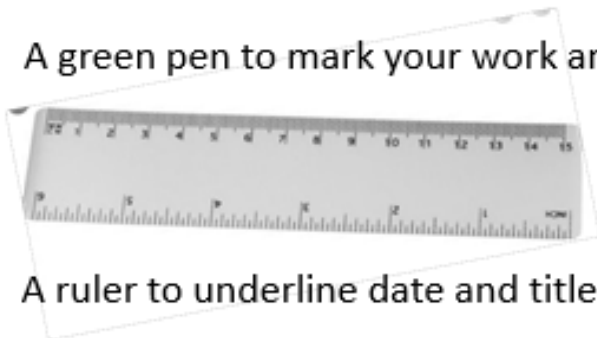
All of this equipment can be found in your local supermarket or online.



A pencil for pictures and tables.



A green pen to mark your work and make corrections.



A ruler to underline date and titles, and to draw.



You may wish to have highlighters and coloured pens to support you with notetaking and picking out information in texts. Coloured pencils are useful for images!



A reading book for library lessons and if you finish work early in lessons.



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What should  
you know  
before you  
come to  
Holgate in  
September?



|   | What you should know before September                                  | Resources necessary   | Websites and videos   | Can you...   | Tick when you can! |
|---|--|---|---|--|--------------------|
| 1 | How to use dictionaries and thesauruses                                | A Dictionary (or online dictionary)<br>A Thesaurus (or online thesaurus)<br><br>Use the BBC online learner guide if you do not know how to use a dictionary or a thesaurus. | <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcc2gdm">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcc2gdm</a>   | Can you practise looking up any words you don't understand when reading, and try and find more impressive words to use when writing? |                    |
| 2 | Use the senses to describe   | Sight, Smell, Sound, Taste, Touch   | <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpp4kqt/revision/3">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpp4kqt/revision/3</a>   | Can you create sentences using each of the senses?   |                    |
| 3 | Use adjectives, adverbs and alliteration in your writing for effect    | Define these terms (use a dictionary or online dictionary):<br>Adjectives, adverbs, alliteration  | <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpp4kqt/revision/1">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpp4kqt/revision/1</a><br><br><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18sXFjbOTFc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18sXFjbOTFc</a><br><br><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpp4kqt/revision/4">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpp4kqt/revision/4</a> | Can you create impressive examples of these techniques and use each one in a sentence?   |                    |
| 4 | Use similes, metaphors and other techniques in your writing for effect | Define these terms (use a dictionary or online dictionary):<br>Simile, metaphor, personification  | <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpp4kqt/revision/1">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpp4kqt/revision/1</a>   | Can you create impressive examples of these techniques and use each one in a sentence?   |                    |
| 5 | Use a variety of sentence types  | Define these terms (use a dictionary or online dictionary):<br>Simple sentences, compound sentences, complex sentences  | <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zxqnf8/revision/1">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zxqnf8/revision/1</a><br><i>(use the tabs along the bottom of the page)</i>   | Can you write a paragraph including a variety of simple, compound and complex sentences?   |                    |
| 6 | Use homophones correctly   | Define the words and know the difference between:<br>Their / they're / there<br>You're / Your<br>To / Too / Two<br>Its / it's   | <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BSLj9S2vMSw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BSLj9S2vMSw</a>   | Can you write a paragraph including lots of different homophones correctly?  |                    |
| 7 | Spellings  | Follow the link to the BBC website!   | <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zt62mnb">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zt62mnb</a>   | Can you use the learner guides and games to support you with any spelling patterns you struggle with?                                |                    |
| 8 | Use a variety of punctuation   | Capital letters, full stops, commas, colons, semi-colons, apostrophes, question marks, exclamation marks, speech punctuation and quotation marks.                           | <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zr6bxyc">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zr6bxyc</a>   | Can you write a paragraph including a variety of punctuation?  |                    |
| 9 | Use the correct tenses in your writing                                 | Past, present and future tense  | <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z4hrt39/articles/z7t2vk7">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z4hrt39/articles/z7t2vk7</a>   | Can you write sentences using each tense correctly?  |                    |

These are all important English skills you will need for September.

Can you tick any of these off? How many?

Use the websites if you're not sure or need a little recap.



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What will you  
learn and  
when



|                 | Topic   |
|-----------------|---|
| Half term 1 & 2 | <b>Childhood</b><br><i>'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens</i>                |
| Half term 3 & 4 | <b>Identity</b><br><i>'Noughts and Crosses' by Malorie Blackman</i>         |
| Half term 5 & 6 | <b>Islands and Isolation</b><br><i>'The Tempest' by William Shakespeare</i> |

These are the topics you will cover in year 7 with the texts you will mainly focus on.

For each topic, you will also explore other non-fiction and fiction texts and do lots of creative writing tasks!



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# English knowledge organisers



## CHILDHOOD

### Word Classes

**Noun:** The name of something *eg.* Chair

**Pronoun:** A word that takes the place of a noun *eg.* I

**Adjective:** A word that describes a noun *eg.* Pretty

**Verb:** A word that describes an action or a state of being *eg.* Run, Believe

**Adverb:** A word that describes a verb, an adjective or another adverb *eg.* Quickly, Extremely

### Oliver Twist Characters

**Mr and Mrs Sowerberry:** An undertaker and his wife

**Noah Claypole:** An apprentice to the undertaker

**Charlotte:** A maid at the undertaker's

**Jack Dawkins (the Artful Dodger):** A young pickpocket who works for Fagin

**Charley Bates:** Another pickpocket

**Fagin:** An old man in charge of a gang of young criminals

**Mr Brownlow:** A kind old gentleman

**Mrs Bedwin:** A kind old lady who works for Mr Brownlow

**Bill Sikes:** A cruel housebreaker

**Nancy:** A young woman who is part of Fagin's gang

**Toby Crackit:** A housebreaker who works with Bill Sikes

**Monks:** A strange and mysterious criminal

**Mr Giles and Brittles:** Servants of the Maylies

**Mrs Maylie:** A kind old lady

**Rose Maylie:** A kind and beautiful young lady

**Mr Losberne:** A kind doctor who is friends with the Maylies

### Punctuation

**Full Stop:** Marks the end of a sentence.

**Comma:** Separates words, clauses or ideas in a sentence.

**Question mark:** Indicates a question.

**Exclamation mark:** Shows strong feelings or emphasis.

**Speech mark:** Marks the beginning and end of direct speech.

**Colon:** Introduces an explanation or a list.

**Semi-colon:** Used to separate two closely related clauses or items in a complicated list.

### Life in Victorian Times

- There was no benefits system so if you were unwell, old or unemployed you had to rely on charity to survive.
- If you couldn't support yourself, you had to go and live in a workhouse. Conditions were often very harsh and families were split up: men, women and children were housed separately.
- Most people were religious and went to Church on Sundays. Some Christians believed it would please God if they looked after the poor so they were kind and gave to charity. However, others were very judgmental towards people who got divorced or had a baby when they weren't married, as they believed these people were more sinful.

### Charles Dickens

- Born in Portsmouth in 1812
- Moved to London in 1822
- Had to work in a factory when he was 12 years old after his father was imprisoned for debt.
- Wrote 15 novels and five novellas. Some of the most famous are Nicholas Nickleby, A Christmas Carol, David Copperfield and Great Expectations.
- Was concerned for the poor and set up a home named Urania Cottage to help women who wanted to leave prostitution.
- Died in 1870 and is buried in Poets Corner in Westminster Abbey.



### Crime and Punishment

- Before Victorian times, most serious crimes were punished by hanging or transportation (being sent to live in another country such as Australia).
- During Victorian times it became more common for people to receive long jail sentences. There weren't enough spaces in prison and so old navy ships called hulks were used to house prisoners. Conditions on these were terrible: damp and dark with outbreaks of disease.
- Hanging was still used to punish the most serious crimes such as murder and treason. Hangings were held in public until the 1860s and large crowds would gather to watch.

### Sentence Types

**Clause:** A phrase that contains a subject and a verb *eg.* I ran.

**Fragment:** A sentence that does not contain a complete clause *eg.* Amazing!

**Compound sentence:** A sentence that contains two or more complete clauses joined by a semi-colon or a FANBOYS conjunction. (For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So)

**Complex sentence:** A sentence that contains two or more clauses joined by a subordinating conjunction *eg.* Which, after, if, unless.

### Oliver Twist

- Dickens' second novel written between 1837 and 1839
- First published in instalments in a monthly magazine
- Tells the story of an orphan named Oliver Twist who runs away to London and meets a gang of pickpockets
- Dickens wanted to show what life was really like for poor people at the time.
- The novel is a satire: a piece of writing that uses humour and exaggeration to show up things that are wrong in society.
- It is also an example of a 'rags to riches' tale: a story where a character starts off in poverty but ends in wealth.

### Vocabulary

**Self-esteem:** Confidence in your value or abilities

**Ambition:** A strong desire to do or achieve something

**Wealth:** Riches

**Loyalty:** Sticking by and supporting someone or something

**Conscience:** A person's sense of what is right and wrong

**Poverty:** Not having enough money or possessions

**Orphan:** A child whose parents are dead

**Social class:** A group in society that shares the same level of wealth or status

**Housebreaker:** A thief who breaks into houses to steal

**Undertaker:** A person whose job is to arrange funerals

**Pickpocket:** A thief who steals from someone's pocket

Each term you will be given a new knowledge organiser and the topic we are studying.

This covers all the skills and information needed for this term.

You will be given a little section of this to learn each week as part of your homework.



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# Library lessons





Here at Holgate, we are incredibly lucky as in Year 7 and Year 8 you will have one library lesson timetabled a week.

In these lessons, you will be given the opportunity to choose books from our library (or bring your own from home!) and read in a calm, relaxed setting.

You will also get to complete short reading tasks and online quizzes!



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What can  
you do to  
prepare?







**READ!** As many books as you can!



**WRITE!** Poetry, stories, articles, letters... anything you wish!



**GET CREATIVE!** Creative thinking will help you for our English lessons! Paint, draw, write songs, design, create...



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