**But how do I get a better grade in my SQA Higher English Exam?**

* Use of past papers to practice RUAE and CR question types, as well as to revise how to write perfect answers, using the IQTCE acronym (Identify, Quote, Technique/Connotations, Explanation).
* Writing perfect answers for all types of questions and practising them under timed exam conditions, or handing them in for marking.
* Use of Higher Bitesize to practice and revise essential skills of RUAE & CR.
* Revision of all notes and resources, especially notes, PowerPoints, exemplar answers, essays or plans given in class or online.
* Attendance at English-specific Study Sessions on Tuesday lunchtimes, Thursday lunchtimes; after school on a Friday, and asking for help during study periods, breaks, lunches and after school.
* RUAE-specific skills – weekly practice using all past papers available including ‘old’ Higher papers; practising using the IQTCE acronym for RUAE questions; revisiting RUAE notes, lessons and resources; writing very detailed answers exploring more than one option; peer, self or teacher marking of extra work.
* Critical Reading – reading, revising and memorising of Duffy poetry, using a myriad of resources online, in textbooks and revision books published, as well as on PHA English Twitter feed, Bitesize or from class PPT files. Practice of CR questions types using pink poetry books and past papers. Mind mapping of themes and commonalities between the 6 poems, as well as practicing of 10 mark question, using specific layout taught in class.
* Critical Essay - reading, revising and memorising of class novel and drama (once finished teaching), using a myriad of resources online, in textbooks and revision books published, as well as on PHA English Twitter feed, Bitesize or from class PPT files. Practice of paragraphs as ‘mini essays’ using “http://www.slideshare.net/bluejorj/essay-writing-mini-essays-ticky-squeak-the-crucible”as a resource. Practice of CE questions using new and ‘old’ Higher past papers, as well as skeleton essay plans for all questions attempted. These plans could also be marked or discussed with your teacher.