



**PLATANOS COLLEGE**

An outstanding school for  
pupils of all abilities

**Year 9**

**Formal Examination Week**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021 to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

# **Guide to Examinations**

Make sure that you use the **before school**. Unless you have a known medical condition backed up by a note from your GP, it is highly unlikely you will be given permission to leave the examination room once the examination has begun.

You may bring a small bottle of plain water to the exam room, but the labelling must have been removed before the exam.

**The school day will run as normal. You will line up as you normally would. Year 9 examinations will take place in class time and you will be informed in good time for when your examination will be for each subject.**

**No equipment will be provided for you.** The **loaning and borrowing** of equipment between candidates during examinations is **not permitted**. Therefore make sure well in advance of the examination week that you have all the equipment you will need (**black pens, pencils, ruler, rubber, calculator, colouring pencils, and spares of everything**).

The only type of **pencil-case** you are allowed to have on your exam desk is a **transparent** one. If you haven't yet got one, purchase one in good time for the exams.

Bring a packet of **tissues** with you in case you need them.

**Mobile phones must be switched off.** Smart watches, tablets or any electronic equipment are **strictly forbidden**, as is any equipment which is likely to make a sound which may distract others.

There is **no talking in the examination room** under any circumstances. Unless an invigilator has spoken to you, you should remain silent. Any form of communication between candidates, whether written or verbal, no matter what the content, will be treated as misconduct and **your paper will be cancelled**. Therefore, it is best to remain silent from the time you enter the examination room to the time you leave. **In addition, any attempt to distract other candidates, whether verbal or non-verbal, will be dealt with severely.**

Once any instructions have been given and the examination has begun, you may only put up your hand if you are facing an emergency. **No questions should be asked about the examination itself**, as an answer would give you an unfair advantage over other candidates. Therefore listen carefully to any instructions you are given, read the instructions on the paper itself, and use your initiative.

## **HOW TO PERFORM WELL IN EXAMINATIONS**

This guide is intended to help you with your examination preparation, so that you can make the most of what you have learned. It does not offer you a way around the problem of lack of effort in the past, but it can help you make the best use of the time you have left. The most important thing is to **listen** and **participate** in class. Pay attention and ask for help if/when you need it. The harder you work in class **now**, the easier your revision and preparation will be later.

### **PLAN YOUR REVISION**

- Work out how long you've got to revise before the examinations, and plan how best to use that time.
- Prepare a revision timetable.
- Pace yourself, revisiting each subject area regularly in the weeks before the examinations.
- Don't fool yourself that 'cramming' the night before an examination will be effective. It is not.

## **PREPARATION**

- Be organised. Keep your folders, books etc. tidy so that you don't have to waste time looking through clutter.
- Read the subject pages in this booklet carefully to find out what will be examined in each subject.
- Don't try to revise where there are distractions, e.g. TV or your games console.
- Eat well, sleep well and take physical exercise – cooping yourself up in one room day after day is unhealthy. You won't perform well if you've locked yourself up with books for weeks.
- Your brain can only concentrate for certain periods of time, so take regular breaks and treat yourself to a reward – go out for a walk, kick a ball about, listen to music.
- Don't let breaks take over though – stick to strict time limits, and don't slump for long periods in front of the TV.
- Make sure you know what equipment you will need for each examination. Make sure you know which examinations are on which days.
- If you are ill on the day of an examination, make sure your parent/guardian telephones school immediately to explain.
- Make sure you are comfortable before you go into the examination room – (e.g. make sure you have been to the toilet).

## **DON'T PANIC!**

Remember, examinations are NOT designed to catch you out – rather to allow you to show what you have learned. Being calm and thoughtful in the examination will help you get the most out of your preparation.

# EQUIPMENT

# WARNING

Please make sure that your son/daughter is properly equipped for the forthcoming examinations.



- A transparent pencil case
- Several black pens and pencils
- A rubber, ruler and pencil-sharpener
- Mathematical equipment (protractor, set-square, compass and a working scientific calculator).

# English

## The Writer's Craft

### Question Stems:

Write a description based on the image

**OR**

Write a story about a time when....

### Topics:

You will be asked to write your own descriptive or narrative fiction piece, including ambitious vocabulary, a range of language techniques and accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar.

The following skills will be assessed:

**Assessment Objective 5:** Can I structure my work effectively using paragraphs and include relevant language features?

**Assessment Objective 6:** Can I spell a range of advanced vocabulary correctly and use accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar?

### What should you do to help you revise?

- BBC Bitesize (website)
- Read other examples of descriptive and narrative fiction
- Use your exercise book
- Use a thesaurus to prepare more ambitious vocabulary

### What is the outline of the exam and how will it be assessed?

You will be assessed on your ability to spell words accurately, use correct grammar and punctuation as well as your ability to use a variety of vocabulary and language devices for effect. You must also ensure that you structure your work effectively using clear and accurate paragraphs as well as appropriate discourse markers.

# Mathematics

## Topics to revise

<p><b><u>Number</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number problems</li><li>• Rounding to given number of significant figures</li><li>• Estimation</li><li>• Fractions, decimals and percentages</li><li>• Sequences</li><li>• Simplifying ratio</li><li>• Sharing in ratio</li><li>• Direct and inverse proportion</li></ul> <p><b><u>Geometry</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area of compound shapes</li><li>• Area and circumference of a circle</li></ul>	<p><b><u>Algebra</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Substitution into formulae</li><li>• Expanding single and double brackets</li><li>• Factorising</li><li>• Simplifying expressions</li><li>• Solving linear equations</li></ul> <p><b><u>Statistics</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scatter graphs</li><li>• Two-way tables</li><li>• Mean, median, mode</li></ul>
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## Online Revision resources:

1. Mymaths: [www.mymaths.com](http://www.mymaths.com)
2. SAM Learning: [www.samlearning.com](http://www.samlearning.com)
3. BBC Bitesize KS3: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/z4kw2hv>
4. Maths Watch: [www.mathswatchvle.com](http://www.mathswatchvle.com)
5. Corbettmaths: [www.Corbettmaths.com](http://www.Corbettmaths.com)
6. Mathsgenie: [www.Mathsgenie.co.uk](http://www.Mathsgenie.co.uk)
7. Piximaths: [www.piximaths.co.uk/revision-materials](http://www.piximaths.co.uk/revision-materials)

## Equipment needed:

1. Pen
2. Pencil
3. Maths set (ruler, protractor, compasses)

## Outline of the exam:

Non-calculator paper

# Science

## Topics that will be assessed:

During this term, Year 9 pupils have been studying the topics as listed below. Pupils will be assessed on these topics:

### **Earth (Climate)**

- Global warming
- The carbon cycle
- Climate change
- *Atmospheric pollutants*

### **Earth (Earth resources)**

- *Finite and renewable resources*
- *Water safe to drink*
- *Treating waste water*
- Extracting metals
- *Extracting metals from ores*

## Skills that will be assessed:

Pupils will be assessed in the following areas:

- Presenting and representing data
- Identifying patterns and relationships and making suitable conclusions.
- Identify and apply the variables in an investigation.
- Use patterns and relationships observed in data to explain the behaviour of the variables in an investigation.

## Resources to use for revision:

- ✓ Kerboodle online learning platform
- ✓ “Show my homework” Revisit old homework, check for uploaded revision packs.
  
- AQA website with a range of resources: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/steps-to-success-in-science>
- BBC website with various topics and activities: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrkw2hv>
- SAM Learning with various topics and activities: <https://www.samlearning.com/>
- <http://freesciencelessons.co.uk/>



# History

## Topics that will be assessed: Suffragettes and The First World War

During this term, Year 9 pupils have been studying the causes, course and end of the First World War. Pupils should focus their revision on the following key areas:

1. Life for women during the 19<sup>th</sup> century
2. Militant methods used by the Suffragette movement
3. Impact of the death of Emily Davison
4. Reasons behind women gaining the vote.
5. Long term causes of World War One; alliances, militarism, nationalism, imperialism.
6. Short term causes of World War One; the assassination of Franz Ferdinand.
7. Recruitment for war and early enthusiasm.
8. Soldiers from other parts of the British Empire.
9. Factors which helped to end the war; i.e. the Russian Revolution, the USA.
10. The world's quest for peace following war.

## Skills that will be assessed:

Pupils will be assessed in the following areas:

- Recalling of knowledge learnt in class and as part of homework tasks.
- Analysis and evaluation of a source as evidence (including authorship)
- Creating conclusions and reaching judgements.
- Extended writing on a theme using formal language and style.

## Resources to use for revision:

- <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/z4crd2p> - BBC Bitesize includes videos, quizzes and information to read.
- <https://www.mrallsophistory.com/revision/causes-of-the-first-world-war.html> - includes videos and information
- <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/guides/z4n4jxs/revision/3>
- <https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/what-were-the-bolsheviks-trying-to-achieve-87ba>
- <https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/the-suffragette-story-65hk8r>

## Outline of exam paper:

Pupils will have practiced these styles of questions during lessons, and will need to ensure that they follow the structure in order to maximise their marks for each question.

The exam will consist of three questions:

1. A 5 mark question – give four facts about a given topic.
2. A 8 mark question – analyse a source for accuracy including the authorship.
3. A 12 mark question – a two sided mini-essay on a historical controversy.

# Modern Foreign Languages (MfL)

**TOPIC:** *Somos asi*

You will have approximately 55 minutes in lesson to **listen**, **read** and **write** about your free time. You will have to:

- talk about things you like using ***gustar* with nouns in the present tense**.
- talk about your week using **regular verbs in the present tense**.
- talk about films using **the verb *ir* in the present tense**.
- understand people talking about their birthday celebration using **the near future tense**.
- understand longer spoken texts.
- read about films and understand authentic texts.

## SKILLS THAT WILL BE ASSESSED

- Students will be assessed in four different skills: Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking.
- Speaking will be assessed informally during lessons.

## REVISION AND PREPARATION

- Revise all the vocabulary taught in lessons (<http://www.quizlet.com>)
- Practice listening & reading in Spanish (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/> and <https://radiolingua.com/coffeebreakspanish/>)

## WRITING

- Be able to write a sequence of two or three sentences, adapting and extending the example supplied by using different details.
- Be able to write a short paragraph to answer the questions, using your own language.
- Be able to translate familiar short phrases. You may make some errors with verbs and occasional errors with more complex structures, but the meaning should be clear.
- Be able to write a short paragraph in the present and in the near future tenses.
- Be able to write more extended texts and refer to the present and near future tenses (include past tense for a higher grade).

## READING & LISTENING

- Be able to understand and read short familiar phrases.
- Be able to understand and read short passages of familiar language in the present and in the near future tenses.
- Be able to identify main points, opinions & some details from oral and written texts.
- Be able to understand and read short passages of familiar language in the present and in the near future tenses.

# Art and Design

## *Reflective recording*

### Outline of the exam

You will have 2 hours in lesson to choose an interesting section of a shiny object and record it using blending responding to your pre GCSE theme reflection. You will either draw from first hand (secure level) or a photograph (developing level) or challenge yourself by drawing from first hand.

### Skills that will be assessed

- Use of delicate and accurate line
- Accurate observation of shape and form
- Wide range and smooth application of tone to show light and dark
- Considered and appropriate media choice reflecting the artists' style

### Revision and preparation

- ✓ Research into your chosen artist
- ✓ Use your homework project to practice your recording skills
- ✓ Practice drawing objects which relate to your theme from first hand sources
- ✓ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z6f3cdm>

Your success criteria is available from your Art teacher.

# Animation

## *Reflective recording*

### Outline of the exam

You will have 2 hours in lesson to choose from the following tasks;

1. Place, pick a scene from the given storyboard, showing reflection in nature for your animation.
2. Object, from the given storyboard, pick a scene showing an interesting section of a shiny object with figurative reflection for your animation.
3. People, animate a scene from the given storyboard, relating to people and reflections, and record it using blending. You will either animate using adobe flash (secure level) or Stop motion I can animate (developing level) or challenge yourself by combining the two.

All storyboards scenes are linked with your pre GCSE theme 'Reflection'

### Skills that will be assessed

- Use of delicate, accurate line and essential interpretation of storyboard scene
- Accurate observation of shape, form and meaningful response towards animation techniques and principles.
- Wide range and smooth application of tone to show chiaroscuro and atmospheric perspective.
- Considered and appropriate media choice reflecting the Animator's style

### Revision and preparation

- ✓ Research into your chosen Artist
- ✓ Use your homework project to practice your recording skills
- ✓ Practice drawing objects which relate to your theme from first hand sources
- ✓ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z6f3cdm>

Your success criteria is available from your teacher.

# Photography

## *Reflective recording*

### Outline of the exam

You will have 2 hours in lesson to develop further your pre GCSE theme 'reflections' through a photoshoot. Using inspiration and techniques from Photographers such as Nermin Smajic and Suzanne Saroff you will focus on Assessment Objective 3: Recording work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media.

### Skills that will be assessed

- How well you edit and experiment using Photoshop techniques.
- Experimental use of manual manipulations that link to the theme Reflections and chosen photographer.
- Links to Assessment Objective 2: Refine, explore, select and experiment.
- Presentation and written annotations/analysis skills.

### Revision and preparation

- ✓ Research into your chosen Photographer and their style.
- ✓ Analyse the success criteria for Assessment Objective 2 and relate to your work
- ✓ Practice editing using Photoshop or Apps such as 'Snapseed', 'VSCO' and 'Photo Editor by Aviary'.
- ✓ <https://www.gihosoft.com/mobile-tips/best-photo-editing-apps-for-android.html>
- ✓ Your success criteria is available from your teacher.

# Art Graphics

## *Self Reflection*

### Outline of the exam

You will have 2 hours to create artwork in the style of Allison Kunath. You will either draw using a minimum of two mediums, from first hand (secure level) or a photograph (developing level) or challenge yourself by drawing from first hand.

### Skills that will be assessed

- Use of line width and distance to show tone and depth
- Observation of geometric shape and form
- Precise use of line to create shape
- Considered and appropriate media choice reflecting the Artists' style

### Revision and preparation

- ✓ Research into your chosen Artist
- ✓ Use your homework project to practice your recording skills
- ✓ Practice drawing objects which relate to your theme from first hand sources
- ✓ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z6f3cdm>

Your success criteria is available from your teacher.

# Drama

## Year 9 Revision for Drama – ‘Our Day Out’

Thinking back to your ‘Our Day Out’ scheme, think about a scene between Carol and her parent that might have taken place when they found out she went missing on the school trip.

You will need to prepare a 2-3 minute performance either on your own as Carol or as a duologue with a partner with one of you as Carol and the other as the parent. Select from one of the two options below.

<b>Monologue</b>	<b>Duologue</b>
<p>As Carol, following a heated argument with mum/dad, you run off out the house to the park. Think about the objects that would be in the park to help you create interesting and precise mime work as you deliver a monologue expressing your frustrations with your life.</p>	<p>Mum / Dad has just shut the door on Mr Briggs who has been round to tell them his worries about Carol’s wellbeing after she ran off on the trip. If you’re playing mum / dad think about why you would feel angry and humiliated and what you might say to Carol when you call her down to the kitchen to confront her. If you’re playing Carol think about how she feels differently about herself after the trip. How would she react to the confrontation? Both actors should use click freezing / thought tracking techniques to express a conflict between what is said and what is thought.</p>

You are going to be tested for AO2 Performance Skills so you will need to plan carefully to include meaningful and varied movement and vocal skills.

Please ask your teacher for a copy of the assessment criteria.

# Physical Education

## Which technique should I use?

Find the technique which **works best for you!**

Mind Maps, Make Notes, Clear layout, Use Highlighters, Use Diagrams, Revision Guides and Textbooks!

Watch sporting activities!

**Reinforcing your memory – get someone to test you from the notes / cards / mind maps / revision posters**

Helpful websites – [www.s-cool.co.uk](http://www.s-cool.co.uk) - [www.teachpe.com](http://www.teachpe.com) - [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)

### You will be assessed in your ability to:

#### Bronze

Explain how the body reacts during different types of activity and why physical activity is an essential component of a healthy lifestyle.

Select and combine skills, techniques and ideas and apply them accurately and appropriately.

#### Silver

Understand how the different components of fitness affect performance and explain how different types of exercise contribute to your fitness and health.

Perform with consistent precision, control and fluency.

Select and combine skills, techniques and ideas and use them in changing circumstances.

#### Gold

Explain the benefits of regular physical activity on physical, mental and social wellbeing.

Consistently show precision, control, fluency and originality.

Select and combine advanced skills, techniques and ideas adapting them in increasingly complex situations.

#### **Can you.....**

- Name and locate all 11 major muscles and locate them?

#### Things you should also know

- What are the effects of a warm up?
- What are the different phases of a warm up?



# Computing

## ASSESSMENT TOPICS:

- Boolean expressions; logical deduction, data in Venn Diagrams
- Logic gates; AND, OR, NOT gates
- Algorithms I – sequences of steps and reasoning of sequence
- Algorithms II – compression; lossy & lossless, when are these used and why. How Binary trees work, where is the methodology used and why

## SKILLS ASSESSED:

- Be able to develop logical questions to solve problems
- Understand how Boolean operators can be represented in written expressions and Venn diagrams
- Understand how logic is used in different situations
- Be able to complete truth tables for logic gates and circuits with up to three inputs
- Create a sequence of instructions to achieve a goal
- Be able to refine algorithms to reduce the number of instructions required
- Understand the difference between lossy and lossless compression
- Be able to use an algorithm to communicate data
- Understand how the algorithm can be improved
- Use a binary tree to further improve the algorithm
- Understand why compression is needed for video transmission and photo storage

## REVISION RESOURCES:

- Python
- Shared and GC resources
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOfGE2aNrlk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gl-qXk7XojA>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4lCeNagrNs>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpp49j6/revision/1>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zqyrq6f/revision/4>
- <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/binary-tree-data-structure/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W6aZKAJcNJA>