

English Literature

Key Quotations



Name:.....

You will need to remember quotations for 4 sections of your English Literature exams.

We have devised the KEY quotations you need to LEARN and REMEMBER to help you reach your full potential in the exam.

You CAN learn more but these are the ones we expect EVERY student to know.

They correspond to the quotation trackers in your course readers.
You will be tested on these.

Strategies to help you learn:

- Make a flashcard for each quote.
- Make sticky notes and stick them where you'll see them.
- Read, cover, say and write.
- Little and often – don't do too many at once, choose a few at a time to focus on.
- Record you/someone saying the quotations on your device and listen to them.

Macbeth

Act one, Scene one:



"Fair is foul and
foul is fair"

1

Act one, Scene two:



"brave"
"noble"
"worthy"
"valiant"

2

Act one, Scene three:



"Stay, you
imperfect
speakers"

3



"instruments of
darkness"

4

Act one, Scene four:



"let not light
see my black
and deep
desires"

5

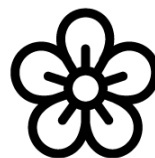
Act one, Scene five:



"milk of human
kindness"

"Take my milk
for gall"

6



"look like the
innocent flower
but be the
serpent
under't"

7

Act one, Scene seven:



"vaulting
ambition which
o'erleaps itself
and falls"

8



"when you durst
do it, then you
were a man"
"Are you a
man?"

9

Act two, Scene two:



"Give me the
daggers"

10



"Will all great
Neptune's
ocean wash
this blood clean
from my
hands?"

11

Act two, Scene three:



"Oh horror,
horror,
Horror"

12



"There's
daggers in
men's smiles"

13

Act three, Scene one:



"fruitless
crown"
"barren
sceptre"

14

Act three, Scene two:



"What's done is
done"

15

Act three, Scene four:



"Thy bones are
marrowless,
thy blood is cold;"

16

Act four, Scene one:



“beware Macduff”

17

Act five, Scene one:



“All the
perfumes of
Arabia will not
sweeten this
little hand”

18



“What’s done
cannot be
undone”

19

Act five, Scene eight:



“Turn hell-
hound, turn”

20



“dead butcher
and his fiend-
like queen”

21

Notes:

A Christmas Carol

Stave One:



"Hard and
sharp as flint"

1



"As solitary as
an oyster"

2



"cold" "froze"
"blue" "frosty"

3



"Are there no
prisons?"
"decrease the
surplus
population"

4



"ponderous
chain"
"mankind was
my business"

5

Stave Two:



"Would you so
soon put out,
with worldly
hands, the light
I give?"

6



"A solitary child,
neglected"
"a lonely boy
[...] near a
feeble fire"

7



"a spring time
in the haggard
winter of his
life"

8

Stave Three:



"jolly Giant"
"glowing torch"
"open hand"

9



"as good as
gold"

10



"he begged like
a boy to be
allowed to stay"

11



"yellow,
meagre,
ragged,
scowling,
wolfish"

12

Stave Four:



"The phantom
slowly, gravely,
silently
approached"

13



"unwashed,
unwept,
uncared for"
"lighted
cheerfully"

14



"Oh, tell me I
may sponge
away the
writing on this
stone!"

15

Stave Five:



16

"Oh, tell me I
may sponge
away the
writing on this
stone!"



17

"as light as a
feather"



18

"Make up the
fires"






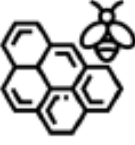


19

"and to Tiny
Tim, who did
not die, he was
a second
father"





Notes:

An Inspector Calls:





Act One:

	<p><i>"pink and intimate [...] brighter and harder"</i></p>	1
	<p>"Is it the one you wanted me to have?" "What about this ring?"</p>	2 and 3
	<p>"unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable [...] silly little war scares"</p>	4 and 5
	<p>"As if we were all mixed up like bees in a hive"</p>	6
	<p><i>"sharp ring"</i> <i>"massiveness, solidity and purposefulness"</i></p>	7 and 8
	<p>"But these girls aren't cheap labour - they're people"</p>	9

Act Two:

	<p>"No, he's giving us the rope – so that we'll hang ourselves"</p>	10
	<p>"I didn't install her there so that I could make love to her"</p>	11
	<p>"Go and look for the father of the child. It's his responsibility"</p>	12
	<p><i>"alone, friendless, almost penniless, desperate"</i></p>	13


Act Three:


	<p>"that state when a chap easily turns nasty - and I threatened to make a row"</p>	14
	<p>"I liked her – she was pretty and a good sport"</p>	15
	<p>"used her [...] as if she was an animal, a thing, not a person"</p>	16
	<p>"There are millions and millions and millions of Eva Smiths"</p>	17
	<p>"We are members of one body. We are responsible for each other"</p>	18
	<p>"They will be taught it in fire and blood and anguish"</p>	19
	<p><i>"pleased with themselves"</i> <i>"leaving them staring, subdued and wondering"</i></p>	20 and 21
	<p>"it frightens me the way you talk" "it frightens me too"</p>	22 and 23



Notes:

Power and Conflict Poetry


Ozymandias:


 "King of kings:
Look on my works"


"shattered"
"decay" 
"colossal wreck"

"lone and level
sands stretch 
far away" 


London:


 "The mind-forged
manacles I hear"


"Every black'ning
church appalls" 

"And blights with
plagues the
marriage hearse" 


Extract From, The Prelude:


 "One summer
evening (led
by her)"


 "an act of
stealth/ and
troubled pleasure"

 "a huge peak,
black and huge [...]
upreared its head"


My Last Duchess:


"(since none puts by
the curtain I have
drawn for you, but I) 


 "My gift of a
nine-hundred-
years-old name"

"Notice Neptune,
though, Taming
a sea-horse" 


The Charge of the Light Brigade:


"Into the jaws
of Death/Into 
the mouth of Hell"


"Theirs not to
reason why/
Theirs but to
do or die" 

"hero"
"glory" 
"noble"


Exposure:


"merciless iced
east winds that
knife us" 


"slowly our
ghosts 
dug home"

"But nothing
happens" 


Storm on the Island:


 "We are
prepared."


"spits like a
tame cat/
turned savage" 

"it is a huge
nothing that
we fear" 


Bayonet Charge:


"sweating like
molten iron" 


"King, honour,
human dignity, etcetera 
Dropped like luxuries"

"terror's touchy
dynamite" 


Remains:


"Sleep, and he's probably
armed, possibly not" 


"dug in behind
enemy lines" 

"his bloody
life in my 
bloody hands"


Poppies:


"released a songbird
from its cage" 


"leaned against it
like a wishbone" 

"hoping to hear/
your playground voice" 


War Photographer


"spools of suffering
set out in
ordered rows" 


"Home again/
to ordinary pain" 

"blood stained
into foreign
dust" 


Tissue:


"pages smoothed and
stroked and turned/
transparent" 


"might fly our lives
like paper kites" 

"let the daylight
break/ through" 


The Emigrée:


 "bright, filled
paperweight"


"branded by an
impression of
sunlight" 

"My city hides
behind me" 


Checking Out Me History:


"Dem tell me wha
dem want to tell me" 


 "Bandage up me
eye [...] blind me"

"I carving out
me identity" 

Kamikaze:

"a shaven head/
full of powerful
incantations" 

 "gradually we
too learned/
to be silent"

"wondered/ which
had been the
better way to die" 

Notes: