

GCSE Overview: Subject-Topic-Subtopic List

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This is a broad overview, and not specific to any exam board, thus you should also check with your subject teachers.

English

Shakespeare: Macbeth

- The witches

- The character of Macbeth

- The character of Lady Macbeth •

- The relationship of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth

- Who's to blame for the tragedy?

- Writing about Macbeth

Non-fiction: Reading

- What is a non-fiction text?

- Purpose and audience

- Language

- Fact and opinion

- Following an argument

- Format: layout and presentation

Non-fiction: Writing

- Tackling the question and planning your work

- Composing

- Describing an activity

- Writing an invitation

- Writing a letter of complaint

- Checking your work

English Literature

- Context

- Plot

- Character

- Themes

Maths**Algebra**

- Algebraic manipulation
- Solving equations
- Solving equations from written information
- Graphs
- Equations and inequalities (Higher)

Data handling

- Measures of central tendency and measures of spread
- Interpreting raw data
- Probability
- Questionnaires
- Representing data
- Scatter diagrams
- Pie charts and frequency diagrams(Higher)
- Probability (Higher)
- Scatter diagrams and Cumulative frequency diagrams (Higher)
- Measures of central tendency and measures of spread (Higher)
- Histograms (Higher)
- Probability (Higher)
- Sampling (Higher)

Number

- Approximating and estimating
- Negative numbers
- Ratio
- Whole number calculations
- Approximating and estimating (Inter/Higher)
- Fractions (Inter/Higher)

Shape, Space and measures

- Angles
- Area
- Circles
- Coordinates and bearings
- Measures
- Polygons
- Symmetry
- Transformations
- Area and volume (Inter/Higher)
- Circles: angles, arcs and sectors (Inter/Higher)
- Loci (Inter/Higher)
- Measures (Inter/Higher)
- Pythagoras' theorem (Inter/Higher)
- Similar shapes (Inter/Higher)
- Straight lines, angles and polygons (Inter/Higher)
- Trigonometry (Inter/Higher)
- Trigonometry of angles greater than 90 degrees (Higher)
- Sine and cosine rules and area of a triangle (Higher)
- Circle properties (Higher)
- Congruency and similarity (Higher)
- Problems in 3D (Higher)
- Vectors (Higher)

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Science

Biology

Ecology

- Adaptation, predation and competition
- The carbon cycle
- Energy transfer in ecosystems
- Food chains and webs
- The nitrogen cycle

Humans

- Breathing
- Circulation
- Enzymes
- Homeostasis
- Hormones
- The nervous system
- Nutrition
- Respiration

Inheritance

- DNA
- Dominant and recessive genes
- Gender
- Genetic diseases

Plants

- Photosynthesis
- Hormones
- Transpiration

Processes

- Cell division
- Cells
- Diffusion and osmosis

Variation

- What causes variation?
- Mutation
- Sexual and asexual reproduction

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Science

Chemistry

Patterns of Behaviour

Periodic table

Energy in reactions

Rates of reaction

Reversible reactions and equilibrium

Changing Materials

Fractional distillation

How crude oil was formed

Hydrocarbons

Geology

Geological changes

Plate tectonics and rock deformations

The rock cycle

Structure of Materials

Atomic structure

Compounds and chemical change

Electron shells

Ionic and covalent bonds: higher

Isotopes

Particles: foundation

Separation techniques

Science

Physics

Earth and Beyond

The solar system

Stars

The universe

Electricity and Magnetism

Changing the current in a circuit

Circuits and ammeters

Electric charge and current

Electromagnetic forces

Electromagnetic induction

Mains electricity

Energy

Energy efficiency

Energy equations

Energy transfer

Potential and kinetic

Forces and Motion

Falling objects

$F=ma$: higher

Forces and acceleration: foundation/higher

Forces and movement: foundation/higher

Forces and objects: foundation/higher

Gases under pressure: higher

Liquids under pressure: foundation/higher

Mass and gravity: foundation/higher

Speed, velocity and acceleration: f/h

Stretching materials: foundation/higher

Radioactivity

Background radiation

Detecting radiation

Radioactive decay and half-life

Types of radioactivity and their uses

What radiation is made of

Waves

Electromagnetic spectrum

Reflection, refraction and diffraction

Sound, ultra-sound and seismic waves

Wave equations

What are waves?

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Design & Technology

Electronics

- Circuit construction
- Circuit symbols
- Components
- Interface devices
- Operational amplifiers
- Product design

Food Technology

- Food properties
- Health and safety
- Nutrients
- Nutrition

Graphics

- Enhancement techniques
- Formal drawing
- Geometrical drawing
- Graphic products
- IT applications
- Manufacturing systems
- Model-making
- Orthographic projection
- Packaging
- Printing

Resistant Materials

- Finishing materials
- Forming, deforming and reforming processes
- Joining materials
- Joining metal
- Joining wood
- Materials
- Properties of materials
- Selecting materials: timbers
- Selecting materials: metals and plastics
- Shaping processes

Systems and Control

- Further electronics
- Logic and feedback
- Mechanisms
- Microprocessor control
- Pneumatics
- Pneumatics symbols and devices

Textile Technology

- Fibres and fabrics
- Quality
- Risk assessment
- Safety

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French

Listening

Foundation

- Finding the way
- Holidays abroad
- Different jobs
- Families
- School day

Higher

- Daily Routine
- Telephone Messages
- Famous people
- Travel and transport
- The Environment

Reading

Foundation

- At the airport
- Halloween
- Job adverts
- Magazines
- Penfriends
- Problems
- Small ads
- Television
- Villeneuve

Higher

- Christmas
- More magazines!
- Websites
- Wolves
- Work experience abroad

Speaking

Foundation

- Conversation: Daily Routine
- Conversation: School
- Conversation: Work
- Conversation: Holidays and Travel
- Role play: At a lost property office
- Role play: At a hotel
- Presentation: Summarising into key points
- Presentation: Using a variety of tenses
- Presentation: Filling a minute

Higher

- Conversation: My region
- Conversation: Free time
- Role play: At a restaurant
- Presentation: Preparing for discussion questions

More...

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French

Writing

Foundation

Filling in a form

Health

Holidays abroad

Opinions

Postcard from Europe

School life

Higher

Holidays

Lost property

More health!

More holidays!

More opinions!

Summer job

German

Listening

Foundation

Personal and social life: My family
The world around us: Finding your way
Everyday activities: School routine
International world: Holidays abroad
The world of work: Different jobs

Higher

International world: Travelling to Germany
Personal and social life: Mobile phone
Everyday activities: Daily routine
The World of Work: Telephone Messages
The World Around Us: The Environment

Reading

Foundation

The world around us: Signs
Personal and social life: Postcards
The world of work: Notices at work
International world: The weather
Everyday activities: Meeting people
International world: On holiday
Personal and social life: Finding a penfriend

Higher

Everyday activities: The market
The world around us: Home
The world of work: My job
Personal and social life: A life story
Everyday activities: The health resort

Speaking

Foundation

Conversation: Personal and social life
Conversation: Everyday Activities
Conversation: International world
Conversation: The world of work
Role play: A friend
Role play: On holiday
Presentation: Summarising into key points
Presentation: Use of tenses
Presentation: Filling a minute
Presentation and discussion

Higher

Conversation: Personal and social life
Conversation: The world around us
Role play: A job interview
Presentation: Boosting your grade
Presentation and discussion

More...

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German

Writing

Foundation

Personal and social life: A weekend away

The world around us: My home town

The world of work: Telephone messages

International world: Postcards

The world of work: Holiday jobs

Higher

Everyday activities: Housework

The world of work: Work experience

International world: Complaints

Spanish

Listening

Foundation

School day
Holidays
Free time
Out and about
Jobs

Higher

School
Holidays
Free time
My region
Jobs

Reading

Foundation

The world around us: Around the town
International world: Holidays
Personal and social life: Interests
Everyday activities: The media
The world of work: Part-time jobs

Higher

Personal and social life: Describing someone
Everyday activities: The news
The world around us: Shopping
International world: A tourist brochure
The world of work: Work experience

Speaking

Foundation

Conversation: Free time
Conversation: Daily routine
Conversation: My House
Conversation: My region
Conversation: Jobs
Role play: Shopping
Role play: Feeling Ill
Role play: Part-time jobs
Presentation structure- J-Lo

Higher

Conversation: School
Conversation: Holidays
Role play: Shopping

More...

Spanish

Writing

Foundation

- Everyday activities: About the house
- The world around us: Finding the way
- The world of work: Part-time jobs
- Personal and social life: Personal details
- International world: Tourism

Higher

- The world around us: Festivals
- Personal and social life: Holidays
- The world of work: Job application
- International world: Places of interest
- Everyday activities: School life

Geography

Cities

- Cities in LEDCs
- Cities in MEDCs
- Measuring quality of life
- Rural urban migration
- Urbanisation and counter urbanisation
- Urban renewal
- Urban structure

Coasts

- Coastal deposition
- Coastal erosion
- Coastal damage and management

Economic Activity

- Agriculture and the global economy
- Industrial growth and decline
- Industrial location
- Industry and the global economy
- Inward investment

Ecosystems

- What is an ecosystem?
- World ecosystems
- Rainforest
- Savanna
- Taiga
- A small scale ecosystem: Hedgerow

Population and Development

- World population and population density
- Population, resources and development
- Development indicators

Tectonics

- Plate tectonics theory
- Plate margins
- Earthquakes and volcanoes worldwide
- Earthquake hazards
- Volcanic eruptions

Water and Rivers

- The water cycle
- Deltas
- Drainage basins and the water cycle
- Floods
- Meanders and ox-bow lakes
- River management and floods
- Storm hydrographs

Weather and Climate

- Elements of weather
- World climates and ecosystems
- Depressions
- Weather hazards

History

Britain and the First World War

- Recruitment
- The Schlieffen Plan and Belgium
- The Trenches
- Winning the War
- Women and the Home Front

Germany: 1919 to 1945

- Germany 1919 - 1923
- The Weimar Republic and Gustav Stresemann
- Hitler and Nazism
- Hitler's rise to power
- Nazi control
- The Nazi state

India

- British India 1900 - 1914
- Dharasana
- Gandhi and Jinnah
- Indian Independence
- Partition

International Relations: 1919 to 1945

- Causes of World War I
- Treaty of Versailles
- League of Nations
- Nazi aggression
- Munich and appeasement
- Outbreak of World War II
- German successes of 1940

International Relations: 1945 to 1989

- Yalta and Potsdam
- East and West
- Berlin Blockade
- Hungary
- Cuba
- Détente
- 1979 - 1989: The end of the Cold War

Medicine Through Time

- Ancient and Greek medicine
- Medieval medicine and Galen
- Renaissance medicine
- Surgery
- The drugs revolution
- Public health through time

More...

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History

Russia and the USSR

Causes of the revolution of February 1917

Causes of the Bolshevik seizure of power

Stalin

Khrushchev

The collapse of the Soviet Union

USA

The Plains Indians

Settlers

Cowboys

The end of the native American way of life

1920s

The Wall Street Crash and the Depression

The New Deal

Civil Rights in the USA

Vietnam

Religious Studies

God

- Buddhism
- Christianity: good and evil
- Christianity: revelation
- Classical and modern arguments
- Islam: good and evil
- Islam: revelation
- Knowledge, faith and belief

Death

- Christianity: death rites
- Christianity: life after death
- Hinduism: death rites
- Hinduism: life after death
- Islam: death rites
- Islam: life after death

Human Relationships

- Christianity: love and sex
- Christianity: marriage and divorce
- Judaism: love and sex
- Judaism: marriage and divorce

Poverty and Wealth

- Christianity: poverty, wealth and charity
- Christianity: concern for others
- Judaism: concern for others
- Judaism: poverty, wealth and charity
- Sikhism: poverty, wealth and charity

Prejudice and Discrimination

- Christianity
- Islam
- Judaism

Religion, Science and the Environment

- Christianity: care of the planet
- Christianity: creation and evolution
- Hinduism: care of the planet
- Hinduism: creation and evolution
- Islam: care of the planet
- Islam: creation and evolution

Sanctity of Life

- Christianity: contraception and abortion
- Christianity: drugs
- Christianity: euthanasia
- Islam: contraception and abortion
- Islam: drugs
- Islam: euthanasia
- Judaism: contraception and abortion
- Judaism: drugs
- Judaism: euthanasia

War and Peace

- Christianity: fighting and warfare
- Islam: fighting and warfare
- Just War theory

ICT

ICT Systems

- ICT systems
- Implementing a new computer system

Hardware

- Input and output devices
- Data storage

Software

- Word processing and desktop publishing
- Graphics software
- Multimedia
- Applications and program languages
- Operating systems
- User interfaces
- Software systems
- Evaluation of software and hardware
- Data transfer

Data Communications

- The Internet
- Electronic mail
- Networks

Databases

- Data, information and knowledge
- Database types
- Databases and data capture
- Data validation and verification
- Direct and serial access
- Searching databases
- Data security

Measurement and Control

- Computer control
- Logo control
- System flowcharts
- Data logging

Modelling

- Spreadsheets
- Computer simulation

The Legal Framework

- The Data Protection Act
- Data and Computer Misuse
- Copyright
- Viruses

Implications of ICT

- Moral and social issues
- Changing lifestyles
- Changing work patterns
- Health and safety

Music

Elements of music

- Devices
- Instrumentation
- Melody and harmony
- Notation
- Rhythm and metre
- Texture

Music appreciation

- Analysing music
- Evaluating music
- Music evolution
- Music in context

Classical orchestral music

- Baroque 1600-1750
- Classical 1750-1810
- Romantic 1810-1910
- 20th Century art music

Music for dance

- 16th - 18th Century dance
- 18th - 19th Century dance
- 20th - 21st Century dance

Contemporary music

- Blues and Jazz
- Stage and screen
- Pop music 1950 - 1970
- Pop music 1970 - onwards

World music

- African and Caribbean music
- British Isles and Ireland
- India to Indonesia
- Latin American music

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PE

Anatomy and Physiology

- Bone Composition
- Circulatory System
- Classification of Bones
- Heart
- Synovial Joints
- Muscles
- Functions of the Skeleton and Ossification
- Respiratory System
- Skeleton
- Vertebral Column

Culture and History

- Administration of Sport
- Influences On Sport
- International Sport
- Providers of Sports Facilities

Health and Fitness

- Diet
- Drugs in Sport
- Health and Fitness
- Personal Hygiene
- Injury Prevention
- Sports Injuries
- Participation

Training and Performance

- Acquiring Skill
- Psychological Influences
- Training Principles