

U2 TUITION

11+ ENGLISH SUMMER BOOSTER COURSE



Overview

Our Summer Course is aimed at building the key skills needed to achieve top grades in English at 11+. Students will develop their Comprehension, Creative Writing, Reading, Vocabulary and Spelling skills, through inspiring and interactive sessions that get them thinking outside of the box.

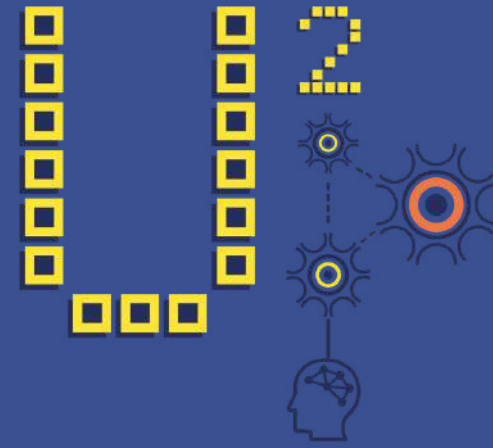
What to Expect

Every lesson will have 3-4 key sections, spanning Comprehension, Creative Writing, Reading, Vocabulary and Spelling. The course aims to challenge students applying to the top UK Schools, pushing beyond the National Curriculum level. This is especially important for those applying to the most academic schools and /or scholarships. The course will be geared towards a fun and celebratory 'show day' on the final lesson, where students will show off the various skills they have learnt. This will give the course the necessary element of fun and positivity, while also allowing students to bond and work-together (despite being online), and allowing it to finish with a sense of finality.

Logistical Details

All classes will take place online over Zoom. All links will be provided c.1 week before the course commences. Our host will set optional tasks between sessions to ensure students are engaged between classes.





Our Host



Ned

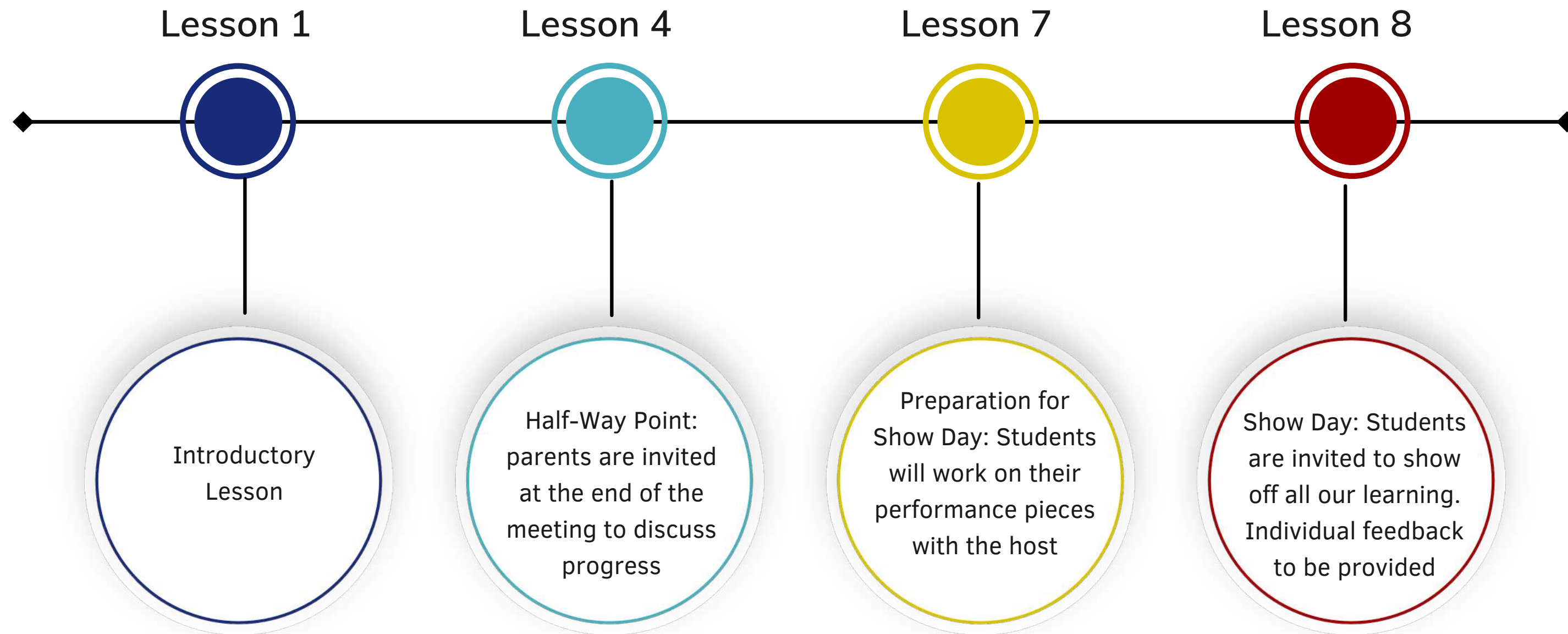
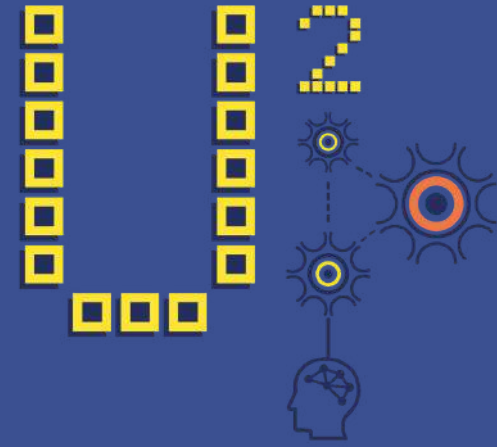
Ned is a First-Class Graduate of Oxford University, leaving the education system with an outstanding academic record that includes 12A*s at GCSE, a top-of-the-year A** in English Pre-U, a Top-Ten First in his BA History, along with a wide range of academic prizes and awards. Prior to Oxford, he attended St Paul's Boy's School in London, and is highly aware of the level required to gain places at the top schools in the country.

Ned's tutoring style is inspired by the teachers he had while at Oxford; creative, demanding, engaging, and with an emphasis on guiding, rather than spoon-feeding, his students to higher-quality work. He is a highly experienced 11+ tutor and has developed a passionately positive approach to tuition. He is committed to building confidence and building student's knowledge of the foundations of English (Comprehension, Composition and Vocabulary).

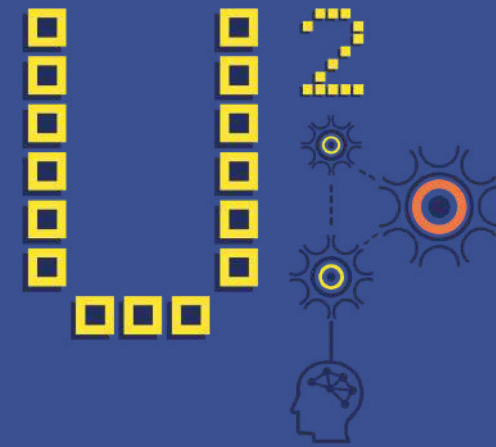
Outside of tutoring, Ned is pursuing a career as a writer, so tutoring English comes naturally and is an absolute pleasure for him. He looks forward to leading another cutting-edge English Summer Course for U2.



Course Plan: Key Moments



Model Lesson Outline



In order to keep the students engaged and keep things moving, every lesson will have 3-4 key sections, spanning the four 'Key Skills': **Comprehension**, **Creative Writing**, **Reading**, and **Vocabulary & Spelling**. Specific lesson plans will be provided prior to each week, but below is an outline of a model lesson and the essential areas to cover:

Creative Writing Exercise:

- A different key theme will be chosen each lesson, and students will be asked to write on it. Themes may be: descriptive, plot-based/action, comedy, journalism, speech-writing, discussion, picture-based writing.
- Students will be asked to use different techniques and skills (e.g: colours, sounds and feelings, different literary techniques e.g. metaphor, sensory description, specific vocabulary).
- After 7 weeks, students will be asked to choose their favourite style and to present it at the Show Day.

Book Club Exercise:

- Students will be asked to talk about the book they are reading, what they like about it, and what they think is going to happen next.
- Students will then play a series of offshoot games. For example, with the book 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid'; "Write your own sketch that you'd add to the next book in the series" or "Plan out your own plot for a 'Diary of a Clever Kid' sequel"
- This will be particularly useful for students with school interviews

Comprehension Exercise:

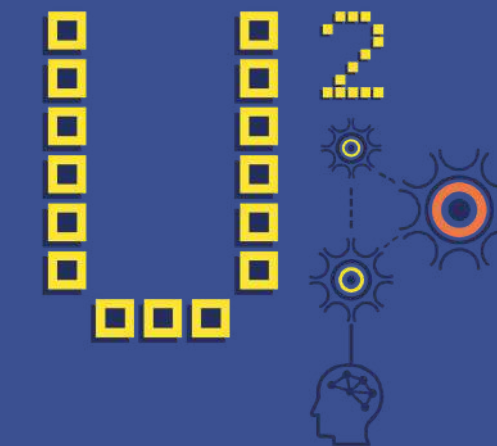
- Students will be asked to hunt through passages of prose and find the literary techniques that are in it. Students will be taught to spot a range of more advanced literary devices and extend their analysis in order to tackle the more complex longer-answer comprehension questions in the most challenging 11+ papers
- Students will then answer a mixture of questions on the comprehension. EG: In the second paragraph, how does the writer create a gloomy atmosphere?

Vocabulary Exercise:

- Every lesson, students will work with a "vocab grid" to extend their vocabulary. This is crucial to enhance comprehension skills and to ensure their creative writing increases in level of complexity
- In-between lessons, parents will be asked to quiz their students once a day on it (takes no more than 2 minutes). This will help keep the course alive in student's minds in-between classes.

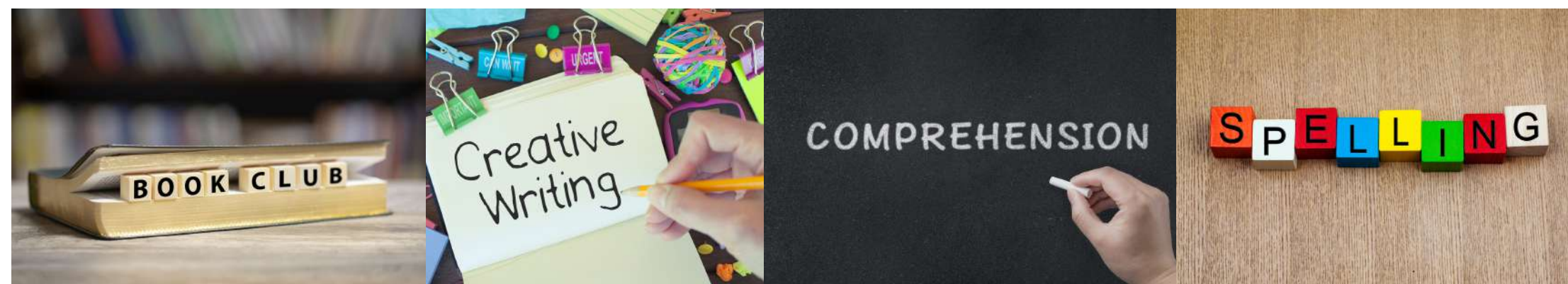


The Final Session: "Show Day"!



The Course Will Be Geared Towards a Celebratory Final "Show Day" on the 8th Lesson

Students will show off the various skills they have learnt. The key areas covered in the course are the same as those tested by the UK's leading independent schools, and are often overlooked in class. The "Show Day" will also be a chance for children to showcase their Speech & Communication skills - another area tested in 11+ interviews for leading schools.



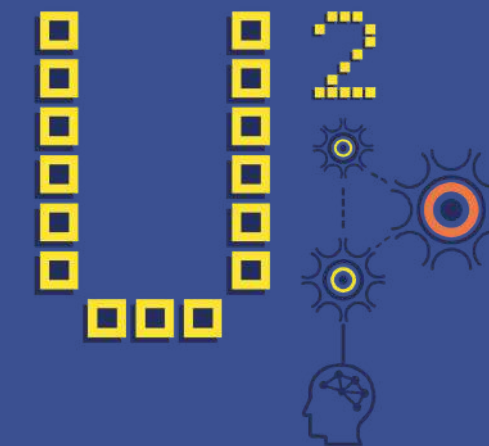
Students Will Present Some of Their Best Work From The Course, across the Four Key Skill Areas

The "Show Day" will involve:

- **A Book Club Corner:** students will speak about the book they've been reading, why they like it, and explain the plot they've imagined if had to write a sequel - for example, a student could present a "Alex Rider or "Book of Dusk" sequel plot.
- **A Creative Writing Room:** students will read out the first few lines of their best work from the course e.g. one student may present his / her crime-thriller creative writing piece, whilst another presents a newspaper article.
- **A Comprehension Hunt:** students will show off the literary techniques they have learnt.
- **A Spelling / Vocabulary Bee:** students will show off the words they've learnt.



Optional Extension Sessions



Optional Extension Session 1: Analysing and Creating Descriptive Pieces

We will look at some more challenging 11+ comprehension tasks, focusing on analysis of descriptive writing. We will begin to elevate our analysis of descriptive pieces, moving beyond identification and explanation of language features, and starting to think carefully and analytically about how and why features such as metaphor, simile, alliteration, and so on, are powerful in literature. This will lead us into some practice of writing high level descriptive pieces, thinking about how we can weave subtle narratives into highly descriptive pieces, to give responses the shape and sophistication required at the highest levels of the mark scheme.

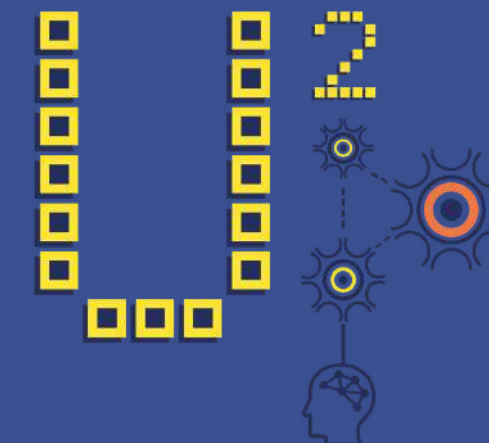


Optional Extension Session 2: Analysing and Creating Narrative.

Again, we will look at some more challenging comprehension tasks, this time focusing on analysis of narrative construction. We will begin to elevate our analysis of narrative, thinking about how drama, tension, character and theme are created and developed through story-telling. This will lead us into some practice of narrative writing in the style of the questions typically found in the 11+ exam. We will work on creating unique pieces that stand out from the crowd, as well as on ensuring that the level of language used is as complex and impressive as that required for a more obviously descriptive task.



Optional Extension Sessions



Optional Extension Session 3: Analysing and Writing Non-Fiction

In this session we will perfect the approach needed when tackling a non-fiction comprehension. This will help us to understand the features, tone, style and form of various different types of non-fiction writing, thereby preparing the students to create their own non-fiction pieces which thoroughly satisfy the requirements of the 11+ exam.



Optional Extension Session 4: Analysing Poetry and Poetic Language

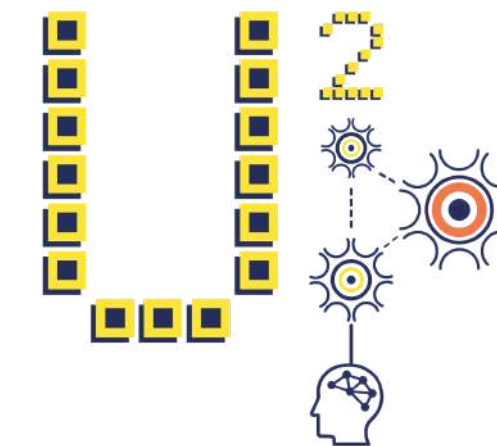
In this final session we will turn to poetry analysis. We will practice some analysis of poetry, both to prepare for the (relatively small) eventuality that students are presented with a poem to analyse, but most importantly to enhance their analytical skills, since poetic language is employed throughout literature - both fiction and non-fiction - to powerful effect.




Any questions? Get in touch!



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