

MASTERCLASS EVALUATION 2014

The classes were offered by subject specialists in the second week of the Spring holiday in Higher English, Mathematics, Biology, Human Biology, Chemistry, Physics, History, Geography and Modern Studies. Support for Higher Business Studies and Computing was also offered at a different time i.e. on Saturday mornings during term time.

Subjects were chosen based on high historical presentations and/or curricular areas needing improvement. There were 2 additional subjects compared to 2013; ie Business Studies and Computing.

Masterclasses were timetabled over 4 days in 3 hour blocks and based in CHS for Clydebank students and in OLSP for Dumbarton and Vale students. Students attending morning and afternoon sessions were provided with a packed lunch.

Over 550 students attended the sessions, some attending 4 or 5 sessions. Overall 20 staff were involved.

Evaluations were carried out after all the Spring masterclasses. These are attached for information.

In general students were very positive overall with an average 97% of students agreeing that they would attend again. However there were variations between subjects in responses regarding increasing pupil confidence and improved understanding of paper structure. These differences will form the basis for discussion with the staff evaluation meeting, to be held next term.

Comments for improvement illustrate that the style of teacher input varied. Some students wanted 'more activity', less powerpoints, shorter sessions and more past paper examples. Others wanted 'more past paper examples', 'longer sessions', 'more classes' and others said 'don't change a thing'. Overall the majority of comments indicate a level of satisfaction with the sessions which would suggest that they would be welcomed again next year.

West Dunbartonshire Council

Masterclass Evaluation

Please tick relevant subject: 2014

English	√	Chemistry	
Maths		Physics	
History		Biology	
Geography		Human Biology	
Modern Studies			

1. Did the session match your expectations?

Yes	92%	No	8%
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Please give some detail.

Going over key close reading skills was helpful
 More helpful than expected, good to see how another teacher teaches
 Helpful to see a different way of teaching
 Helpful and good insight to the exam and what is needed to pass
 More insight and depth to close reading and the course, learned new things
 Deepened understanding of how to answer certain questions
 Close reading powerpoint and tips on critical essay helped
 Learned new techniques and helped me feel more confident and prepared
 Exam techniques that I had no previous knowledge of
 Helped me understand the criteria I need to meet to pass the exam, exemplar answers
 marking schemes was a big help
 Boosted my confidence for exam
 Better than I thought, knowing how the exam is marked very helpful
 Lots more information than expected
 Helpful, made me feel less nervous about exam
 Was able to look at certain aspects that I had been struggling with and got extra help
 Workshop material and group tasks were very helpful
 Helpful revising things I already knew
 Covered everything I was worried about
 Very good detail, helped me understand layout and structure
 Good revision
 More lively than I thought, learned a lot, enjoyed marking exercise
 Useful revision tools and websites given
 Enthusiasm, reassurance, relaxed atmosphere
 Learned more than I have in class - increase in confidence
 Good insight with other teachers opinions
 Great teacher

2. Please indicate which statements below best describe how you feel now.

	Yes	No	Don't know
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Improved exam skills/techniques	98%	1%	1%
Improved understanding of paper structure	91%	6%	3%
Increased confidence	81%	5%	14%
Better prepared for exam	90%		10%

3. Would you attend a masterclass in the future?

Yes	96%	No	4%
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4. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

More split up
 More classes over period of time so it is less rushed
 Set class over a few days/ full day
 Close reading workshop was too rushed
 More detailed
 More on linking essay writing
 More handouts
 Maths and English should not be on the same day - too tiring couldn't concentrate
 More throughout the year
 More time - was very rushed towards end
 More time spread out to other areas
 Extra time for more detailed evaluation of critical essays
 More in depth analysis of what the marker would give
 More examples of text so pupils can gain a clearer understanding of how to answer essay questions
 Present different techniques or helpful tips that aren't typically taught
 Longer session - one teacher takes class for specific text
 More types of questions either in pairs or alone
 More interactive work
 More breaks
 Separate classes going over other texts

Name: _____(optional)

School: _____

West Dunbartonshire Council

Masterclass Evaluation

Please tick relevant subject: 2014

English		Chemistry	
Maths	√	Physics	
History		Biology	
Geography		Human Biology	
Modern Studies			

1. Did the session match your expectations?

Yes	89%	No	11%
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Please give some detail.

Session was very helpful, thought it would drag on but went fast
 Able to focus on weaknesses
 Very helpful
 Tips on exam technique and how to pass
 Gave me more confidence for exam
 Questions that get me frustrated were answered
 Very full and extremely helpful as it helped me improve my techniques and understanding of exam questions
 Better understanding of the structure of the paper and how to answer specific questions
 Helped me understand how to tackle the paper
 It was very helpful to see questions that weren't from past papers
 Covered good part of the course, helped understand questions
 Showed different ways questions can be asked and how to answer them
 Good time management
 Went over examples - teacher was good
 Good practice of questions not seen before
 Teacher was very interactive
 All information explained clearly
 Looked over common difficulties and had chance to ask for help
 Very good with the breakdown of the papers, gives confidence
 Very friendly and helpful teacher, focussed study was good
 Very helpful, showed what is needed to achieve an A
 Very worthwhile

2. Please indicate which statements below best describe how you feel now.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Improved exam skills/techniques	95%	1%	4%
Improved understanding of paper structure	96%	3%	1%

Increased confidence	85%	3%	12%
Better prepared for exam	90%	3%	7%

3. Would you attend a masterclass in the future?

Yes	94%	No	6%
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4. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

More materials given out
 More study on structure of exam
 Split morning and afternoon into different units
 Make it into a series of sessions - like a mini course
 Make longer
 Full day instead of 3 hour session
 3 hours is not enough
 More throughout the year
 More time is definitely required
 Should have chance to take the booklet home to complete last part
 More help sheets
 More opportunity to attempt/ look over predicted questions
 More, shorter sessions
 More sessions for specific topics

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School: _____

West Dunbartonshire Council

Masterclass Evaluation

Please tick relevant subject: 2014

English		Chemistry	
Maths		Physics	
History	✓	Biology	
Geography		Human Biology	
Modern Studies			

1. Did the session match your expectations?

Yes	95%	No	5%
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Please give some detail.

Very good lesson, very useful
 I left having learnt something new
 Very informative, good experience
 Went through different types of questions, helpful
 I learnt a lot that I hadn't learnt in class
 Provided me with more confidence for final exam

2. Please indicate which statements below best describe how you feel now.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Improved exam skills/techniques	100%		
Improved understanding of paper structure	100%		
Increased confidence	90%	5%	5%
Better prepared for exam	100%		

3. Would you attend a masterclass in the future?

Yes	100%	No	
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4. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

More time

Name: _____(optional)

School: _____

West Dunbartonshire Council

Masterclass Evaluation

Please tick relevant subject: 2014

English		Chemistry	
Maths		Physics	
History		Biology	
Geography	√	Human Biology	
Modern Studies			

1. Did the session match your expectations?

Yes	98%	No	2%
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Please give some detail.

Gave me a better understanding of the exam and things I didn't already understand
 Learned how to answer certain questions and got help on how and where to get marks
 Helped me to revise better than at home
 Very helpful - feel much better for my final exam
 Better laid out and more useful than expected
 Increased my knowledge for exam
 Went over people's difficulties and what is likely to be in the exam - very helpful
 Exam techniques covered and improved confidence
 Better understanding of topics and how to answer questions
 Handouts were given
 Given better information and preparation for exam
 Lots of revision and helpful advice

2. Please indicate which statements below best describe how you feel now.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Improved exam skills/techniques	91%		9%
Improved understanding of paper structure	90%	5%	5%
Increased confidence		12%	5%
Better prepared for exam	93%		7%

3. Would you attend a masterclass in the future?

Yes	98%	No	2%
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4. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

Have more time to cover other topics
 Go through past paper questions and break them down further
 Have one in morning and afternoon more time to look at other topics
 Open social subjects up for longer to cover more of the course

Longer classes to fit more into the day
Less writing and more 'filling in the blanks'
Smaller classes would be helpful
More time
Have more than one masterclass

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School: _____

West Dunbartonshire Council

Masterclass Evaluation

Please tick relevant subject: 2014

English		Chemistry	
Maths		Physics	
History		Biology	
Geography		Human Biology	
Modern Studies	√		

1. Did the session match your expectations?

Yes	94%	No	6%
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Please give some detail.

Helped with any problems I had and gave good information that will be useful and help with the final exam
 Went over all aspects of course, gave good exam essay examples
 Improved my confidence in what to write
 It was great, boosted my confidence and will help improve my performance
 Very useful, learnt new statistics which I will use in the exam - glad I attended!
 Very helpful and I feel like I've learned more in the masterclass than I did at school
 Was helpful with showing how to set out the questions and essays
 Good insight and detail for what is required to pass
 Helped improve my essay writing
 Good exam tips, I know how to begin my essay with confidence

2. Please indicate which statements below best describe how you feel now.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Improved exam skills/techniques	94%	3%	3%
Improved understanding of paper structure	85%	12%	3%
Increased confidence	82%	12%	6%
Better prepared for exam	79%	3%	18%

Would

you attend a masterclass in the future?

Yes	100%	No	
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4. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

Longer break
 More flexible revision structure
 Less advice, more essay practice

Name: _____(optional)

School: _____

West Dunbartonshire Council

Masterclass Evaluation

Please tick relevant subject: 2014

English		Chemistry	✓
Maths		Physics	
History		Biology	
Geography		Human Biology	
Modern Studies			

1. Did the session match your expectations?

Yes	98%	No	2%
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Please give some detail.

Helped with specific questions and exam structure
 Helped me understand calculations more
 I was given help with aspects of the course that I did not fully understand as well as given techniques on how to complete the exam
 Don't feel it made a significant difference to my skills/understanding
 Helpful with developing on skills I need for exam
 Helpful to have a teacher available to help with any problems
 Thorough session that covered all relevant points, gave a clear idea on what types of questions to expect and how to tackle them, feel much calmer in my points for studying
 Helpful with calculations and structure
 Good to get insight from another teacher
 Covered wide range of topics, notoriously difficult questions which was very helpful
 Now have greater understanding of exam
 Going over how the data booklet helps was very useful

2. Please indicate which statements below best describe how you feel now.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Improved exam skills/techniques	100%		
Improved understanding of paper structure	95%	1%	4%
Increased confidence	85%	5%	10%
Better prepared for exam	89%	1%	10%

3. Would you attend a masterclass in the future?

Yes	98%	No	2%
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4. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

More time to cover extra information
 More personal attempts at questions
 More notes
 Focusing more on things we struggle with
 Everything was too rushed - couldn't absorb all the information

More opportunity to revise certain topics we are struggling with
Summary of each subject

Name: _____(optional)

School: _____

West Dunbartonshire Council

Masterclass Evaluation

Please tick relevant subject:

2014

English		Chemistry	
Maths		Physics	√
History		Biology	
Geography		Human Biology	
Modern Studies			

1. Did the session match your expectations?

Yes	92%	No	8%
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Please give some detail.

Learned about different question types and how to answer these
 Helped me understand different types of questions
 Pointing out common mistakes
 Answers that my class teacher told me were enough, the masterclass teacher told me they weren't and I found this confusing
 Good to know where the marks are given
 Using the external assessment report helped
 Improved exam technique
 Useful content
 Very helpful
 Better understanding of exam and how to attempt questions
 Extremely good teacher
 Explained paper structure well

2. Please indicate which statements below best describe how you feel now.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Improved exam skills/techniques	95%		5%
Improved understanding of paper structure	91%		9%
Increased confidence	88%		12%
Better prepared for exam	92%		8%

3. Would you attend a masterclass in the future?

Yes	97%	No	3%
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4. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

Improve the quality of lunch supplied
 Use earlier pastpapers
 Focussed too much on wrong answers, would be more helpful to concentrate on right

answers and how to achieve them

Make session shorter

Shorter classes

More time

More content based

More explanation on answers

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School: _____

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Masterclass Evaluation

Please tick relevant subject: 2014

English		Chemistry	
Maths		Physics	
History		Biology	✓
Geography		Human Biology	
Modern Studies			

1. Did the session match your expectations?

Yes	96%	No	4%
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Please give some detail.

Learned exam structure and more confident on problem solving now
 Good exam technique help
 Improved exam technique and how to answer questions
 Very useful and detailed
 Learned more skills/ techniques
 Really helpful lots of useful tips for the exam, essay marking helped
 Good information to help me with exam
 Learned more about exam technique and how to avoid making basic errors
 Useful resource of revision

2. Please indicate which statements below best describe how you feel now.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Improved exam skills/techniques	93%		7%
Improved understanding of paper structure	93%		7%
Increased confidence	79%		21%
Better prepared for exam	82%		18%

3. Would you attend a masterclass in the future?

Yes	100%	No	
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4. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

Could be more engaging as opposed to past paper questions
 More teacher/pupil interaction
 More handouts
 SQA tips
 Time use advice

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School: _____

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Masterclass Evaluation

Please tick relevant subject: 2014

English		Chemistry	
Maths		Physics	
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Modern Studies			

1. Did the session match your expectations?
Please give some detail.

Yes	96%	No	4%
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Shown how to answer difficult questions
 Helped greatly
 Learned how to approach certain exam questions
 Focused on exam technique and structure
 Covered all aspects of the paper
 Covered all aspects and how to attempt different questions
 Focused on how to improve performance
 Better than expected
 Have a better understanding of the layout of the paper
 Valuable tips on how to tackle questions and the paper as a whole

2. Please indicate which statements below best describe how you feel now.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Improved exam skills/techniques	96%	4%	
Improved understanding of paper structure	88%	8%	4%
Increased confidence	65%	27%	8%
Better prepared for exam	77%	15%	8%

3. Would you attend a masterclass in the future?

Yes	89%	No	11%
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4. Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

More focus on actual course content

Name: _____(optional)
 School: _____