

English



English Language and English Literature GCSEs

- Two GCSEs; four exam papers in total.
- Both GCSEs in English 'as important as each other'; Literature is needed to make Language 'count'.
- No Coursework or tiers.
- 100% exam.

Students essentially being assessed on the following:

AO1: Response to the question and supporting with textual evidence

AO2: Analysis of writers' choices (language and structure techniques)

AO3 (Literature only): Linking text to context



English Language Paper 1 – Unseen Fiction text

- 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

English Language - Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

Section A:
Reading
- One
literature
fiction text

Reading (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 short form question (*1 x 4 marks*)
- 2 longer form questions (*2 x 8 marks*)
- 1 extended question (*1 x 20 marks*)

Section B:
Writing
- Descriptive
or narrative
writing

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question
(*24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy*)



Language Paper 1 Section A: Reading Questions – Unseen Fiction extract

- The questions are always the same:
- Q1: List four facts (AO1)
- Q2: How is language used for effect? (AO1 and AO2)
- Q3: How is the text structured? (AO1 and AO2)
- Q4: Evaluate the success, or the effectiveness of the extract. (AO1 and AO2)

Section B: Writing - Fiction

- Students have to complete a piece of descriptive, creative writing using an image or a title as a stimulus.
- They need to include a range of powerful vocabulary and description – Q2 - Language
- They need to think about how they structure their sentences and the text as a whole – Q3 – Structure



English Language Paper 2 – Two unseen non-fiction texts

- 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

English Language - Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

Section A:
Reading
- One non-fiction text
and one literary non-fiction text

Reading (40 marks) (25%) – two linked texts

- 1 short form question (*1 x 4 marks*)
- 2 longer form questions (*1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks*)
- 1 extended question (*1 x 16 marks*)

Section B:
Writing – to
present a
viewpoint

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Language Paper 2 Section A: Reading Questions – two unseen Non-Fiction texts

- The questions are always the same:
- Q1: Tick four true statements (AO1)
- Q2: Write a summary of the two texts
- Q3: How is language used for effect? (AO1 and AO2)
- Q4: Compare the perspectives/viewpoints/attitudes/tone of the two extracts. (AO1 and AO2)



Section B: Writing – Non-Fiction

- Students have to complete a piece of argumentative or persuasive piece of writing using a statement that gives an opinion as a stimulus.
- They need to include a range of powerful vocabulary and emotive language – Q3 - Language
- They need to think about how they structure their sentences and the text as a whole – Q4 – Perspective, feelings, tone of voice.

English Literature Paper 1 – ‘Macbeth’ and ‘A Christmas Carol’.

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel.

Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.



English Literature Paper 2 – ‘An Inspector Calls’

AQA Poetry Anthology – Power and Conflict poems and Unseen Poetry.

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry.

Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.



Where are they up to?

- Two papers examined at the end of Year 10 which were marked and moderated internally, and the grades from the end of Year 10 have been adjusted using the Summer 2019 Grade boundaries for AQA. Language Paper 1 and the two Literature Poetry sections – AQA conflict poetry and unseen poetry.
- Students sat Language paper 2 and Literature Paper 2 ‘An Inspector Calls’, anthology poetry and unseen poetry in the November Internal assessments.
- English Literature Paper 1 – sat last week
- English Language Paper 1 – questions 4 and 5 to be sat as a practice assessment in the theatre 26/1 ad 9/2.
- Feb/March mocks – English Lang and Lit P1



Ways that you can help:

- Read and discuss newspaper articles/magazines/texts (this could be in the form of physical newspapers, or reading articles online). Find examples of paragraphs of text – fiction or non-fiction.
- Ask/Discuss:
 - “How language is used for effect?”
 - “What is the tone of voice in the piece of writing?”
 - “Is there a turning point in the text? Does the mood or tone of the piece change?”
 - Where is the turning point?
 - What is the effect of this change in the tone/mood/focus?

Ways that you can help:

- Read and discuss newspaper articles/magazines/texts (this could in the form of physical newspapers, or reading articles online).
- Re-read set texts and make sure you fully understand the content. If you have your own copy of the text, annotate the text with your ideas, talk to your parents/carer/peers about your ideas and how you have got these ideas
- Read model essays that your teacher has provided you with.
- Plan and write practice essays and paragraphs.
- Continue or start creating quotation banks/revision cards for key characters/themes/settings.
- Look over your class notes to consolidate learning.
- Look over past papers and previous questions to see what is expected of you.
- If in doubt, always ask your teacher about something you are uncertain of.