

GCSE English Language and Literature Information Sheet and Revision Guidance

	English Language - Paper 1 – 5 th June / Paper 2 – 12 th June	English Literature: Paper 1 - 17 th May / Paper 2 - 24 th May
Exam Board	AQA	Edexcel
Exams or Coursework	100% Exam	100% Exam
Number of Exams	2	2
Length of Exams	Paper 1 – 1 hr 45 mins Paper 2 – 1 hr 45 mins	Paper 1 – 1 hr 45 mins Paper 2 – 2 hr 15 mins

English Language Marks (160 marks)

Specification can be viewed here: [AQA | GCSE | English Language | Specification at a glance](#)

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading (80 marks)	Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives
Section A: Reading (40 marks) 4 Questions Q1 – AO1 – Select and retrieve (4 marks) Q2 – AO2 – Language analysis (8 marks) Q3 – AO2 – Structure Analysis (8 marks) Q4 – AO4 – Critical Evaluation (20 marks) Section B: Writing (40 marks) Q5 – Narrative or descriptive writing (40 marks)	Section A: Reading (40 marks) 4 Questions Q1 – AO1 – True/False (4 marks) Q2 – AO1 – Synthesis (8 marks) Q3 – AO2 – Language Analysis (12 marks) Q4 – AO3 – Comparison (16 marks) Section B: Writing (40 marks) Q5 – Transactional Writing: speech, article, letter, report, blog (40 marks)

English Literature (160 marks)

Specification can be viewed here: [Edexcel GCSE and GCE 2014 \(pearson.com\)](#)

Paper 1: Shakespeare and Post 1914 Literature (80 marks)	Paper 2: 19 th Century Novel and Poetry since 1789 (80 marks)
Macbeth a) Extract Analysis AO2 (20 marks) b) Essay Question AO1, AO3 (20 marks) An Inspector Calls AO1, AO3, AO4 (SPaG) Essay Question (40 marks)	A Christmas Carol a) Extract Analysis AO2 (20 marks) b) Essay Question AO1 (20 marks) Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology AO2 AO3 (20 marks) Unseen Poetry AO1 AO2 (20 marks)

Top Tips

1. Write the exam dates on the family calendar.
2. Put the dates into your phone.
3. Look at what is on each paper and revise the question stems. Make a list of strengths and weaknesses.
4. Set a weekly goal for your revision.
5. Make a revision planner. One online tool is [getrevising](#). Here you can find lots of ideas.
6. Remember, only you truly know what your priorities and areas for development are. Be honest when setting your goals. You need to make sure these targets are SMART so that you can stick to them and feel the benefit.







Revision hints, tips and websites

Remember: You are studying for two separate GCSE grade. You must treat them as two subjects and revise an element of both on a regular basis.

The websites and revision books detailed here are only a fraction of that which is available. If you find something you like, use it and let us know! Each learner has a different approach. However, these are high quality and available to all.

AQA Website (sample papers, student responses, mark schemes): [AQA – education charity providing GCSEs, A-levels and support](#)

Pearson Edexcel Website (sample papers, student responses, mark schemes): [Edexcel GCSE English Literature \(9-1\) from 2015 | Pearson qualifications](#)

BBC Bitesize – Language and Literature revision for all aspects of the papers	
Literacy Wagoll – Non-fiction examples	
Education: Non-fiction text – Range of non-fiction text examples	
Sparknotes – Detailed information and analysis of Literature texts	
Memrise – Quick quizzes to help with remembering details	
Revision World – Detailed Information on key texts and other revision guidance	

Revision Guides: You will all be given revision guides for the GCSE set texts and the poetry anthology. Use these at home to revise key information and quiz each other. Bring them to school and use them to support you in lessons too!



All aspects of the papers are covered by online tutorials, commentaries and question modelling on Youtube.

Make your search specific. E.g. AQA English Language GCSE Paper 1 Question 2

You will also find various film versions and summaries of the texts. Make sure you find a version that closely matches the text though!

Podcasts

Podcasts such as RevisionPod are great for people who remember things better when they listen to them. Search carefully with key terms like the specific names of the texts or poems.

Other Strategies to try at home:

- Low Stakes Quizzing
- Quizlet
- Knowledge Organisers
- Timelines

Just remember: Always check your knowledge first. Make notes on a spider diagram checking what you can remember. Then complete the revision task and add to your notes. If you use videos and podcasts, you must transfer this knowledge in some form.