

English Language & English Literature



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	English Language	English Literature
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

Paper 1 – Thurs 23rd May 2024

Paper 2 – Thurs 6th June 2024

English Literature

Paper 1 – Mon 13th May 2024

Paper 2 - Mon 20th May 2024

Mock Exams:

Language Paper 2

Literature Paper 2

English Language Specification at a Glance

Assessments

All texts in the examination will be unseen.

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing	+	Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives	+	Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language
What's assessed Section A: Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none">one literature fiction text Section B: Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none">descriptive or narrative writing	What's assessed Section A: Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none">one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text Section B: Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none">writing to present a viewpoint	What's assessed (AO7–AO9) <ul style="list-style-type: none">presentingresponding to questions and feedbackuse of Standard English		
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes80 marks50% of GCSE	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes80 marks50% of GCSE	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">teacher set throughout coursemarked by teacherseparate endorsement (0% weighting of GCSE)		
Questions Reading (40 marks) (25%) – one single text <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)1 extended question (1 x 20 marks) Writing (40 marks) (25%) <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)	Questions Reading (40 marks) (25%) – two linked texts <ul style="list-style-type: none">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) Writing (40 marks) (25%) <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)			



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Language Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (Fiction extract and Creative Writing Task)

1 hour 45 minutes (1 hour reading section / 45 minutes writing section)

Question/Assessment Objective	Timing / Marks	Question stem / What will the question look like?
Read Extract & Answer Question 1 – AO1	10 minutes	List 4 things...
	4 Marks	Read again the first part of the source, lines __-__ List four things from this part of the text that we learn about...
Identify explicit information from a text		
Question 2 – AO2 Explain, comment and analyse how writers use language to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology	15 minutes (5 mins planning 10 mins writing)	How does the writer use language...? Look in detail at lines __-__ of the source. How does the writer use language here to...? You could include the writer's choice of: - Words and phrases - Language features and techniques - Sentence forms
	8 marks	
Question 3 – AO2 Explain, comment and analyse how writers use structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology	15 minutes (5 mins planning 10 mins writing)	How does the writer structure...? You need to think about the whole of the source. How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader? You could write about: - What the writer focuses on at the beginning - How and why the writer changes this focus as the source develops - Any other structural features that interest you.
	8 Marks	
Question 4 – AO4 Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual reference	20 minutes (5 mins planning 15 mins writing)	To what extent do you agree... A student, having read this section of the text, said: "This part of the extract makes me think _____ and realise _____".
	20 Marks	To what extent do you agree? In your response, you could: - Consider your own impressions of... - Evaluate how the writer creates these impressions - Support your opinions with quotations from the text
Question 5 – AO5 and AO6 AO5 – Communicate clearly, organise information, use a range of vocab and sentences AO6 – Accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar	45 minutes (10 mins planning 30 mins writing 5 mins editing)	Creative Writing: Descriptive or narrative writing E.g. Your school has decided to enter a creative writing competition.
	40 Marks (24 for AO5 / 16 for AO6)	Either: Write a description suggested by this picture: Or: Write the opening of a story with the title, 'The Outsider'.



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Language Paper 2 Writers' Attitudes and Viewpoints (2 x non-fiction extracts and Transactional Writing)**1 hour 45 minutes (1 hour reading section / 45 minutes writing section)**

Read Extract A & Answer Question 1 – AO1	10 minutes	True or False Statements
Identify and interpret implicit and explicit information from a text	4 Marks	Read Source ____ from _____ Tick four statements below that are true:
Read Extract B & Answer Question 2 – AO1	15 minutes (5 mins planning 10 mins writing)	Write a summary...
Select and synthesise evidence from different sources	8 Marks	Refer to source A and B for this question. Use details from both sources. Write a summary of the differences/similarities between...
Question 3 – AO2	15 minutes (5 mins planning 10 mins writing)	How does the writer's use of language...?
Explain, comment and analyse how writers use language to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology	12 Marks	You now need to refer only to source _____. How does the writer use language to...
Question 4 – AO3	20 minutes (5 mins planning 15 mins writing)	Compare how the writers convey...
Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed.	20 Marks	E.g. Compare how the writers convey their experiences of... In your answer, you should: - Compare their different/similar experiences - Compare the methods they use to convey their experiences - Support your views with quotations from both texts
Question 5 – AO5 and AO6	45 minutes (10 mins planning 30 mins writing 5 mins editing)	Transactional Writing: Writing to argue, persuade, advise, explain. inform responding to a statement
AO5 – Communicate clearly, organise information, use a range of vocab and sentences		E.g. "Nobody with any sense would want to live in a noisy, crowded, polluted city when they could live on a remote island surrounded by fresh air and natural beauty."
AO6 – Accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar	40 Marks (14 for AO5 / 16 for AO6)	Write an article for a lifestyle magazine in which you explain your point of view on this statement. You could be asked to write the following: - Magazine article - Newspaper article - Blog - Email - Leaflet - Letter (formal or informal) - Speech - Report



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Component 1: Shakespeare and Post-1914 Literature

*Paper code: 1ET0/01

- Externally assessed
- Availability: May/June
- First assessment: 2017

**50% of the
total GCSE**

Overview of content

- Study a **Shakespeare play** and a **post-1914 British play or novel**.
- Develop skills to analyse how the language, form, structure and context of texts can create meanings and effects.
- Develop skills to maintain a critical style and informed personal response.

Overview of assessment

- Section A – Shakespeare: a two-part question, with the first task focused on an extract of approximately 30 lines. The second task is focused on how a theme reflected in the extract is explored elsewhere in the play.
- Section B – Post-1914 British play or novel: ONE essay question.
- The total number of marks available is 80.
- Assessment duration: 1 hour and 45 minutes.
- Closed book (texts are not allowed in the examination).

Component 2: 19th-century Novel and Poetry since 1789 *

Paper code: 1ET0/02

- Externally assessed
- Availability: May/June
- First assessment: 2017

**50% of the
total GCSE**

Overview of content

- Study a **19th-century novel** and a **poetry collection** from the *Pearson Poetry Anthology*.
- Develop skills to analyse how the language, form, structure and context of texts can create meanings and effects.
- Develop skills to maintain a critical style and informed personal response.
- Develop comparison skills.

Overview of assessment

- Section A – 19th-century novel: a two part question, with the first part focussed on an extract of approximately 400 words. The second part is an essay question exploring the whole text.
- Section B – Part 1: ONE question comparing a named poem from the *Pearson Poetry Anthology* collection to another poem from that collection. The named poem will be shown in the question paper. Part 2: ONE question comparing two unseen contemporary poems.
- The total number of marks available is 80.
- Assessment duration: 2 hours and 15 minutes.
- Closed book (texts are not allowed in the examination).

Mock Exams:
Language Paper
Literature Paper

How can you help with revision?

- Environment – Replicate exams: no music; quiet, private space; avoid access to phones/video games/social media – use computer if technology is required. Recall efficacy improves.
- Timers – Set limits for tasks
- Chunked Revision – Short bursts of revision, 20 mins then break/treat/chat and then return. Use rewards as a positive reinforcement. Avoid overloading working memory.
- Spaced learning – revisit topics at regular intervals: revise notes, flashcards, key quotes, re-read revision guides, create knowledge organisers. Increases memory retention.
- Interleaved learning – switch between topics rather than revising one section at a time. Makes connections between skills/knowledge.
- Parental Involvement – quiz, question, discuss, plan, read, support/practise access arrangements



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Language

- Read! Fiction and non-fiction.
- Short Stories: <https://www.scribd.com/document/460875497/As-Told-by-Teachers>
- Revise subject terminology/create flash cards
- Improve vocabulary/read a thesaurus!
- Identify devices in texts/media at home – leaflets, adverts etc
- Knowledge organisers
- Practice writing and planning exam questions using past-paper questions
- Plan and write descriptions, narratives and responses to controversial topics/statements.
- Practise/improve SPaG

Literature

- Re-read set texts, listen to audio versions and watch film adaptations
- Flash cards
- Cue cards
- Check existing knowledge – mind map, then revise, then add/edit
- Read essays
- Plan essays
- Write chunks of essay
- Knowledge organisers – revise pre-made and fill in blank versions

Online Learning:

- Seneca online resources
- BBC Bitesize
- YouTube: Mr Bruff
- Quizlet
- ClickRevision
- Podcasts

Where can I go for further resources?



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GCSE English Language and Literature Information Sheet and Revision Guidance

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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 or 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 17 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 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.