

Summer 2022 GCSE Examination Changes

SUBJECT: GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

Examining Board : AQA

GCSE English Language (8700)

There are no planned changes to the GCSE English Language specification or to the written exams. To help students focus their exam preparation, there will be advance information on what exams will cover which will be released in **February**. However, the NEA Speaking and Listening component has been revised to reflect necessary health and safety measures in light of the ongoing pandemic.

All students will sit the following examinations:

Paper One – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

The exam is 1 hour and 45 minutes and consists of five questions; 4 questions assessing reading skills and a creative writing task. A total of 80 marks can be awarded and it is worth 50% of the GCSE.

Section A – Reading (40 marks)

Students are advised to spend one hour on this section in which they will consider and examine one extract from either a 20th or 21st century fiction text. Four questions testing the skills of comprehension, inference, analysis, explanation, and evaluation will be set, of which students must answer all.

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks) assessing students' ability to identify and interpret explicit and implicit information.
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks) assessing students' ability to analyse and explain the writer's choice of language and how they have structured a text and the effect achieved.
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks) assessing students' ability to critically evaluate a text.

Section B – Writing (40 marks)

Students are advised to spend 45 minutes on this section and will be asked to complete either a descriptive or narrative writing task. 24 marks are awarded for content and 16 marks for spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Paper Two – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

The exam is 1 hour and 45 minutes and consists of five questions. A total of 80 marks can be awarded and it is worth 50% of the GCSE.

Section A – Reading (40 marks)

Students are advised to spend one hour on this section in which they will consider and examine two non-fiction texts. One text will be from a 19th century source whilst the second text will be from either a 20th or 21st century source. The extracts will be linked by a theme, idea, or issue. Four

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questions testing the skills of comprehension, inference, synthesis, analysis, explanation, and comparison will be set, of which students must answer all.

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks) assessing students' ability to identify and interpret explicit and implicit information.
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8 marks and 1 x 12 marks) assessing students' ability to synthesise and construct a summary and analyse and explain the writer's choice of language and the effect achieved.
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks) assessing students' ability to compare writers' perspectives and how they have been conveyed.

Section B – Writing (40 marks)

Students are advised to spend 45 minutes on this section and will be asked to complete one transactional writing task. 24 marks are awarded for content and 16 marks for spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

NEA Spoken Language Component

Students must complete a non-exam assessed speaking and listening component which does not count towards the GCSE English Language qualification but is awarded separately. Students must complete a short presentation on a specific topic of their choice and respond to questions asked. Students' presentations must demonstrate the following:

- Presentation skills in a formal setting
- Use of spoken Standard English effectively including appropriate and ambitious vocabulary
- Organisation and effective structure of a range of strategies to engage an audience
- Perceptive responses to questions and feedback with appropriate elaboration with further information and ideas.

Students will be awarded either a Pass, Merit or Distinction grade. Students will complete this in **December**.

In line with necessary health and safety measures the NEA Spoken Language component will now be completed with the following adaptations:

- **Students will now be assessed in front of a single teacher** who can represent an 'audience' rather than in front of a small group of students or in front of their class.
- **Students will no longer be filmed** as there's no requirement for teachers to submit a sample of audio-visual recordings of Spoken Language assessments.
- The assessment can be conducted by the teacher at any time during the course and by virtual means.

All students will complete their NEA Spoken Language component in the **week beginning the 6th of December 2021**.

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How can I support my child?

Encourage your child to read a range of non-fiction texts on a weekly basis. Sourced from reputable newspapers and magazines, students must become familiar with the layout, vocabulary and language used in non-fiction sources.

Promote the regular watching of news programmes and documentaries on a range of issues to help build up general knowledge and their opinions and ideas on key issues.

Revision Guide

CGP AQA English Language Complete Revision and Practice for the Grade 9-1 exams.

GCSE English Literature (8702)

Due to the considerable content specified in the GCSE English Literature specification and the reduction in guided teaching hours in light of the ongoing pandemic, Ofqual have announced changes to assessment in 2022.

Students will still be required to sit two examinations; however, they will now not sit all components. Therefore, students will drop one text from the following:

- Poetry anthology
- 19th century novel
- Fiction or drama from the British Isles from 1914

The following components will remain compulsory:

- Shakespeare
- Unseen poetry

Careful consideration has been given as to which text each class should no longer be examined on. Previous study and the most effective and efficient way to utilise the time remaining in order to secure the best results for each student has resulted in the following choices for each class:

11ENJCA – Shakespeare/Unseen Poetry/A Christmas Carol/An Inspector Calls

11ENJPO - Shakespeare/Unseen Poetry/A Christmas Carol/An Inspector Calls

11ENENI - Shakespeare/Unseen Poetry/A Christmas Carol/An Inspector Calls

All students will therefore not be assessed on the poetry anthology component.

Students will sit the three following papers:

Paper 1B – 19th Century Novel/A Christmas Carol

Students must complete one 30-mark extract-based essay. Students will have 50 minutes to write their response.

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Paper 1C - Fiction or drama from the British Isles from 1914/ An Inspector Calls

Students must complete one 30-mark essay from a choice of two. Students will have 50 minutes to write their response.

All students will complete the second examination paper. Students will have 1 hour and 45 minutes to complete the exam.

Paper 2 Section A – Shakespeare (Macbeth)

Students must complete on 34-mark extract-based essay question.

Paper 2 Section B – Unseen Poetry

Students answer two compulsory questions on unseen poetry.

Part 1

Students answer one 28-mark question on one unseen poem.

Part 2

Students answer one 8-mark question comparing the first unseen poem with a second unseen poem.

How can I support my child?

Regularly test their memory and ability to recall key vocabulary, quotations and contextual facts and ideas relevant to each text.

Proofread any practice essays.

Encourage them to watch any film or TV versions of texts studied.

Encourage them to watch any documents relating to Elizabethan and Jacobean England, Victorian history, women's rights and any relating to issues of social justice.

Encourage students to reread each text at least twice.

Revision Guides and Films

Grade 9-1 GCSE English Literature AQA Unseen Poetry Guide - Book 1 (CGP GCSE English 9-1 Revision)

Grade 9-1 GCSE English Shakespeare Text Guide - Macbeth (CGP GCSE English 9-1 Revision)

Grade 9-1 GCSE English Shakespeare - Macbeth Workbook (includes Answers) (CGP GCSE English 9-1 Revision)

Grade 9-1 GCSE English Text Guide - Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde (CGP GCSE English 9-1 Revision)

Grade 9-1 GCSE English - Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde Workbook (includes Answers) (CGP GCSE English 9-1 Revision)

Grade 9-1 GCSE English Text Guide - An Inspector Calls (CGP GCSE English 9-1 Revision)



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Grade 9-1 GCSE English - An Inspector Calls Workbook (includes Answers) (CGP GCSE English 9-1 Revision)

Macbeth Films – 2015 version starring Michael Fassbender or 1971 version starring Francesca Annis

An Inspector Calls – BBC version (2015) or 1954 version starring Alistair Sim

Also visits too Shakespeare's Birthplace and related sites in and around Stratford and the Black Country Museum.