

English Language and Literature





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Subject Leader	Miss K. Hart
Subject Teacher(s)	Miss Hart, Dr Skarratt, Mr Dethick, Miss Lambe, Mrs Ellis, Mr Tetlow
Course Title	AQA English Language GCSE AQA English Literature GCSE
Website	https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700 https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8700



English Language Course Overview

Students will:

- Read and understand a range of fiction and non-fiction texts from the 19th-20th- and 21st-centuries
- Use technical vocabulary to explore language and structural techniques used by writers
- Evaluate the effects created by writers through their language and structural choices
- Use knowledge from their own reading to create their own fiction and non-fiction texts, using Standard English and accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)
- Use spoken English to effectively to communicate their own ideas about a range of topics



Assessment

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (50%)

1 hour 45 minutes written paper (80 marks including 16 for SPAG)

- One fiction extract with 4 reading questions
- One extended writing question

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (50%)

1 hour 45 minutes written paper (80 marks including 16 for SPAG)

- Two non-fiction extracts with 4 reading questions
- One extended writing question

Spoken Language

Non-exam assessment – marked by teachers

- Presenting
- Responding to questions and feedback
- Using Standard English



English Literature Course Overview

Students will:

- Read and understand a range of fiction texts from the 19th- 20th- and 21st-centuries including:
 - A Shakespeare play, a 20th century text, a Victorian novel, an Anthology of poems and a range of other poems
- Critically evaluate language and structural techniques used by writers
- Evaluate the effects created by writers through their language and structural choices
- Evaluate how the historical and social contexts in which writers work impacts upon their writing
- Use relevant subject terminology to identify and explore features used by writers
- Compare texts



Assessment

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-Century Novel (40%)

1 hour 45 minutes written paper (64 marks including 4 for SPAG)

- One question on *Macbeth*, with an extract to refer to
- One question on *The Sign of Four*, with an extract to refer to

Paper 2: Modern Texts and Poetry (60%)

2 hours 15 minutes written paper (96 marks including 4 for SPAG)

- A choice of one from two questions about *An Inspector Calls*
- One question about the Anthology poems, requiring comparison between two poems
- One question about a poem that is unknown to students
- One question comparing two unknown poems

The exams are closed-book.



Additional information

Skills learnt in English Language and English Literature are transferrable across all other academic subjects and the ability to read and interpret a range of texts is a key skill for life. Being able to effectively express your own ideas in writing and speech is also vital in many different situations and careers.

English Language and/ or Literature GCSEs can lead on to English Language or Literature at A-Level and as a degree. The skills needed for the course are relevant to many careers, such as journalism and other media roles, teaching, copywriting, web design, archive work, publishing, etc. Virtually all careers require effective communication skills, and these are taught and reinforced throughout the GCSE course.