



## English Language GCSE

### Key information about the English Language GCSE:

- English Language is a statutory GCSE – all students must take it
- Examination board – Edexcel – please find information on the specification using this link: [Specification \(pearson.com\)](http://www.pearson.com)
- Students are assessed by 100% examination at the end of the course. There is no longer any coursework component.
- All students must complete a Speaking and Listening component for which they will achieve a Distinction, Merit or Pass grade. This grade does not contribute towards the final GCSE grade but is a requirement of the course.

### English Language Paper 1 (40% of the total grade)

<b>Component 1: Fiction and Imaginative Writing</b>	
	<b>*Paper code: 1EN0/01</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Externally assessed</li><li>• Availability: May/June and November**</li><li>• First assessment: May/June 2017</li></ul>	<b>40% of the total GCSE</b>
<b>Overview of content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Study selections from a range of prose fiction.</li><li>• Develop skills to analyse and evaluate 19th-century fiction extracts.</li><li>• Develop imaginative writing skills to engage the reader.</li><li>• Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately.</li></ul>	
<b>Overview of assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Section A – Reading: questions on an unseen 19th-century fiction extract.</li><li>• Section B – Writing: a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extract.</li><li>• The total number of marks available is 64.</li><li>• Assessment duration 1 hour and 45 minutes.</li></ul>	

## English Language Paper 2 (60% of the total grade)

<b>Component 2: Non-fiction and Transactional Writing</b>	
	<b>*Paper code: 1EN0/02</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Externally assessed</li><li>Availability: May/June and November**</li><li>First assessment: May/June 2017</li></ul>	<b>60% of the total GCSE</b>
<b>Overview of content</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Study a range of 20th- and 21st-century non-fiction texts (including literary non-fiction).</li><li>Develop skills to analyse, evaluate and compare non-fiction extracts.</li><li>Develop transactional writing skills for a variety of forms, purposes and audiences.</li><li>Use spelling, punctuation and grammar accurately.</li></ul>	
<b>Overview of assessment</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Section A – Reading: questions on two thematically linked, unseen non-fiction extracts.</li><li>Section B – Writing: a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extracts.</li><li>The total number of marks available is 96.</li><li>Assessment duration: 2 hours and 5 minutes.</li></ul>	

## Speaking and Listening Component

<b>Spoken Language Endorsement</b>	
	<b>*Paper code 1EN0/03</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Internally assessed under controlled conditions</li><li>Availability: May/June and November**</li><li>First assessment: May/June 2017</li></ul>	<b>0% of the total GCSE</b>
<b>Overview of content</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Developing spoken language skills.</li></ul>	
<b>Overview of assessment</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The component is internally assessed under controlled conditions, and externally monitored by Pearson.</li><li>Candidates must undertake a prepared spoken presentation on a specific topic in a formal setting, listen and respond to questions and feedback, and use spoken English effectively.</li><li>There are no marks for the Spoken Language endorsement. Students are awarded a grade (Pass, Merit or Distinction).</li></ul>	

## Assessment Objectives and weightings

Students must:			% in GCSE
READING	<b>AO1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas</li> <li>Select and synthesise evidence from different texts</li> </ul>	9.4
	<b>AO2</b>	Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support their views	13.1
	<b>AO3</b>	Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts	8.8
	<b>AO4</b>	Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references	18.8
WRITING	<b>AO5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences</li> <li>Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts</li> </ul>	30
	<b>AO6</b>	Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation	20
SPOKEN LANGUAGE	<b>*AO7</b>	Demonstrate presentation skills in a formal setting	n/a
	<b>*AO8</b>	Listen and respond appropriately to spoken language, including to questions and feedback to presentations	n/a
	<b>*AO9</b>	Use spoken Standard English effectively in speeches and presentations	n/a
<b>Total</b>			<b>100%</b>

### Useful resources

- ✓ **Seneca** [Free Homework & Revision for A Level, GCSE, KS3 & KS2 \(senecalearning.com\)](https://www.senecalearning.com/)
- ✓ **BBC Bitesize** [GCSE English Language - Edexcel - BBC Bitesize](https://www.bbc.com/education/gcse/english/language-edexcel)
- ✓ **Physics and Maths Tutor (past papers)** [Edexcel Paper 1 GCSE English Language Past Papers \(physicsandmathstutor.com\)](https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/gcse/english/past-papers/) and [Edexcel Paper 2 GCSE English Language Past Papers \(physicsandmathstutor.com\)](https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/gcse/english/past-papers/)