



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 \(pearson.com\)](https://www.pearson.com/education/uk/qualifications/edexcel/english-language-gcse/specification)
- 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)

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

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

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

Speaking and Listening Component

Spoken Language Endorsement	
*Paper code 1EN0/03	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Internally assessed under controlled conditionsAvailability: May/June and November**First assessment: May/June 2017	0% of the total GCSE
Overview of content <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developing spoken language skills.	
Overview of assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">The component is internally assessed under controlled conditions, and externally monitored by Pearson.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.There are no marks for the Spoken Language endorsement. Students are awarded a grade (Pass, Merit or Distinction).	

Assessment Objectives and weightings

Students must:			% in GCSE
READING	A01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas Select and synthesise evidence from different texts 	9.4
	A02	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
	A03	Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts	8.8
	A04	Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references	18.8
WRITING	A05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts 	30
	A06	Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation	20
SPOKEN LANGUAGE	*A07	Demonstrate presentation skills in a formal setting	n/a
	*A08	Listen and respond appropriately to spoken language, including to questions and feedback to presentations	n/a
	*A09	Use spoken Standard English effectively in speeches and presentations	n/a
Total			100%

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)
- ✓ **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/)