



## GCSE English Language

The Edexcel new GCSE English Language qualification is an **untiered** qualification. The assessment consists of **two externally examined papers**, plus a separate endorsement of Spoken Language which is internally assessed. It is a linear qualification so **all examination papers must be taken at the end of the course**. The qualification will be graded and **certificated on a nine grade scale from 9 to 1**, where **9 is the highest grade**.

### Subject content:

To gain a GCSE English Language qualification students must write responses in the following 3 areas:

- 1. Fictional and Imaginative Writing:** This is assessed through Paper 1 of the GCSE English Language exam.
- 2. Non-fiction and transactional writing:** This is assessed in Paper 2 of the GCSE English Language exam.
- 3. Non-exam assessment – Spoken Language:** This is assessed by the teacher and takes place during the lessons.

Paper 1- Fictional and Imaginative Writing		Exam breakdown
<b>Section A: Reading</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One 19<sup>th</sup> century literature fiction text</li> </ul> <b>Section B: Writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creative writing</li> </ul>	<b>Section A: Reading:</b> Students will be given an unseen extract from a 19 <sup>th</sup> century novel. They will be expected to analyse the extract for language and structure, and then evaluate the effectiveness. <b>Section B: Writing:</b> Students will have to produce a piece of creative writing, such as a short story. This is a test of their fiction writing skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes</li> <li>64 marks available</li> <li><b>Reading section is worth 15%</b></li> <li><b>Writing section is worth 25%</b></li> <li>Total- Paper 1 is worth <b>40%</b> of the GCSE</li> </ul>

Paper 2- Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing		Exam breakdown
<b>Section A: Reading</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One 20<sup>th</sup> century non-fiction text and one 21<sup>st</sup> century non-fiction text</li> </ul> <b>Section B: Writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transactional writing</li> </ul>	<b>Section A: Reading:</b> Students will be given two non-fiction texts. These extracts will be from an unseen text (one they haven't previously studied). <b>Section B: Writing:</b> Students will be asked to produce one piece of non-fiction writing in which they present a point of view (writing to argue, persuade or inform). This is a test of their non-fiction writing skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A written exam: 2 hours</li> <li>96 marks available</li> <li><b>Reading section is worth 35%</b></li> <li><b>Writing section is worth 25%</b></li> <li>Total- Paper 2 is worth <b>60%</b> of the GCSE</li> </ul>