

English

Head of Department

Miss N Hutchings

CORE

The majority of students will study two GCSEs: English Language and English Literature. These students will be awarded two distinct GCSE qualifications upon successful completion of both courses. Some students will be entered for a single GCSE qualification in English Language.

GCSE English Language

GCSE English Literature

Awarding Body: Eduqas

Possible Grades: 9-1



Course Outline

Year 9 – GCSE Foundation Course

The curriculum has been specifically designed by the English Department to provide students with a thorough grounding in the skills and knowledge they need to successfully embark on their studies in Year 10. They will develop their ability to analyse, evaluate and make informed judgements. The themes to be studied include topical issues and causes which is an opportunity for students to exercise their persuasive language skills. They will also study: a novel, a play by Shakespeare, poetry, transactional writing and creative writing. These provide the building blocks for students' work at GCSE.

Year 10 & 11

GCSE English Language is split into three components:

- Reading with insight, inference, identifying and understanding how writers use language to achieve their effects.
- Writing clearly for different readers and purposes, using paragraphs and a range of sentence structures with accurate punctuation and spelling.
- Speaking and Listening

GCSE English Literature responds to and compares literary texts, explores how language contributes to meaning and relates texts to their social and historical context. The texts studied are Poetry Anthology (Eduqas), Romeo and Juliet, An Inspector Calls and The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde.

Assessment

There are two terminal exams for English Language:

1. 20th Century Literature Reading and Creative Prose Writing (40%, 1 hour 45 min)

Examines the students' ability to analyse a short fiction text for language, structure and meaning. Section A (20%) is reading and section B (20%) is prose writing; they have to produce a creative piece choosing from four possible titles.

2. 19th and 21st Century Non-fiction reading and Transactional/ Persuasive Writing (60%, 2 hours)

Requires students to analyse and compare two non-fiction texts, one from the 19th Century, the other from the 21st Century. Section A is reading (30%) and section B is transactional and persuasive writing (30%).

3. Spoken Language Non-exam assessment

One presentation/speech to an audience plus questions from the audience

There are two terminal exams for English Literature.

1. Shakespeare and Poetry (40%, 2 hours)

Section A on Shakespeare (20%). One extract question and one essay question. Section B on Poetry from 1789 to the present day (20%). Two questions based on poems from the WJEC Eduqas Poetry Anthology, one of which involves comparison.

2. Post-1914 Prose/Drama, 19th Century Prose and Unseen Poetry (60%, 2 hour 30 min)

Section A on post 1914 Prose/Drama. One source-based question on a text (20%). Section B on 19th Century prose. One source-based question on a text (20%). Section C on unseen poetry from the 20th/21st century. Two questions on unseen poems, one of which involves comparison (20%).

Specification links:

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-language/gcse/eduqas-gcse-english-language-from-2015-e.pdf>

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-literature/gcse/eduqas-gcse-english-literature-spec-from-2015.pdf>