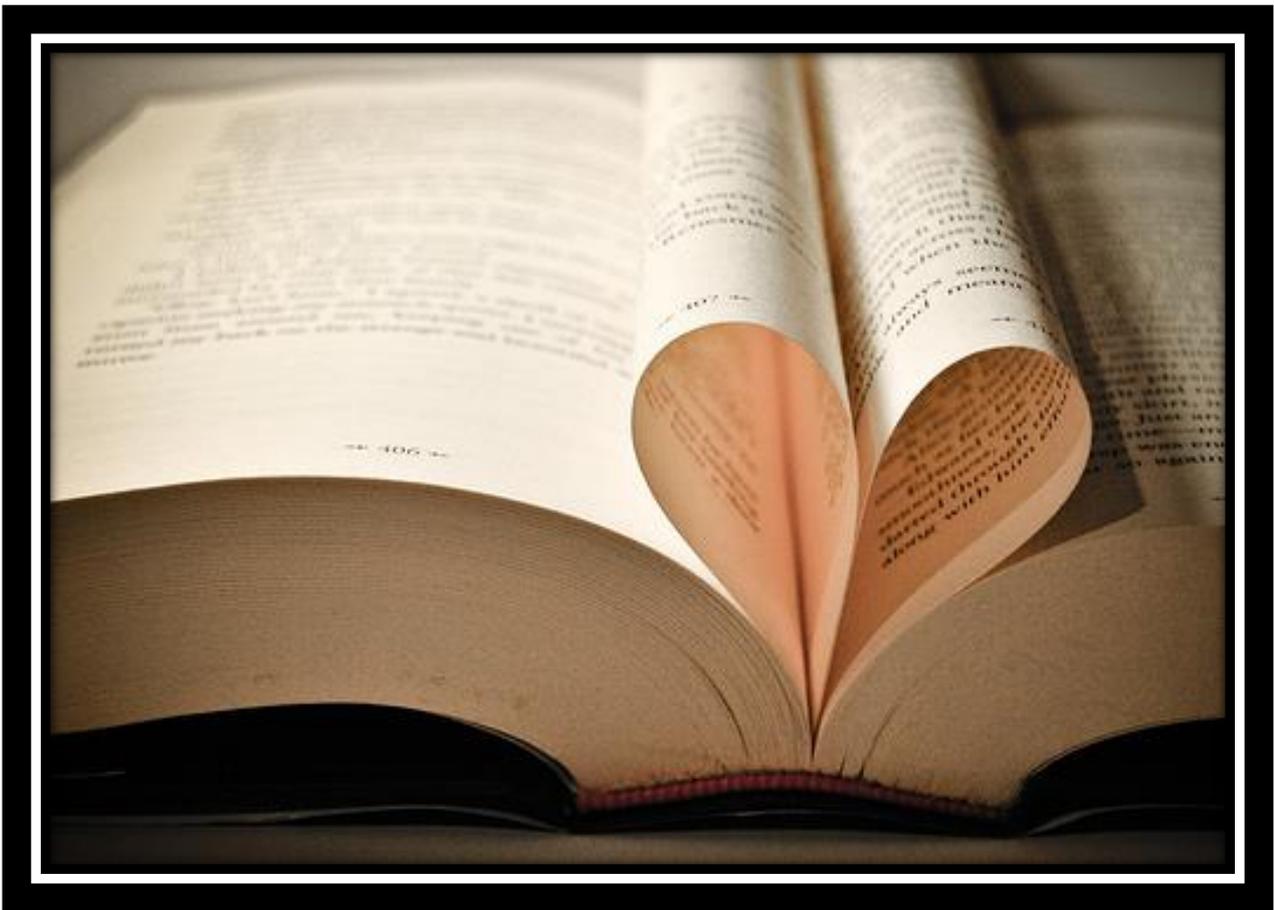


# AQA GCSE

# Literature/Language



## **A STUDENT GUIDE**

Everything you need to know about your GCSE

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# Your English GCSE

## Language

- Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing. (50%)
- Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives. (50%)

## Literature

- Paper 1: Shakespeare and 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel (40%)
- Paper 2: Modern texts and Poetry (60%)

## Spoken Language as a separate endorsement.

- Presenting
- Responding to questions and feedback
- Use of standard English

# Language

## What does Paper 1 look like?

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*Explorations in creative reading and writing*

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### What's assessed?

#### Section A: Reading

- One literature fiction text

#### Section B: Writing

- Descriptive or narrative writing

### How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 mins
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

### **Reading (40 marks- 25%) One single text**

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 Marks)
- 2 Longer form questions (2 x 8 Marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 Marks)

### **Writing (40 marks- 25%)**

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks- content, 16 marks SPAG)

# Language

## What does Paper 2 look like?

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*Writers' viewpoints and perspectives*

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### What's assessed?

#### Section A: Reading

- One non-fiction text one literary non-fiction text

#### Section B: Writing

- Writing to present a viewpoint

#### How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 mins
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

### **Reading (40 marks- 25%) Two linked texts**

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 Marks)
- 2 Longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 Marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 Marks)

### **Writing (40 marks- 25%)**

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks- content, 16 marks SPAG)

# Literature

## What does Paper 1 look like?

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### *Shakespeare and 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel*

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#### What's assessed?

- Shakespeare – *The Merchant of Venice*
- 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel – *Great Expectations*, Charles Dickens

#### How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 mins
- 64 marks
- 40% of GCSE

#### **Section A- Shakespeare:**

Students will answer one question on the Play. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

#### **Section B- The 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novel:**

Students will answer one question on the novel. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

# Literature

## What does Paper 2 look like?

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### *Modern Texts and Poetry*

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#### What's assessed?

- Modern Texts – *An Inspector Calls*, JB Priestley
- Poetry
- Unseen Poetry

#### How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hour 15 mins
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

**Section A- Modern Texts:** Students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern drama text

**Section B- Poetry:** Students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster

**Section C- Unseen Poetry:** Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem

## How am I assessed? Assessment Foci:

### Language

#### SECTION A: READING – Assessment Objectives

##### A01

- Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas.
- Select and synthesise evidence from different texts.

##### 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.

##### A03

- Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts.

##### A04

- Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references.

#### SECTION B: WRITING – Assessment Objectives

##### A05

- 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.

##### A06

- Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation. (This requirement must constitute 20% of the marks for each specification as a whole).

## How am I assessed? Assessment Foci:

### Literature

#### A01

- Maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response use textual references, including quotations, to support and
- Illustrate interpretations

#### A02

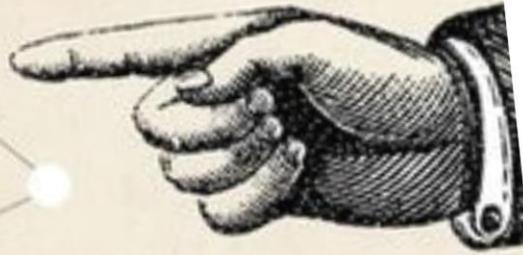
- Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate

#### A03

- Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written

#### A04

- Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation



THE BEST MOMENTS IN  
READING ARE WHEN  
YOU COME ACROSS  
SOMETHING - A  
THOUGHT, A FEELING,  
A WAY OF LOOKING  
AT THINGS - WHICH  
YOU HAD THOUGHT  
SPECIAL AND  
PARTICULAR TO YOU.  
AND NOW, HERE IT IS,  
SET DOWN BY  
SOMEONE ELSE, A  
PERSON YOU HAVE  
NEVER MET, SOMEONE  
EVEN WHO IS LONG  
DEAD, AND IT IS AS IF  
A HAND HAS COME  
OUT, AND TAKEN  
YOURS.



ALAN BENNETT