

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Summer 2022 only

Component 1: Shakespeare and Post-1914 Prose

Written examination: 2 hours (split into two papers of 1 hour each; candidates will sit both papers)

50% of the qualification

This component is compulsory in its entirety

There will be two separate one-hour papers, one for Shakespeare and one for Post-1914 Prose/Drama. These will be scheduled in the same session of the examination timetable and candidates will complete both papers.

(25%) Shakespeare (1 hour)

Romeo and Juliet; OR *Macbeth*; OR *Othello*; OR *Much Ado About Nothing*; OR *Henry V*; OR *The Merchant of Venice*

One extract question and one essay question based on the reading of a Shakespeare text from the above prescribed list.

Learners are not permitted to take copies of the set texts into the examination.

(25%) Post-1914 Prose/Drama (1 hour)

Lord of the Flies (Golding); OR *Anita and Me* (Syal); OR *Never Let Me Go* (Ishiguro); OR *The Woman in Black* (Hill); OR *Oranges are not the Only Fruit* (Winterson); OR *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* (play script) (Stephens); OR *A Taste of Honey* (Delaney); OR *An Inspector Calls* (Priestley); OR *The History Boys* (Bennett); OR *Blood Brothers* (Russell)

One source-based question on a post 1914 prose/drama text from the above prescribed list.

Learners are not permitted to take copies of the set texts into the examination.

Component 2: Poetry Anthology, 19th Century Prose, and Unseen Poetry

Written examination: 2 hours (split into two papers of 1 hour each on the candidates' two chosen areas of study)

50% of the qualification

There will be a separate one-hour paper for each of the three sections. These will be scheduled in the same session of the examination timetable and candidates will complete the two papers for the areas of study they have chosen.

(25%) Poetry from 1789 to the present day (1 hour)

Two questions based on poems from the WJEC Eduqas Poetry Anthology, one of which involves comparison.

Learners are not permitted to take a copy of the anthology into the examination.

(25%) 19th Century Prose (1 hour)

A Christmas Carol (Dickens); OR *Silas Marner* (Eliot); OR *Pride and Prejudice* (Austen); OR *War of the Worlds* (Wells); OR *Jane Eyre* (Brontë); OR *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* (Stevenson)

One source-based question on a 19th century prose text from the above prescribed list.

Learners are not permitted to take copies of the set texts into the examination.

(25%) Unseen Poetry from the 20th/21st Century (1 hour)

Two questions on unseen poems, one of which involves comparison.

Learners must sit both Component 1 examinations: there are no optional papers in this component, although there are options within each paper. Learners sit two out of the three equally weighted examinations for Component 2.

This linear qualification will be available in **summer 2022 only**.

Candidates entering the qualification in 2023 should use the approved [specification](#).

GCSE English Literature: Explanation of changes to 2022 assessment

Eduqas and the English team remain committed to supporting teachers and learners. We understand the concern that recent announcements have caused for centres and we would like to share the rationale behind our decisions.

What are the changes?

- Component 1 will be compulsory in its entirety. There will be two separate one-hour papers, with candidates sitting both papers. One paper will assess Shakespeare and the other will assess the Post-1914 text.
- Component 2 will have optionality: Centres/candidates will choose two out of; the poetry anthology question, unseen poetry and 19C texts. There will be three separate one-hour papers, with candidates completing the two papers for the texts they have studied.

Why have we chosen to split Component 1 into two papers?

- To reduce the possibility of rubric infringements by providing candidates with shorter papers that are easier to manage
- To assist candidates with time management (especially for Post-1914 where timings for texts have changed) by providing separate papers with clear timing on front cover
- To provide consistency with Component 2 (candidates sit 2 x one-hour papers) so that candidates are able to adopt a common approach to each of the examinations
- To ensure parity of standards across all sections when setting grade boundaries
- We surveyed centres on this proposed change to Component 1 in July 2021 and a summary of responses is included in the appendix of this document

Why have we chosen to split Component 2 into three papers?

- To ensure parity of standards across the three optional sections in Component 2 when setting grade boundaries.
- To mitigate any further changes that may need to be introduced to the papers due to the COVID 19 pandemic.
- To decrease the likelihood of rubric infringements for candidates in the Component 2 papers.

It is important to note that centres are free to choose their own routes through Component 2. This may mean different routes within a centre. **Candidates are not permitted to attempt all three papers.**

Your feedback matters.

We're always looking for ways to improve the service we provide to centres. Your suggestions, views and opinions help shape the way we operate. If you have any feedback, please share your thoughts with us at gcseenglish@eduqas.co.uk.

