

GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

September 2023 Newsletter

Welcome back! We hope that this newsletter finds you and your students well and ready to start the new academic year. In this term's edition we hope to provide you with general and subject-specific updates and information that you may need as you start back.

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1. Summer 2023 Results

GCSE results in English Language and English Literature were published on August 24th 2023. The papers and mark schemes from the summer 2023 series are now available to view on our [secure website](#). If you do not have access, please contact your exams officer.

Remember that 28th September is the last date for receipt of enquiries. Please see our [website](#) for more details.

For the summer 2023 series, a free, unannotated scripts service is available for Eduqas GCSE English Language (C700U10-1 and C700U20-1) and Eduqas GCSE English Literature (C720U10 and C720U20). Centres can download scripts on behalf of candidates via WJEC's secure website which also includes instructions on the process. Please note that a centre must obtain the candidate's permission prior to applying for a review of marking.

2. Analysing Candidates' Results

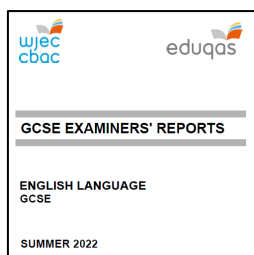
WJEC Eduqas offers two services to help you understand your students' results and develop their exam skills: Exam Results Analysis and Online Exam Review.

[Exam Results Analysis](#) on the [secure website](#) allows you to compare your students' performance on each question with that of the candidature overall, letting you see where they have done well and where there might be room for improvement. To do this, under the 'Results' tab, click on 'View/Print Item Level Data' or 'View/Print Centre Performance' for comparable data.

[Online Exam Review](#) provides a number of marked exemplars of candidate responses to key questions. These allow students to mark others' work and discuss ways in which it may be improved, thus developing their own skills. Exemplars from the summer examinations are available now for [GCSE English Language](#) and [GCSE English Literature](#).

A catalogue detailing the range of exemplar available across exam series is available for both [GCSE English Language](#) and [GCSE English Literature](#).

3. Principal Examiners' Reports Summer 2023



The principal examiners' reports providing feedback on the Summer 2023 series are now available on the website subject pages for [GCSE English Language](#) and [GCSE English Literature](#). Please read them carefully as they provide helpful observations and commentary on candidates' performance across the examined series that could help prepare learners for the next series. Each report has a handy bullet pointed list at the end of each section to summarise key points and areas of concern and success as well as links to useful resources at the beginning of the report.

4. GCSE English Language NEA (November Series)

Spoken Language Statement

Centres that are entering new grades in the November 2023 series are required to send a signed spoken language statement to us confirming that reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that all candidates entered for WJEC Eduqas GCSE English Language have completed the Spoken Language assessment. **The statement must be signed by the Head of Centre.**

The completed statement must be emailed to spokenlanguagestatement@eduqas.co.uk by the 5th November 2023.

The November statement can be accessed [here](#).

Please note that the declaration does not need to be completed if all candidates in your centre are carrying forward their spoken language grade from a previous series.

Where centres are entering new work in November, Spoken Language standardised exemplars and commentaries are available on our [secure website](#) to support teachers standardising the marking of the NEA presentations. They can be located by selecting 'Subject-Specific Support Material including CPD and Exemplars' on the 'Resources' tab and then entering 'spoken language' in the search box. Remember to select the Eduqas brand in the 'Options' filters.

Subject-Specific Support Material including CPD & Exemplars

INFO : Use the dropdown lists to select subject, level and section and click "search"

Options

Subject	Brand	Level	Type of document	Publication Year	Language
<div>All</div>	<div>Eduqas</div>	<div>All</div>	<div>All</div>	<div>All</div>	<div>English</div>

Enter free text search

spoken language

SEARCH

We also have a wealth of guidance and support material on our English Language subject page under [key documents](#).

5. Summer 2024 exams – word processed responses and rubric infringements.

The Principal Examiners for GCSE English Language and Literature noted a high number of illegible responses this series. Centres are reminded that candidates can use a word processor if there is a need for it. This does not need to be applied for via the special considerations process on the secure website but a coversheet needs to be filled in. The coversheet is available [here](#).

The Principal Examiner reports for GCSE English Literature noted that there were a high number of rubric infringements where candidates were working their way through the paper or treating each extract as 'unseen'. Centres are reminded of the importance of allowing candidates to see a whole paper prior to sitting the live papers to enable them to have the experience of navigating to the texts they have studied.

6. Exciting New Texts for GCSE English Literature

We are very excited to announce that we have some new texts coming to the Eduqas GCSE English Literature specification for first teaching in September 2023 and first exam series in Summer 2025.

Firstly, **'Boys Don't Cry', by Malorie Blackman**, (which will replace *'Never Let Me Go'*, by Kazuo Ishiguro, from Post 1914 Prose) is being introduced as a fresh and engaging novel that will help bring a wider range of cultural diversity and representation into the English Literature specification. *'Boys Don't Cry'* has positive representations of black and LGBTQ characters and *The Times* has said 'it should be read aloud in every secondary school'. Malorie Blackman is a Black, British female writer who was honoured with an OBE for her services to Children's Literature and became Children's Laureate from 2013 to 2015. She is acknowledged as one of today's most imaginative and convincing writers for young readers. **The Knowledge Organiser and Blended Learning resource (with Sample Assessment Materials) for this text is available on the Resources tab of the [Eduqas GCSE English Literature subject page](#).**

Secondly, **'Leave Taking', by Winsome Pinnock**, (which will replace a *'A Taste of Honey'*, by Shelagh Delaney, in Post-1914 Drama) equally brings a wider range of cultural diversity and representation to the specification. It tells the story of two generations of a family of black women, where the mother is originally from the Caribbean. *The Guardian* calls it an 'insightful and honest tale of the anguish of immigrants' and a 'pioneering portrayal of the lives of black Britons', and names Winsome Pinnock as 'the godmother of Black British playwrights'. **The Knowledge Organiser and Blended Learning resource (with Sample Assessment Materials) for Leave Taking is available on the Resources tab of the [Eduqas GCSE English Literature subject page](#).**

Finally, ***Twelfth Night*, by William Shakespeare**, will replace *Henry V* in the Shakespeare section. With its timeless depictions of unrequited love and human behaviours, it is hoped that this play will add some comedy and revelry to the Shakespeare section of the specification. Its themes of class, identity and gender are also relevant to our current cultural moment, hopefully making it a popular choice with schools and colleges. **The Knowledge Organiser and Blended Learning resource (with Sample Assessment Materials) for *Twelfth Night* is available on the Resources tab of the [Eduqas GCSE English Literature subject page](#).**

7. Professional Learning (CPD) Provision 2023-24 – English Language

**GCSE English Language FREE online event – feedback on summer assessments
19th October 2023 4.00pm – 6.00pm**

This online course is designed for practitioners teaching the Eduqas GCSE English Language specification. The session will highlight key points from the Principal Examiners' reports, giving an overview of performance in the recent summer assessment series, exploring some examples of marked candidates' assessments, and focussing on areas for improvement.

Book places for this GCSE English Language Professional Learning (CPD) event [here](#).

GCSE English Language Assessment and Classroom Practice – Face to Face Events

This full-day, face-to-face course is designed for practitioners teaching the **Eduqas GCSE English Language qualification**. The session will provide an in-depth review of the summer 23 assessment series, exploring a wealth of marked candidates' assessments and it will consider how feedback on these assessments can inform, develop, and improve teaching and learning. The course will also include strategies for delivering Component 3, the non-exam assessment.

The event is designed to enhance the teaching of all components and will provide strategies on how learners can prepare for and produce successful examination responses in relation to the tested assessment objectives. There will also be opportunities to share teaching ideas and network with colleagues.

You will also be provided with a comprehensive **digital** pack of materials that you can share with colleagues.

Date	Venue
31/01/2024	Manchester
01/02/2024	London
07/02/2024	Birmingham
08/02/2024	Bristol

Book places for these GCSE English Language CPD events [here](#).

Materials from Previous CPD Events

Previous CPD materials for GCSE English Language can be found [here](#).

8. Professional Learning (CPD) Provision 2023-24 – English Literature

GCSE English Literature Assessment > Classroom Practice – Face-to-Face Events

This full-day, face-to-face course is designed for practitioners teaching the **Eduqas GCSE English Literature specification**. The session will provide an in-depth review of the recent summer assessment series, exploring a wealth of marked candidates' assessments and it will consider how feedback on these assessments can inform, develop and improve teaching and learning.

The event is designed to enhance the teaching of Components 1 and 2 and will aim to provide strategies on how learners can produce successful examination responses in relation to the tested assessment objectives.

You will also be provided with a comprehensive **digital** pack of materials which you can share with colleagues.

The dates for these events are:

Date	Venue
18/10/2023	Birmingham
24/11/2023	Manchester
30/11/2023	London

Book places for these GCSE English Literature Professional Learning (CPD) events [here](#).

GCSE English Literature Feedback on summer assessments – Free Online Event

12/10/2023 16.00 – 18.00

This online course is designed for practitioners teaching the Eduqas GCSE English Literature specification. The session will highlight key points from the Principal Examiners' report, giving an overview of performance in the recent summer assessment series, exploring some examples of marked candidates' assessments, and focussing on areas for improvement.

Book places for this GCSE English Literature Professional Learning (CPD) event [here](#).

Materials from Previous CPD Events

Previous CPD materials for GCSE English Literature can be found [here](#).

9. Educational Resources / Blended Learning Resources

Blended Learning Resources

Blended Learning Resources are designed to complement teaching with an online learning pack that allows students to work at their own pace. They can be used as revision by students, as part of catch up or for flipped learning. These resources should not be seen as a way to deliver the content in a classroom setting and should always be blended with conventional method.

English Literature

Our English literature Blended Learning Resources contain interactive self-study content covering key characters, themes and approaches. We have Blended Learning Resources for the following texts:

- [Leave Taking*](#)
- [KS 3-4 Bridging Unit based on A Christmas Carol](#)
- [Lord of the Flies](#)
- [An Inspector Calls](#)
- [Blood Brothers](#)
- [A Christmas Carol](#)
- [The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde](#)
- [Unseen Poetry](#)
- [Boys Don't Cry*](#)
- [Twelfth Night*](#)

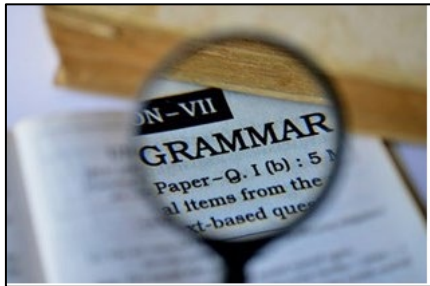
*New resource

English Language

These student-focused blended learning resources for GCSE English language cover key skills such as:

- [comparison](#)
- [planning](#)
- [proofreading](#)
- [developing detail](#)
- [narrative and transactional writing](#)
- [analysis](#)

Teaching grammar



'Grammar for writing' is the focus for [this video](#). Covering word class, clauses and sentence structure, and exploring techniques such as slow writing and 'pointless prepositions', there are plenty of practical ideas to take into the classroom.

New Centre Guide – GCSE English Literature

Eduqas GCSE English Literature
Information for new centres, NQTs
and those wishing to refresh their
knowledge.

[This resource](#) provides useful information for centres teaching the Eduqas GCSE English Literature specification for the first time, along with NQTs and those wishing to refresh their knowledge of the specification.

New Centre Guide – GCSE English Language

Eduqas GCSE English Language
Information for new centres

[This resource](#) provides useful information for centres teaching the Eduqas GCSE English Language specification for the first time, along with NQTs and those wishing to refresh their knowledge of the specification.

Component 3 – GCSE English Language

GCSE English Language - Component 3



[This resource](#) supports teachers in the delivery and assessment of Eduqas GCSE English Language Component 3 (Spoken Language).

Exam walk-throughs – GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

Exam walk-throughs are available for both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. These are student-friendly resources that offer practical hints and tips on how to effectively approach questions in the examination papers. Using questions from past exam papers, the PPT with audio help and audio script in the notes will walk students through a mock examination paper, helping them revise and practise useful exam techniques. They can complete the "mock" in a single sitting, tackle one or two questions at a time or revisit some parts of the presentation to reinforce their learning.

Exam Walk-Through
GCSE English Language
Component 1
20th Century Literature Reading and
Creative Prose Writing

Exam Walk-Through
GCSE English Language
Component 2
19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction and
Transactional/Persuasive Writing

GCSE English Literature
Component 1
Exam Walk Through

GCSE English Literature
Component 2 (2201/08-1)
Exam Walk Through (May 2019 paper)

10. Knowledge Organisers

GCSE English Language and English Literature knowledge organisers



The resources site provides a number of knowledge organisers to support the learning of [GCSE English Language](#) and [GCSE English Literature](#). These could be used for revision or as a starting point for learners to create their own knowledge organisers.

For GCSE English language we have knowledge organisers for the following:

- [Comparison](#)
- [Evaluation](#)
- [Explain, comment and analyse](#)
- [Narrative Writing](#)
- [Non-fiction writing](#)
- [Proofreading](#)
- [Purpose, organisation and content](#)
- [Retrieval of explicit and implicit information](#)
- [Synthesising information](#)
- [Analysing texts](#)
- [Structuring writing](#)
- [Technical accuracy in writing](#)

For GCSE English Literature we have knowledge organisers for the following texts:

- [Macbeth](#)
- [Romeo and Juliet](#)
- [Twelfth Night \(new\)](#)
- [Blood Brothers](#)
- [Lord of the Flies](#)
- [Unseen Poetry](#)
- [Woman In Black](#)
- [Jekyll and Hyde](#)
- [A Christmas Carol](#)
- [An Inspector Calls](#)
- [War of the Worlds](#)
- [Leave Taking \(new\)](#)
- [Boys Don't Cry \(new\)](#)

11. Resource Guides



Our Resource Guides provide an overview of the support, guidance and resources available to those teaching the Eduqas GCSE English specifications across our suite of websites.

[GCSE English Language Resource Guide](#)
[GCSE English Literature Resource Guide](#)

12. Key Dates

Key dates for the coming year have been posted on the Eduqas website:

- [GCSE English Literature](#)
- [GCSE English Language](#)

13. Regional Support Team

Did you know that we have a Regional Support Team who can offer you any support which you may need?

This includes:

- providing face-to-face and online advice to new and existing centres at a time which is convenient to the centre
- giving practical advice on the best resources for a subject including our digital resources and Online Exam Review
- supporting teachers who are new to a particular subject by going through assessment structure, exam papers, and where to find various resources needed for teaching the subject
- advising centres who are thinking of switching to us

The team is made up of former teachers who understand exactly what kind of support you need to get the most out of your classroom experience. And all the support which they offer is free of charge!

You can find out more, including the regional representative for your area, on our [Regional Support Team](#) page.

14. Poetry Anthology

The poetry anthology can be ordered free of charge for centres taking GCSE English Literature with Eduqas. Please email poetryanthology@eduqas.co.uk stating **your centre name, centre number, the number of copies you require and a contact name.**

An electronic copy of the [poetry anthology](#) is available from the website. This can be downloaded as a pdf or as a word copy. The word copy can be used to support learners who need a larger text size as the font can be edited.

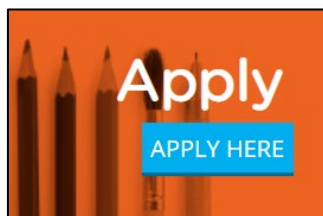
We have a range of teaching and learning resources to support the anthology including our [using contexts effectively](#) resources which look at each of the poems in the anthology. You can find lots more on our [Resources](#) website.

The poetry anthology can be ordered at any time during the year. Centres are politely reminded that May to June are busy times with the despatch of examinations to centres and there can be a delay in despatching anthologies if they are ordered within this time frame.

Audio recordings of all of the poems are available for free download from the Key Documents area of the [Eduqas GCSE English Literature webpage](#), under the heading *Resources for Teachers*.

 Eduqas GCSE English Literature Poetry Anthology DVD

15. Become an Examiner



As the entry for Eduqas GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature is growing, we are keen to appoint new examiners. Examining is an excellent way of learning more about the requirements of the exam and thus supporting your students and developing your skills. It also provides a useful additional income. For further details, please see the [appointees section](#) of the website.

16. Develop Eduqas GCSE skills through WJEC ELC English



The [WJEC Entry Level Certificate](#) in English has been designed to more closely reflect the Eduqas GCSE in English Language. It can therefore provide a useful stepping stone, or a complement for students already following the course. Full details of the qualification may be found on the [website](#).

17. Next newsletter

The next issue will be sent out in January 2024. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please get in touch.

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