

# Thrive with Eduqas.

Because every teacher is unique, we'll be with you every step of the way.

**Switch to us and thrive!**

**A level**  
**English Literature**  
Your step-by-step guide



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# Switching is simple

Switching to Eduqas could be the best move you make.

You'll gain access to an unbeatable range of free teaching resources, and our team of subject specialists are on hand to give you all the help and advice you need.

Whether you're with AQA, OCR or Pearson (Edexcel), you can rest assured that switching to Eduqas is straightforward.

**Simply follow this guide, compare our specifications, and make the switch!**

1

Follow this switcher guide for your subject

2

Register your interest and receive a printed copy of your [chosen specification\(s\)](#)

3

Visit [your qualification page](#) to access the materials you need to begin teaching our specifications

4

Visit our [Digital Resources website](#) for free resources that can be used as classroom aids and as revision tools

5

Contact [our subject specialists](#) for subject specific queries, practical advice and guidance

6

Your Exams Officer will need to register [your centre](#), if your centre is not already registered with us

7

You will be granted access to our [Secure Website](#) which hosts a wealth of exclusive resources

## We are here to support you:

If you have a question, simply contact our English Literature team who will offer friendly advice and guidance:



**Rhodri Jones**  
Subject Officer -  
English Literature

[gceenglish@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:gceenglish@eduqas.co.uk)  
029 2026 5188

# The support you need

## REGIONAL SUPPORT TEAM

Whether you're a teacher, lecturer, exams officer or head of department, our Regional Support Team is on-hand to make sure you receive all the support and guidance you need.

We cover every part of England and can provide face-to-face and online advice at a time which is convenient to you.

## REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD CONTACT US

- All of our regional representatives are former teachers, and therefore understand exactly what kind of support you need to get the most out of your classroom experience.
- Support can be face-to-face or online and at a time and location which suits you.
- With their extensive knowledge of our qualifications, you'll get the insight you need to help you deliver our qualifications with confidence.
- You'll receive practical advice on the best resources for your subject including our extensive range of digital resources, Question Bank and Online Exam Review.
- We also offer support for teachers new to a particular subject or thinking about joining us, in which we run through assessment structure, exam papers, and where to find various resources you will need for teaching.
- Support from our team - including visits - **is FREE!**

## MEET THE TEAM

Get in contact today and discover how our team can support you and your students. To book a visit or to find out more, please visit [our Regional Support Team webpages](#).

WE'RE ON HAND TO SUPPORT YOU AND OFFER GUIDANCE ON OUR QUALIFICATIONS AND RESOURCES.



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# A level English Literature

## WHY CHOOSE US?

- Clearly structured components for poetry, prose and drama
- Opportunity to study the canon of English Literature as well as contemporary texts
- Knowledge and skills applied across all components
- The same structure for questions on all papers

## Free tailored digital resources

We have created a wealth of free digital resources to support our qualifications. They have been developed to enhance learning, stimulate classroom discussion, and encourage student engagement. [Access our resources today.](#)

*We found Eduqas to be immediately responsive, helpful and very much on our side.*

**Teacher**  
London

## We are here to support you:

If you have a question, simply contact our English Literature team who will offer friendly advice and guidance:



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English Literature

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# Summary of assessment

## Component 1: Poetry

Written examination: 2 hours  
30% of qualification

### Section A: Poetry pre-1900 (open-book, clean copy)

One two-part question based on the reading of one pre-1900 poetry text from a prescribed list:

- Geoffrey Chaucer: The Merchant's Prologue and Tale (Cambridge)
- John Donne: Selected Poems (Penguin Classics)
- John Milton: Paradise Lost Book IX (Oxford)
- John Keats: Selected Poems (Penguin Classics)
- Christina Rossetti: Selected Poems (Penguin Classics)

(this is a selection only, not whole collection)

### Section B: Poetry post-1900 (open-book, clean copy)

One question from a choice of two based on the reading of two post-1900 poetry texts from a prescribed list:

- Thomas Hardy: Poems selected by Tom Paulin (Faber)(Prescribed sections: Poems of the Past and Present, Poems of 1912-13, Moments of Vision) & T S Eliot: Selected Poems (Faber)
- D H Lawrence: Selected Poems(Penguin Classics, edited by James Fenton)(Prescribed sections: Love Poems and Others, Amores, New Poems, Birds, Beasts and Flowers, Last Poems)& Gillian Clarke: Making the Beds for the Dead (Carcenet)
- Ted Hughes: Poems selected by Simon Armitage (Faber)(Prescribed section: all poems up to and including 'Rain' on page 68)& Sylvia Plath: Poems selected by Ted Hughes (Faber)
- Philip Larkin: The Whitsun Weddings (Faber)& Carol Ann Duffy: Mean Time (Picador)
- Seamus Heaney: Field Work (Faber) & Owen Sheers: Skirrid Hill (Seren)

## Component 2: Drama

Written examination: 2 hours  
30% of qualification

### Section A: Shakespeare (closed-book)

One two-part question based on the reading of one Shakespeare play from a prescribed list:

- King Lear
- Antony and Cleopatra
- Hamlet
- Henry IV Part 1
- The Tempest

### Section B: Drama (closed-book)

One question from a choice of two based on the reading of a pair of plays. One pre-1900 and one post-1900, from a prescribed list:

- Christopher Marlowe: Doctor Faustus (Longman) & Lucy Prebble: Enron (Methuen)
- John Webster: The Duchess of Malfi (Methuen) & Tennessee Williams: A Streetcar Named Desire (Penguin Modern Classics)
- Thomas Middleton: The Revenger's Tragedy (Methuen) & Joe Orton: Loot (Methuen)
- Oscar Wilde: Lady Windermere's Fan (New Mermaids) & Harold Pinter: Betrayal (Faber)
- William Shakespeare: Measure for Measure (any edition) & David Hare: Murmuring Judges (Faber)

## Component 3: Unseen texts

Written examination: 2 hours  
20% of qualification

### Section A: Unseen prose

One question from a choice of two, analysing an unseen passage of prose, taken from one of two prescribed periods for study.

### Section B: Unseen poetry

One question from a choice of two, analysing an unseen poem or poetry extract.

## Component 4: Prose study

Written examination: 2 hours  
20% of qualification

One 2500-3500 word assignment based on the reading of two prose texts from different periods, one pre-2000 and one post-2000, nominated by the centre.

# Helping you make the switch

## Comparing specifications

### Switching from AQA

AQA specification A	Eduqas
<p><b>Paper 1:</b> Love through the ages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Shakespeare play</li> <li>• AND one poetry text</li> <li>• AND one prose text</li> <li>• (Three sections: Shakespeare extract plus essay</li> <li>• AND comparison of unseen poetry</li> <li>• AND comparative essay based on two texts)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination: 3 hours - 40% of qualification</li> </ul> <p>Spread across Eduqas components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 1: Poetry</li> <li>• Component 2: Drama</li> <li>• Component 3: Unseen texts</li> <li>• Component 4: Prose study NEA</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paper 2:</b> Texts in shared contexts</p> <p>Thematic options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WW1 and its aftermath</li> <li>• OR Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day</li> </ul> <p>(Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000. Examination will include an unseen prose extract)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination: 2 hours 30 min- 40% of qualification</li> </ul> <p>Spread across Eduqas components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 1: Poetry</li> <li>• Component 2: Drama</li> <li>• Component 3: Unseen texts</li> <li>• Component 4: Prose study NEA (includes post-2000)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Non exam assessment:</b> Texts across time - <b>20% of qualification</b></p> <p>Comparative study of two texts from any genre, one of which must be pre-1900</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 4: Prose study NEA comparative essay</li> </ul>
AQA specification B	Eduqas
<p><b>Paper 1:</b> Literary genres</p> <p>Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Option 1A: Aspects of tragedy</li> <li>• Option 1B: Aspects of comedy</li> </ul> <p>(Study of three texts: one Shakespeare text; a second drama text and one further text, of which one must be written pre-1900)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination: 2 hours 30 min- 40% of qualification</li> </ul> <p>Spread across Eduqas components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 1: Poetry</li> <li>• Component 2: Drama</li> <li>• Component 3: Unseen texts</li> <li>• Component 4: Prose study</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paper 2:</b> Texts and genres</p> <p>Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elements of crime writing</li> <li>• Elements of political and social protest writing</li> </ul> <p>(Study of three texts: one post-2000 prose text; one poetry and one further text, one of which must be written pre-1900. Examination will include an unseen passage)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination: 3 hours - 40% of qualification</li> </ul> <p>Spread across Eduqas components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 1: Poetry</li> <li>• Component 2: Drama</li> <li>• Component 3: Unseen texts</li> <li>• Component 4: Prose study</li> </ul>
<p><b>Non exam assessment:</b> Theory and independence - <b>20% of qualification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of two texts: one poetry and one prose text</li> <li>• PLUS study of the Critical Anthology</li> <li>• Two essays of 1250–1500 words, each responding to a different text and linking to a different aspect of the Critical anthology</li> <li>• One essay can be re-creative. The re-creative piece will be accompanied by a commentary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 4: Prose study comparative essay (one task only)</li> </ul>

# Helping you make the switch

## Comparing specifications

### Switching from Pearson

Pearson	Eduqas
<p><b>Paper 1: Drama</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Shakespeare play</li> <li>• AND one other play</li> <li>• AND one critical anthology</li> </ul> <p>(related to Shakespeare)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination: 2 hours 15 mins - 30% of qualification</li> <li>• Component 2: Drama</li> <li>• No critical anthology</li> <li>• (comments from critics are printed in the paper for the unseen prose question in Component 3)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paper 2: Prose</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two prose texts, one pre-1900, from a prescribed list based on themes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination: 1 hours - 20% of qualification</li> <li>• Component 4: Prose study NEA</li> <li>• (two prose texts, one pre-2000 and one post-2000)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paper 3: Poetry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-2000 poetry set text plus unseen poem</li> <li>• AND Pre or post-1900 poetry</li> <li>• (nb selection depends on texts selected in other components)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination: 2 hours 15 mins - 30% of qualification</li> <li>• Component 1: Poetry</li> <li>• and Component 3: Unseen texts</li> </ul>
<p><b>Non exam assessment: 20% of qualification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparative study based on two complete texts from any genre</li> <li>• (nb selection depends on texts selected in other components to ensure requirement for post 2000 text)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 4: A comparative study of a pre and a post-2000 prose text.</li> <li>• Independent choice rather than set texts (choices must be validated by the board)</li> </ul>

### Switching from OCR

OCR	Eduqas
<p><b>Paper 1: Drama and poetry pre-1900</b></p> <p>One Shakespeare play</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AND one pre-1900 drama text</li> <li>• AND one pre-1900 poetry text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination: 2 hours 30 mins - 40% of qualification</li> <li>• Component 1: Poetry and Component 2: Drama</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paper 2: Comparative and contextual study</b></p> <p>Two prose texts, one, from a list based on themes, plus an unseen text</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination: 2 hours 30 min- 40% of qualification</li> <li>• Component 4: Prose study NEA (two prose texts, one pre-2000 and one post-2000)</li> <li>• Component 3: Unseen prose text</li> </ul>
<p><b>Non exam assessment: 20% of qualification</b></p> <p>Two tasks covering three texts (one prose, one poetry, one drama) all post-1900, including one post-2000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task 1: close reading OR re-creative task plus commentary</li> <li>• Task 2: comparative essay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component 4: A comparative study of a pre and a post-2000 prose text.</li> <li>• Independent choice rather than set texts (choices must be validated by the board)</li> </ul>



# A level

## English Literature

Your step-by-step guide



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