GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature September 2026 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 2026 Results

GCSE results in English Language and English Literature were published on August 20th 2026. The papers and mark schemes from the summer 2026 series are now available to view on Portal. If you do not have access, please contact your exams officer.

As in previous series, a free access to scripts service is available for Eduqas GCSE English Language (C700U10-1 and C700U20-1) and GCSE English Literature (C720U10 and C720U20). Centres can download scripts on behalf of candidates via Portal allowing you to:

- find out how your learners performed in specific areas of assessment.
- better understand how examiners apply our mark schemes.
- gain insights through the comments of our trained examiners.
- identify areas where learners need additional support for future assessments.

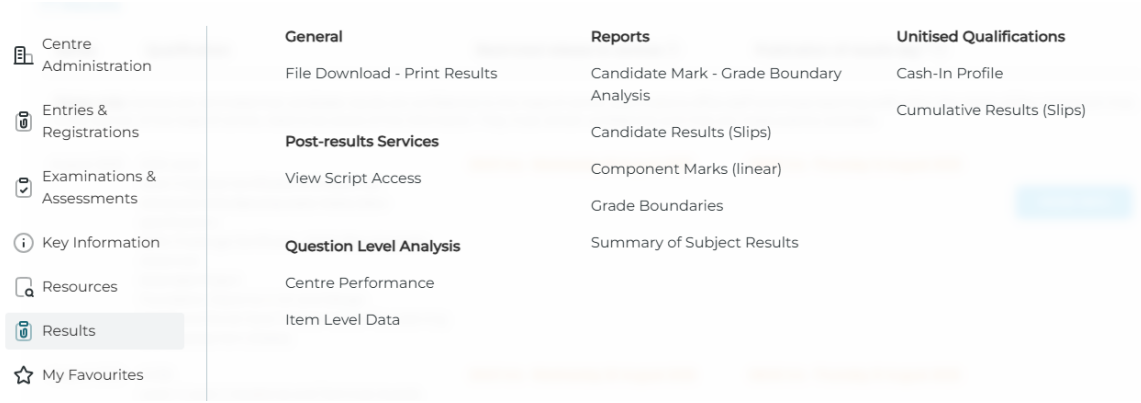
24th September is the last date for access to post results services such as a review of marking. Please see our website for more details. Please note that a centre must obtain the candidate's permission prior to applying for a review of marking.

You can find a range of helpful information in our **Guide to Post-Results Services.** Applications for an appeal must be submitted within 30 calendar days of WJEC issuing the outcome of a review of marking. Any applications or requests received after this date will not be accepted.

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 standardised candidate exemplars.

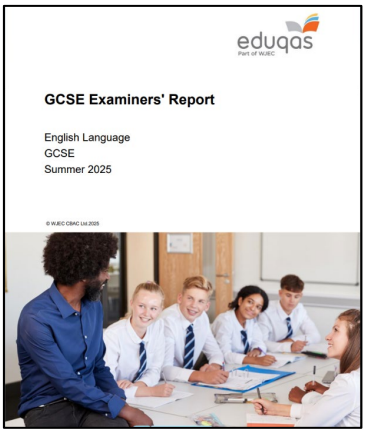
Exam Results Analysis on Portal allows you to compare your students' performance on each question with that of the candidature overall, letting you see where they have done well and where there might be room for improvement. To do this, click on the 'Results' tab



We also provide a number of clean and marked exemplars of candidate responses from the summer 2026 series. These exemplars can be found on Portal under **Resources - Subject-Specific Support Material including CPD & Exemplars.**

Exemplars from the summer examinations will be available by 1st October.

3. Principal Examiners' Reports Summer 2026



The Principal Examiners' Report providing key points from the Summer 2026 series are now available on the website subject page 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

We hope that you find this additional support helpful as you prepare learners for the 2027 exam series.

4. Summer 2026 exams – word processed responses and rubric infringements

The Principal Examiners for GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature noted a high number of illegible responses again 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 Portal but a coversheet needs to be filled in. The coversheet is available here.

The Principal Examiners' report 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.

5. Key Dates

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

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature

6. Poetry Anthology

A reminder to centres that we now have a **new anthology for the Eduqas GCSE English Literature** specification for first teaching in September 2025 and first exam series in summer 2027. The previous anthology was examined for the last time in summer 2026.

The ordering process for anthologies is outlined below. A digital version of the new anthology can be found here.

There are 15 poems in the new anthology. This is a reduction of 3 poems from the 18 in the previous anthology. To support you, we have produced a free set of resources, one for each of the poems in the anthology.

Each poem has:

- **A Blended Learning resource**. Blended learning resources contain interactive self-study content. They can be used in the classroom or at home and are designed to complement traditional face to face teaching.
- **A Knowledge Organiser**. Knowledge organisers can be used as revision tools or as starting points for learning.

All of our new poetry resources can be found here.

Ordering Process

The **new** anthology is available to order via this Microsoft Form.

The email inbox previously used for ordering anthologies has now been discontinued. Centres who use this email address once it has been discontinued will receive an automated response directing them to the Microsoft Form.

The new anthology is only able to be ordered via the Microsoft Form. Centres can also access the form from the subject webpage.

If there are any queries about the ordering process, then please e-mail the subject team gcseenglish@eduqas.co.uk.

7. GCSE English Language NEA (November 2026 series)

Spoken Language Statement

Centres are required to complete a declaration for each series in which they have entered candidates. Declarations for the November series must be completed by **5th November 2026.**

We have updated our arrangements for collecting centre declaration forms. All declaration statements will now be captured using one digital link.

Instructions for Completing the Form

1. Enter your details into section 1.
2. Select Eduqas GCSE English language November Series from the list of qualifications in Section 2 question 6.
3. Read the statement, complete the declaration and submit the form.

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.

Submission of audio-visual samples

Upload to WEC Portal

Where centres have new work to submit, complete and unedited samples should be uploaded to our internal assessment mark input system (IAMIS). Information on how to do this can be found here and a video which takes you through the process can be found here.

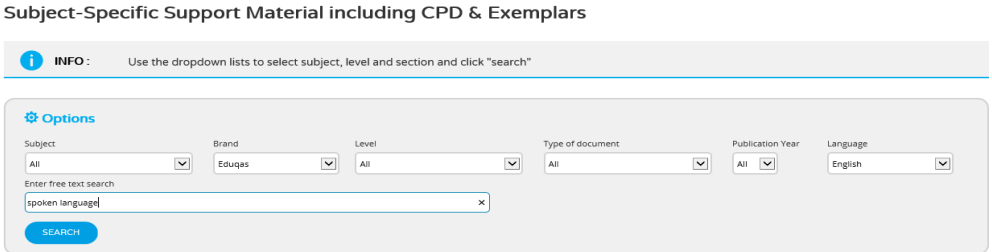
Check that the recordings are accessible and audible before uploading. One file should be submitted per candidate.

The file name for each individual recording must contain the following information:

component code
centre number
candidate number
candidate name (forename and surname)
proposed grade (Pass, Merit, Distinction, Not Classified)
e.g. C700U30-1 _12345_0001_Jones M_Pass

A separate file should be created for each candidate. The preferred format for saving recordings of the candidates' presentations is mp4 as it is the most widely supported format across media players.

Where centres are entering new work in November, Spoken Language standardised exemplars and commentaries are available on Portal 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.



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

8. Professional Learning Provision 2026-27 – English Language

Professional Learning 2026/27: Book your place today!

Designed to support teachers at every stage of qualification delivery, our programme offers a wide range of opportunities to develop subject knowledge, strengthen assessment understanding and share best practice with colleagues and our subject experts.

Our Assessment Feedback Package for 2026-27 is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how assessments are marked or moderated. This integrated suite of resources and training brings together free access to Principal Examiner reports, marked scripts, and online assessment feedback sessions, as well as a range of face-to-face Professional Learning events. Learn more about how you and your learners can benefit from our Assessment Feedback Package here**.**

You can download the most recent Principal Examiner Report and register for our FREE, online feedback events on the GCSE English language qualification page.

GCSE English Language Feedback on summer assessments – Free Online Event 10/11/2026 16.00 – 18.00

Our free online feedback event on November 10th will:

- provide an in-depth look at key points from our Principal Examiner reports.
- explore examples of marked **assessments**.
- highlight areas for improvement, and characteristics of successful candidate responses.

These valuable insights will allow you to better prepare future learners for success.

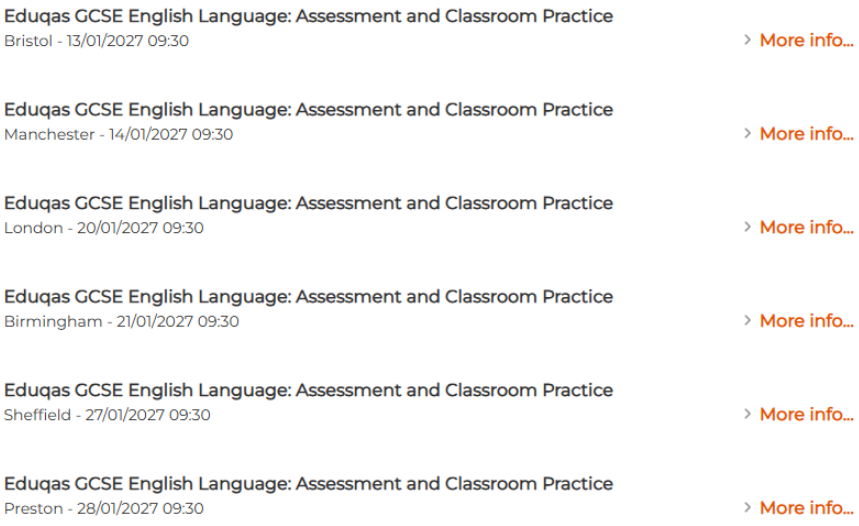
Book your place here.

GCSE English Language Face-to-Face Assessment and Classroom Practice Professional Learning Event – Various dates

This **free** full-day, face-to-face course is designed for practitioners teaching the **Eduqas GCSE English Language qualification**.

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.

All delegates will be provided with a comprehensive **digital** pack of materials that you can share with colleagues post event.



Book places for these GCSE English Language professional learning events here.

9. Autumn Term Professional Learning opportunities – GCSE English Literature

Professional Learning 2026/27: Book your place today!

Designed to support teachers at every stage of qualification delivery, our programme offers a wide range of opportunities to develop subject knowledge, strengthen assessment understanding and share best practice with colleagues and our subject experts.
Our Assessment Feedback Package for 2026-27 is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how assessments are marked. This integrated suite of resources and training brings together free access to Principal Examiner reports, marked scripts, and online assessment feedback sessions, as well as a range of face-to-face Professional Learning events.
Learn more about how you and your learners can benefit from our Assessment Feedback Package here: Assessment Feedback Package 2026-27.
You can download the most recent Principal Examiner Report and register for our FREE, online feedback events on the GCSE English Literature qualification page.

GCSE English Literature: Feedback on summer assessments – Free Online Event 21/10/2025 16.00 – 18.00

This online course is designed for practitioners teaching the Eduqas GCSE English Literature qualification. The session will review the summer 2026 series, exploring examples of marked candidates' assessments. It will also consider how feedback on assessments can inform, develop, and improve teaching and learning.

Book places for this online GCSE English Literature Professional Learning Event here.

GCSE English Literature Face-to-Face Assessment and Classroom Practice Professional Learning Event – Various dates

This free full-day, face-to-face course is designed for practitioners teaching **Eduqas GCSE English Literature**. 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.

All delegates will be provided with a comprehensive digital pack of materials that you can share with colleagues post event.

Eduqas GCSE English Literature: Feedback on summer assessments FREE
Online - 21/10/2026 16:00

Eduqas GCSE English Literature: Assessment and Classroom Practice
Manchester - 05/11/2026 09:30

Eduqas GCSE English Literature: Assessment and Classroom Practice
Birmingham - 19/11/2026 09:30

Eduqas GCSE English Literature: Assessment and Classroom Practice
Bristol - 03/12/2026 09:30

Eduqas GCSE English Literature: Assessment and Classroom Practice
Sheffield - 17/12/2026 09:30

Eduqas GCSE English Literature: Assessment and Classroom Practice
London - 07/01/2027 09:30

Book places for these GCSE English Literature Professional Learning events here.

10. Knowledge Organisers

GCSE English Language knowledge organisers



The resources site provides a number of knowledge organisers to support the learning of GCSE English Language. 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

GCSE English Literature Knowledge Organisers



The resources site provides a number of knowledge organisers to support the learning of 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 Literature we have knowledge organisers for the following texts:

- Macbeth
- Romeo and Juliet
- Twelfth Night
- 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
- Boys Don't Cry

11. The Lit in Colour (Penguin Books) partnership with Eduqas: Supporting Diversity in English Literature

Eduqas and Penguin UK Book's Lit in Colour's programme continue to work together to encourage even more schools and colleges to deliver texts by authors of colour, thus supporting greater diversity, inclusion and representation in English Literature classrooms.

Support available

Lit in Colour offers free resources to schools, including:

- FREE resources on *Leave Taking* and *Boys Don't Cry*, including exclusive author interviews
- FREE online author enrichment events, such as the recent online event with authors Natasha Bowen and Ashley Thorpe focused on ancient histories, religious practices, cultures and kingdoms in YA fiction. Stay tuned for more!
- We will also be looking to recruit another cohort of schools to our support programme with Lit in Colour early next year, focused on both *Leave Taking* and *Boys Don't Cry* and including:
    - FREE copies of set texts for your students
    - A reading for pleasure library donation made up of around 250 books
    - FREE professional learning events focused on race and representation in both texts

Lit in Colour has also launched Canon in Colour, a new set of free resources designed to supporting the teaching of classic 19th Century texts through the lens of race and empire (for example, resources on Race and Empire in *A Christmas Carol*). Featuring expert video introductions and downloadable teacher guides, the resources help bring vital historical context into GCSE and A Level English teaching.

12. Resource Guide



Our Resource Guide provides 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

13. Educational Resources / Blended Learning Resources – English Language

Blended Learning Resources

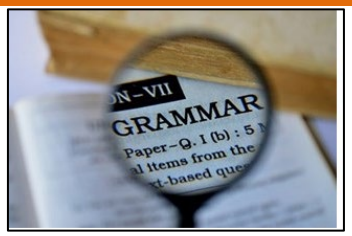
Blended Learning Resources are designed to complement teaching with an online learning pack that allows students to work at their own pace. They can be used as revision by students, as part of catch up or for flipped learning. These resources should not be seen as a way to deliver the content in a classroom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

English 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.

Component 3 – GCSE English Language

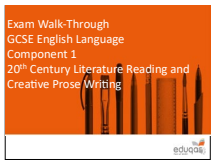
GCSE English Language - Component 3

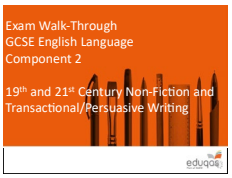


This resource supports teachers in the delivery and assessment of Eduqas GCSE English Language Component 3 (Spoken Language).

Exam walk-throughs – GCSE English Language

Exam walk-throughs are available for both GCSE English Language components. 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.





14. Educational Resources / Blended Learning Resources (English Literature)

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.

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

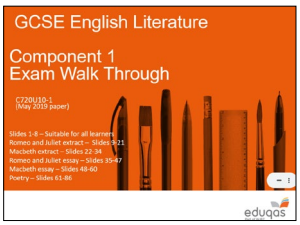
New Centre Guide – GCSE English Literature

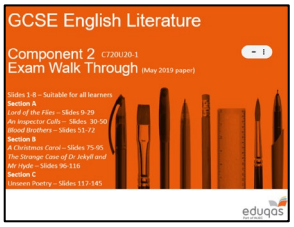


This resource provides useful information for centres teaching the Eduqas GCSE English Literature specification for the first time, along with NQTs and those wishing to refresh their knowledge of the specification.

Exam walk-throughs – GCSE English Literature

Exam walk-throughs are available for 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.





15. Regional Support Team

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

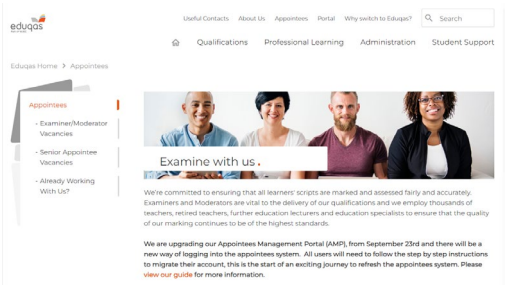
This includes:

- 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.

16. Become an Examiner

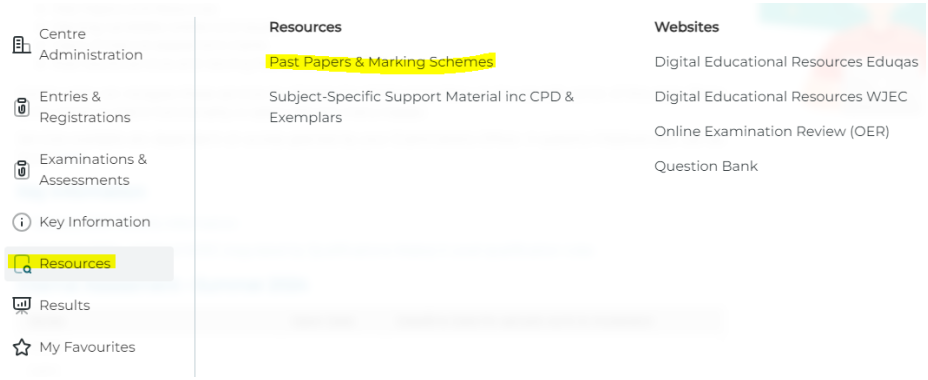


As the entry for Eduqas GCSE English continues to grow, we are keen to appoint new examiners for summer 2027.

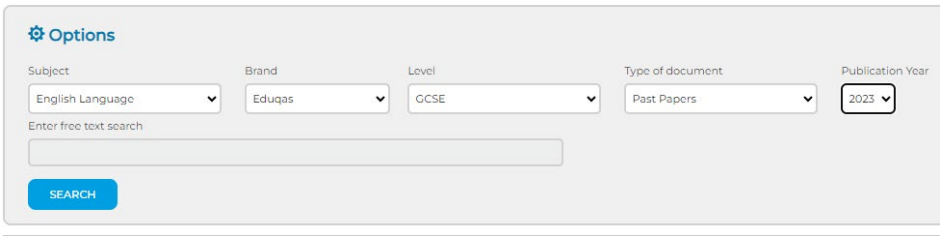
Examining is an excellent way of learning more about the requirements of the exam and how the marking scheme is applied to candidates' responses, thus developing your skills and helping you to support your learners. It also provides a useful additional income. For further details, please see the appointees section of the website.

17. Past Papers and Marking Schemes

Copies of the summer 2026 question papers and marking schemes are available for centres to view on our Portal. If you don't have access, please contact your exams officer. After selecting 'All Services' in the top left of the screen, 'select Resources' followed by 'Past Papers & Marking Schemes':



You can then use the dropdown menus to choose the papers or marking schemes that you are looking for:



Past papers and marking schemes from earlier series are freely available on the public website page for GCSE English Language.

18. Next newsletter

The next issue will be sent out in January 2027. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please get in touch.

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