

# WJEC GCSE English Language Resources Guide

This booklet provides an overview of the support, guidance and resources available to those teaching the WJEC GCSE English Language specification across our suite of websites.

#### Subject webpage

The WJEC GCSE English Language subject webpage on the WJEC website is the starting place for anyone teaching the specification and contains a range of official documentation relating to the qualification including the specification, sample assessment materials and past papers.

#### **Portal**

The <u>WJEC Portal</u> is a secure area for centres to access resources. These include past papers and marking schemes (ahead of their publication on the public website), as well as access to CPD materials.

For teachers to access Portal, they will need a username and password, this will be set up by their Examinations Officer.

Answers to frequently asked questions about Portal can be found here.

#### **Online Exam Review**

The Online Exam Review website hosts marked examination exemplar in an interactive digital format.

#### **Educational Resources**

The <u>Educational Resources website</u> hosts free digital resources created by our dedicated team of subject experts and web developers to support the teaching and learning of WJEC qualifications.

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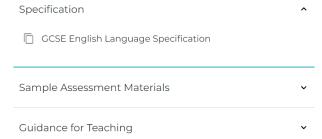


## 1. Key Documents

A list of key documents is available on the <u>subject webpage</u> of the WJEC website and is available by selecting <u>Key Documents</u>.



The documents are arranged in categories, and the documents in each category can be viewed by clicking the downward arrow alongside the category name.



Below are direct links to some of the documents that you will need to get started teaching the qualification.





## 2. Past Papers



# Question papers from past examination series are available for:

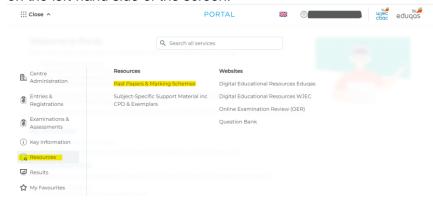
Unit 1 – Oracy

Unit 2 – Reading and Writing: Description, Narration and Exposition

Unit 3 – Reading and Writing: Argumentation, Persuasion and Instructional

#### Past papers on Portal (the day after the end of each examination series)

Past papers are published initially on <u>Portal</u> the day after the end of each examination series. To locate the past papers, select 'Past Papers & Marking Schemes' from the 'Resources' menu on the left-hand side of the screen:



Then use the dropdown menus to choose the papers that you are looking for:

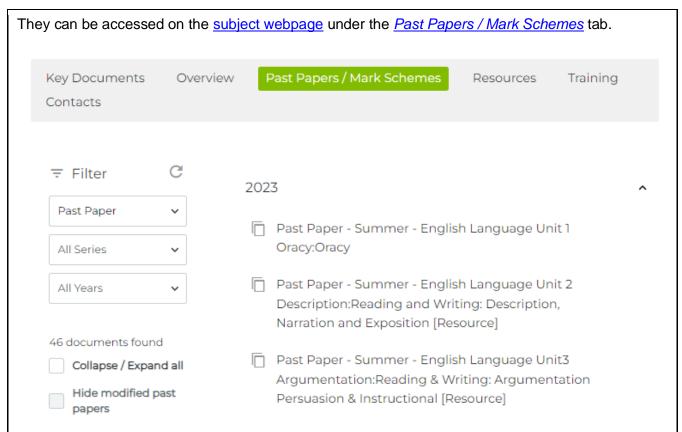


#### Past papers on public website

Past papers are published on the public website approximately one year after results for a series have been issued:

Series	Past Papers on public website
June series	Between 1 and 31 July, the year after the examination has taken place
November series	Between 1 and 31 December, the year after the examination has taken place







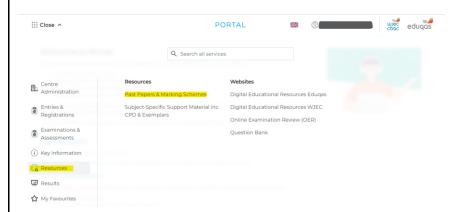
# 3. Marking Schemes



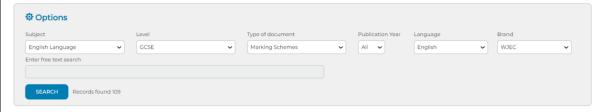
**Marking schemes** are available to accompany question papers from past examination series, providing instructions on how to apply the marking criteria, examples of indicative content, and assessment grids articulating the banded descriptors for different levels of responses.

#### Marking schemes on Portal (from Results Day)

Marking schemes are published initially on <u>Portal</u> on Results Day for the examination series. To locate the marking schemes, select 'Past Papers & Marking Schemes' from the 'Resources' menu on the left-hand side of the screen:



Then use the dropdown menus to choose the marking schemes that you are looking for:

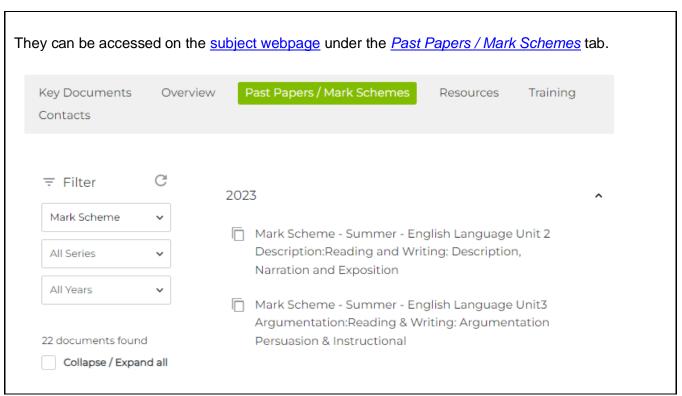


#### Marking schemes on public website

Marking schemes are published on the public website approximately one year after results for a series have been issued:

Series	Marking schemes on public website
June series	Between 1 and 31 July, the year after the examination has taken place
November series	Between 1 and 31 December, the year after the examination has taken place





# 4. Principals' Reports

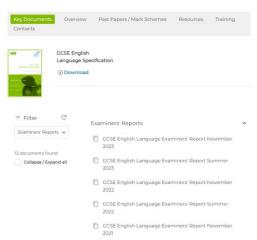


GCSE Interim Examiners' Report
English Language
GCSE
Summer 2024

Principals' reports provide helpful observations and commentary on candidates' performance on the examined series.

Interim Principals' reports are published on Results Day for each series and are available on the <u>subject</u> <u>webpage</u> under <u>Key Documents</u> > <u>Examiners' Reports</u>.

A final report providing detailed commentary on candidate performance in each unit will be uploaded to the website approximately a month later.





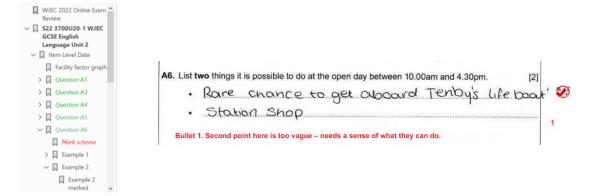
# 5. Online Exam Review (Marked Exemplar)



A set of <u>Online Exam Review</u> material for each exam component is published providing a number of clean and marked exemplars of candidate responses to key questions from previous examinations. These allow learners to review responses and discuss ways in which they may be improved, thus developing their own skills.

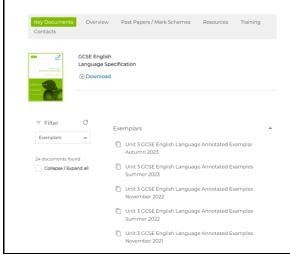
These materials are available on our <u>Online Exam</u>
<u>Review</u> website and under the 'Exemplars' tab under
<u>Key Documents</u> on the subject webpage and are
made available shortly after results are issued for
each series.

Please note that, from Summer 2024 onwards, new exemplar materials will be made available on <a href="Portal">Portal</a> only.



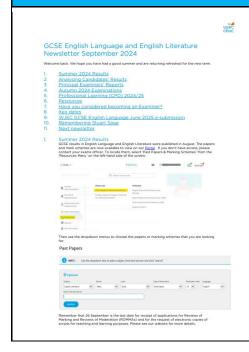
If you are accessing the OER document in a web browser and are only able to see a single page, please download the document and re-open it in Adobe Reader in order to fully access the OER material.

Marked versions are available to download from our <u>subject page</u> as a single pdf document.

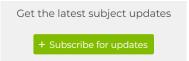




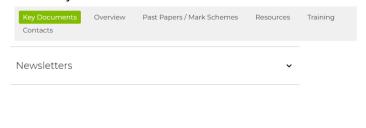
## 6. Newsletters



Click the <u>Subscribe for updates</u> button on the right-hand side of the <u>subject webpage</u> to sign up for email updates about the qualification, including the termly subject-specific newsletters published each September, January and April.



Past newsletters are also available from the <u>subject webpage</u> under Key Documents > *Newsletters*.





# 7. Professional Learning Materials

#### **Annual Professional Learning programme**

WJEC offers an annual programme of Professional Learning (previously known as CPD) training events, featuring face-to-face and/or online sessions designed for practitioners to get all the latest feedback on assessments, an insight into our teaching resources, and a range of practical tips and strategies for the classroom.

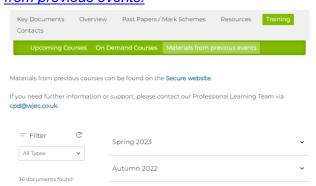
Details of forthcoming sessions are listed on the <u>subject webpage</u> under <u>Training > Upcoming</u> <u>Courses</u>.



#### Materials from past Professional Learning events



Materials from Professional Learning training events held in previous years are available on the <u>subject webpage</u> and can be accessed by selecting <u>Training > Materials</u> <u>from previous events</u>.



The focus of each year's provision is outlined below.

Autumn 2024	Feedback on Summer Assessment - Online event
Autumn 2024	Qualification Briefing & Q&A – WJEC GCSE English Language & Literature: Specification briefing – Online event
Spring 2025	Preparing to Teach - Face-to-face event
Winter 2024	Assessment and Classroom Practice – Face-to-face event
Autumn 2023	Feedback on Summer Assessment - Online event
Autumn 2022	Assessment > classroom practice – review of the 2022 summer series.
Spring 2022	Assessment > classroom practice - review of the 2021 autumn series
Autumn 2019	Assessment > classroom practice – review of the 2019 summer series; explore A03 approaches to context in assessment and teaching.



#### Pre-recorded webinars



A number of pre-recorded webinars are available on the <u>subject webpage</u> under <u>Training</u> > <u>On Demand Courses</u>.



A selection of the available webinars for WJEC GCSE English Language is detailed below.

#### **Teaching the novel and Unseen Prose**



<u>Pre-recorded webinar</u> The video has been designed to support teachers of all Key Stages in delivering the English curriculum.

#### **Teaching Grammar**



Teaching Grammar in the English Classroom <u>Pre-recorded webinar</u> on teaching grammar in the English classroom. The video has been designed to support students and teachers at all Key Stages in delivering the English curriculum.

#### **Cognitive Acceleration**

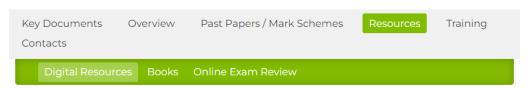


Using Cognitive Acceleration in the English Classroom <u>Pre-recorded webinar</u> on using cognitive acceleration in the English Classroom. The video has been designed to support students and teachers at all Key Stages in delivering the English curriculum.



#### 8. Educational Resources

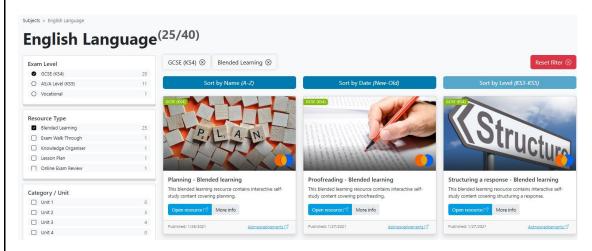
A wide range of free digital resources has been developed to support the teaching and learning of WJEC GCSE English Language and these are available from our *Digital Resources* website.



The full range of resources can be accessed <u>here</u> and a selection of the resources are outlined below.

#### **Blended Learning Resources**

Our <u>Blended Learning</u> resources contains interactive self-study content covering set texts and necessary skills. These resources are designed to complement traditional face-to-face teaching with an online learning pack that allows students to learn at their own pace. It can be used by learners for revision, for catch-up or for flipped learning.



We have Blended Learning resources for the following texts and skills:

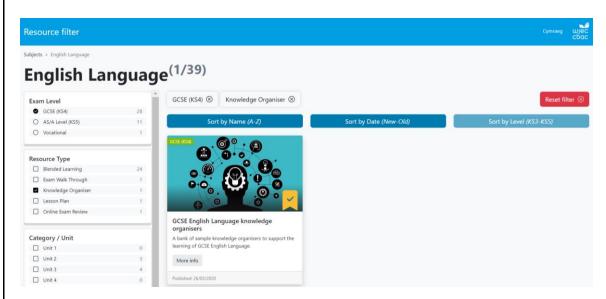
- 1. Analysing texts
- 2. Articles
- 3. Bridging Unit: English Language/Literature
- 4. Comparison
- 5. Description
- 6. Developing detail
- 7. Editing
- 8. Exam writing tasks
- 9. Exposition
- 10. Guides
- 11. Identifying and retrieving
- 12. Implied meaning
- 13. Letters
- 14. Narration
- 15. Planning
- 16. Proofreading
- 17. Reading skills
- 18. Reviews



- 19. Sequencing information
- 20. Structuring a response
- 21. Summarising information
- 22. Synthesis
- 23. Talks
- 24. Technical accuracy
- 25. Word meaning

#### **Knowledge Organisers**

We have a large bank of <u>Knowledge Organisers</u> that are designed to help support the learning of GCSE English Language. These can be used for revision or as a starting point for learners to create their own information sheets.



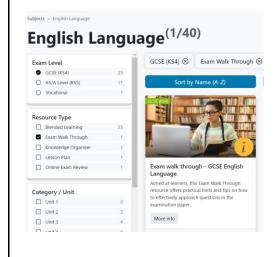
Click on the links below to access each Knowledge Organiser:

- 1. Analysing texts
- 2. Argumentation
- 3. Comparison
- 4. Describe
- 5. Editing
- 6. Exposition
- 7. Identifying and retrieving information
- 8. Implied meaning
- 9. Narrate
- 10. Persuasion
- 11. Planning and structure
- 12. Proofreading and common errors
- 13. Sequencing information
- 14. Summarising information
- 15. Synthesising information
- 16. Word meaning
- 17. Writing a formal letter
- 18. Writing a guide
- 19. Writing a review
- 20. Writing a talk
- 21. Writing an article



#### **Exam Walk Throughs**

Our <u>Exam Walk Throughs</u> offer practical hints and tips on how to effectively approach questions in the examination paper. Using questions from past exam papers, the PowerPoint presentations enable you to walk your learners through a mock examination paper, sharing useful exam techniques. You can walk through the "mock" with your learners in a single sitting, tackle one or two questions at a time or revisit some parts of the presentation to reinforce learning. Additionally, learners could use this resource independently as a revision aid.







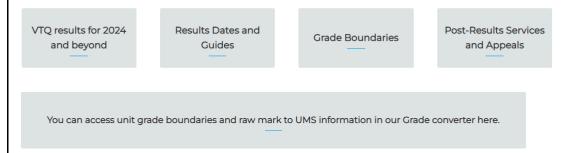
# 9. Grade Boundaries and Exam Results Analysis

#### **Grade boundaries**

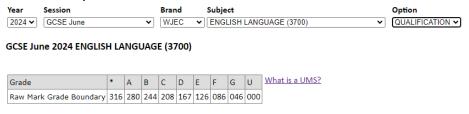
Grade boundaries from past examination series are available on the <u>subject webpage</u>.



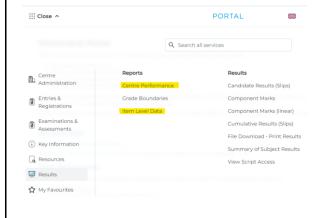
If you click on 'Grade Boundaries' this will take you to <u>Administration > Results, Grade Boundaries</u> and PRS.



Grade boundary information is available for every unit. Make sure you select the correct information from the dropdown.



#### **Exam Results Analysis**



Exam Results Analysis can be used by teachers to:

- evaluate their own performance against specification norms.
- identify strengths and weaknesses for a candidate cohort and suggest areas of improvement.
- assist individual candidates in improving their own performance.

It can be accessed on <u>Portal</u> which 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 'Item Level Data' or 'Centre Performance' for comparable data.

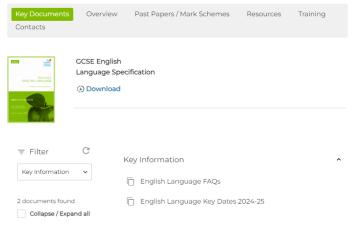


# 10. Key Dates

# GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



A list of key dates for WJEC GCSE English Language is available on the <u>subject webpage</u> under <u>Key Documents</u> > <u>Key Information</u>.



Published at the start of each academic year, this document gives you all the important dates you need to plan for the year ahead.

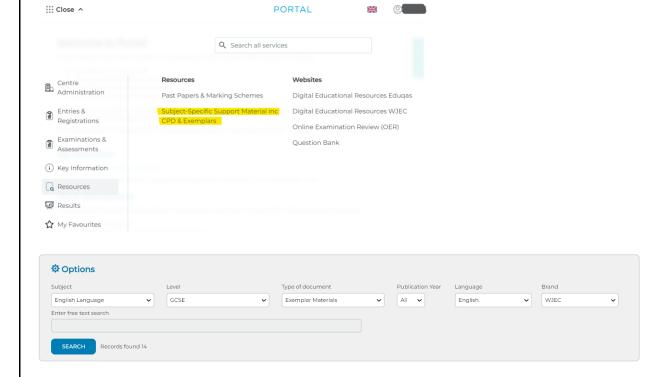


#### 11. Non-Examination Assessment

#### **NEA Standardising Exemplar**

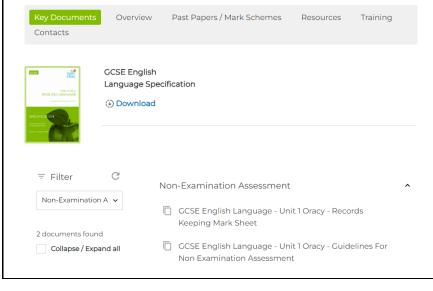
NEA standardising exemplars are available on <u>Portal</u> to support teachers standardising the marking of the NEA assessment.

The exemplars can be located by selecting 'Subject-Specific Support Material including CPD and Exemplars' on the 'Resources' tab and then selecting 'Exemplar Materials' as the document type. Remember to select the WJEC brand in the 'Options' filters.



#### **Non-Examination Assessment Guidance Documents**

Documents to aid centres in administering the Unit 1 Oracy assessment is available on the subject <u>subject webpage</u> under <u>Key Documents</u>.



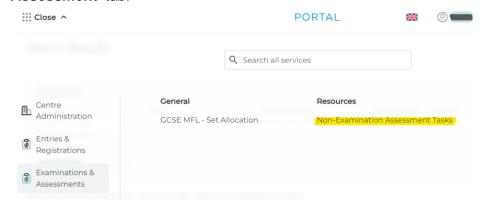


#### These documents include:

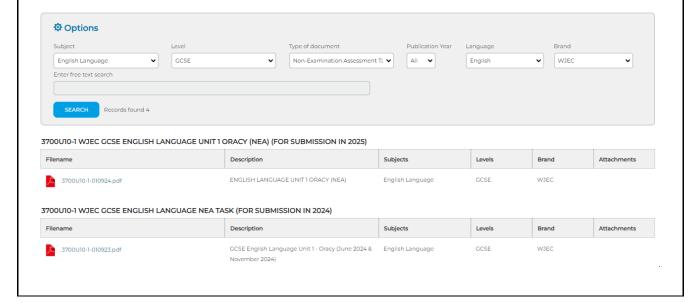
- ➤ Unit 1 Oracy Record Keeping Mark Sheet should be completed for all candidates, not just for those candidates selected for the sample to be sent to the moderator.
- Unit 1 Oracy <u>Guidelines for Non-Examination Assessment</u> this document contains information on the arrangements for the non-examination assessment including task setting, task taking and task marking.

#### **Stimulus Material**

Stimulus material for the Task 2 group discussion is available on <u>Portal</u>. The material can be accessed by selecting 'Non-Examination Assessment Tasks' from the 'Examination and Assessment' tab.



Within the search options select 'Non-Examination Assessment Tasks' as the document type and select the 'WJEC' as the brand.



#### Contact us

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Our subject team is happy to help you with all your queries related to the teaching and learning of WJEC GCSE English Language. Our Subject Officer is an experienced teacher and is here to support you with delivering our qualifications. Get in touch with us via e-mail.