

GCSE English Language and English Literature NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2022

We realise that this has been another challenging academic year so far, but we hope that you had a relaxing Christmas break and that you are ready for the challenges of the new term. In this term's edition we hope to remind you of the adaptations for the summer 2022 exam series which was published at the end of September. We also have some general and subject-specific updates and information that you may need as you begin this new term.

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1. November 2021 examinations

GCSE results for English Language will be published on the 13th of January 2022. The papers and mark schemes will be available to view on our secure website. If you don't have access, please contact your exams officer. To locate them, select 'Past Papers & Marking Schemes' from the 'Resources Menu' at the top of the screen:



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

Past Papers

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

Options

Subject	Brand	Level	Type of document	Publication Year	Language
English Literature	WJEC	GCSE	Past Papers	All	English

Enter free text search

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Remember that 17 February is the last date for receipt of applications for ROMMAs and for the request of electronic copies of scripts for teaching and learning purposes. Please see our [website](#) for more details.

If you haven't already seen your NEA moderation report, you can access this via the [WJEC secure website](#). Click on 'Internal Assessment' then the relevant examination series (e.g. GCSE English Language November 2020) and you will be able to 'View Moderator Report'.

2. November 2021 Principal Examiners' report

In conjunction with item level data analysis, centres would find it useful to read the [Principal Examiners' Reports for English Language](#) in reviewing learners' examination performances. You are advised to read them carefully as they provide helpful observations and commentary on candidates' work this series.

3. Adaptations for Summer 2022

In order to mitigate lost teaching and learning time, WJEC has adapted its GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2022. The [GCSE Adaptations Booklet](#) outlines the changes to GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature qualifications for award in summer 2022.

For GCSE English Literature, where some units are optional in 2022, candidates will complete either Unit 1 **or** Unit 2, **and** Unit 3. Unit 3 will carry a slightly different weight depending on which of Unit 1 or Unit 2 the candidate completes. This is because the maximum UMS for each unit is unchanged. This is necessary because candidates can enter the units in January and Summer 2022 before cashing in in a later series.

The table below shows the weightings of each unit depending on the route through the specification in summer 2022.

Title	Code	Total Mark	UMS Total	Weighting (%)
English Literature Route A	3721PA		120	100
Prose (different cultures) and poetry (contemporary) - Foundation	3720U1	50	70	58.3
Prose (different cultures) and poetry (contemporary) - Higher	3720UA	50	70	58.3
Shakespeare and Welsh Writing in English	3720U4	48	50	41.7
English Literature Route B	3721PB		130	100
Literary heritage drama and contemporary prose - Foundation	3720U2	60	80	61.5
Contemporary drama and literary heritage prose - Foundation	3720U3	60	80	61.5
Literary heritage drama and contemporary prose - Higher	3720UB	60	80	61.5
Contemporary drama and literary heritage prose - Higher	3720UC	60	80	61.5
Shakespeare and Welsh Writing in English	3720U4	48	50	38.5

NEA Contingency Arrangements: WJEC has published a [notice to centres](#) outlining the NEA contingencies for 2022. This document outlines how and when the controls may be relaxed for each qualification listed, including GCSE English Literature. Please read this document carefully.

As a contingency, due to the loss of face-to-face teaching and learning time, teachers may allow learners entering for qualifications in 2022 to undertake some or all written and practical work at home, even when the specification stipulates that it should be done in the centre. Where teachers allow learners to undertake written or practical work at home, teachers must be able to authenticate learners' work. Teachers must remind learners that the work must be their own. Therefore, learners must still follow the other conditions of the specification, other than direct supervision. For example, if the assessment is usually one hour in length, learners must complete the work within an hour and sign a declaration to this effect.

When learners are working at home, checks must be undertaken. These can be achieved by undertaking at least one of the following:

- setting work to be completed during an online lesson
- conducting a Question & Answer session with the learner
- online video conferencing to observe work in progress and discuss progress with the learner
- comparing learner performance at home with work completed within the classroom.

It is important to set specific timescales for the work to be completed and to keep records of when the work was produced. Learners must be reminded of the controls and the amount of assistance that is permitted. Where learners have been given permission to undertake work at home, they must complete the authentication statement provided for this purpose. Teachers must also complete a declaration stating that to the best of their knowledge the work is the learner's own.

4. Unit 1: Oracy Non-examination assessment

Centres are reminded that due to the subject adaptations for this qualification, candidates are only required to complete Task 1: Individual Researched Presentation for entry in summer 2022.

A carry-forward of marks is permissible where the candidate has been previously entered, except for summer 2020 and summer 2021, where both exam series were cancelled.

IAMIS opens on 10 March and mark submissions/samples should be with the moderator by 24 March.

5. GCSE English Literature Unit 2a Set Text Change

Centres are reminded that *Much Ado about Nothing* and *Othello* will no longer be on the 2a examination paper in 2022. Centres may now study these texts for NEA for submission in 2022.

6. New Teaching and Learning Resources

We are delighted to showcase new teaching and learning resources developed by WJEC to support teachers and learners.

There is a range of blended learning resources available on our Digital Resources site that are designed to complement traditional face-to-face teaching with an online learning pack that allows learners to work at their own pace. They can be used as revision by learners, as part of catch-up, or for flipped learning. These resources contain interactive self-study content covering

- [Of Mice and Men](#)
- [Unseen Poetry](#)
- [Blood Brothers](#)
- [A Christmas Carol](#)
- [Heroes](#)
- [An Inspector Calls](#)

Blended learning resources are also available for GCSE English Language on our Digital Resources site and contain interactive self-study content covering

- [Reading skills](#)
- [Word meaning](#)
- [Analysing text](#)
- [Implied meaning](#)
- [Summarising information](#)
- [Comparison](#)
- [Synthesis](#)
- [Editing](#)
- [Sequencing information](#)
- [Identifying and retrieving](#)
- [Technical accuracy](#)
- [Developing detail](#)
- [Exam writing tasks](#)
- [Structuring a response](#)
- [Proofreading](#)

- [Planning](#)

Our Digital Resources site also houses a collection of Knowledge Organisers, which could be used for revision or as a starting point for creating your own knowledge organisers. Explore our series for GCSE English Literature [here](#). Explore our series for GCSE English Language [here](#).

We also have Exam Walk-Throughs, aimed at learners, for each examined unit. These resources offer practical hints and tips on how to effectively approach questions in the examination paper. Using questions from past exam papers, the PowerPoint with audio help and audio script in the notes will walk learners through a mock examination paper, helping them revise and practise useful exam techniques.

[GCSE English Literature Exam Walk-Throughs](#)

[GCSE English Language Exam Walk-Throughs](#)

7. CPD

For GCSE English Language, there will be three online webinars reviewing each unit from the autumn 2021 series. The dates are:

[16 February – Unit 1 \(4-6pm\)](#)

[1 March – Unit 2 and Unit 3 Reading \(4-6pm\)](#)

[3 March – Unit 2 and Unit 3 Writing \(4-6pm\)](#)

For GCSE English Literature, there will be an online webinar reviewing the full January 2022 examination series.

[22 March – January 2022 review \(4-6pm\)](#)

8. Have you considered becoming an Examiner?

As the entry for WJEC 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.

9. Key dates

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

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

Contact Us

Guy Melhuish

Subject Officer
GCSE English Language

029 2240 4289

gcseenglish@wjec.co.uk

@WJEC_English

Kirsten Wilcock

Subject Officer
GCSE English Literature (Unit 1 and Unit 2)

029 2240 4291

gcseenglish@wjec.co.uk

@WJEC_English

Julia Harrison

Subject Officer
GCSE English Literature (Unit 3 NEA)

029 2240 4291

gcseenglish@wjec.co.uk

@WJEC_English

Mike Williams

Subject Support Officer
GCSE English Language / GCSE English Literature

029 2240 4289/4291

gcseenglish@wjec.co.uk

@WJEC_English