

GCSE English Language Newsletter

September 2021

Welcome back. We hope you have had a good summer and are returning refreshed for the new term.

1. [Autumn 2021 examinations](#)
2. [Adaptations](#)
3. [Unit 1 Oracy / Surpass](#)
4. [CPD spring 2022](#)
5. [Have you considered becoming an Examiner?](#)
6. [Key dates](#)
7. [Next newsletter](#)

1. Autumn 2021 examinations

The Unit 1: Oracy submission deadline is 5 November and centres will have to upload their learners' Individual Researched Presentations via Surpass along with the [record keeping mark sheets](#) and any notes that were used during the assessment.

The Unit 2 examination is [timetabled](#) for the morning of 1 November and the Unit 3 examination is timetabled for the morning of the 3 November.

The publication of results for the autumn 2021 examination series will be 12 January.

2. Adaptations

As confirmed by [Qualifications Wales](#), the following adaptations will apply to both the autumn 2021 and summer 2022 examination series.

Unit 1: Oracy (NEA) 20%

Removal of Task 2: Responding and Interacting (group discussion).

The conditions of control for Task 1: Individual Researched Presentation will be more permissive to enable students not able to attend school or college to complete their presentations in a live remote setting. This will reduce the total mark for the unit from 80 marks to 40 marks.

Unit 2: Description, Narration and Exposition (written exam) 40%

WJEC has prescribed that exposition and description will appear in Section B of Unit 2, and that narration will not appear in either of these examination series.

Unit 3: Argumentation, Persuasion and Instructional (written exam) 40%

A change to the requirement to answer both writing tasks in Section B. Learners will be offered a choice of responding to either the argumentation task or the persuasion task. This will reduce the timing of the examination by 30 minutes and the total mark by 20 marks.

You can read the Qualification Assessment Framework for summer 2021 [here](#).

3. Unit 1 Oracy / Surpass

The English Language non-examination assessment stimulus materials for candidates entering in autumn 2021 and summer 2022 will not be available on the WJEC secure website as Task 2: Responding and Interacting (group discussion) has been removed.

The Oracy [record keeping mark sheets](#) are located on the WJEC secure website as well as on the subject page of the WJEC public website.

If you do not have access to the [secure website](#), please contact the examinations officer at your centre.

Centres are reminded that for any candidate re-sitting the qualification, a carry-forward of mark is not possible for situations where no work was uploaded and moderated by WJEC i.e. the summer 2020 and summer 2021 examination series. Where a candidate's Individual Researched Presentation has been recorded and assessed by a centre, but not been uploaded and moderated by WJEC, this work can be submitted for a re-sit of the qualification as it counts as new work. However, centres are free to administer new Individual Researched Presentations with their learners should they wish to do so.

For further support and guidance on how to use Surpass to upload candidate work for Unit 1: Oracy, [please click here](#).

IAMIS opens for the submission of marks on 22nd October; samples should be with the moderator by 5th November.

4. CPD spring 2022

Next spring, we will be hosting CPD meetings to review the autumn 2021 English Language assessments by making reference to Principal Examiners' Reports as well as to marked candidates' work. The CPD meetings will also consider how feedback on assessments can inform, develop and improve teaching and learning.

GCSE English Language will host three separate webinar events in February and March of 2022 for each of the non-examined and examined units.

Unit 1 - 16 February

Unit 2 - 1 March

Unit 3 - 3 March.

To book your place on one of our upcoming webinars, please visit our [website](#).

The materials from previous CPD meetings are available on the [WJEC secure website](#). To locate them, click on 'Resources' and select the link 'Subject Specific Support Materials including CPD'.

5. Have you considered becoming an Examiner?

As the entry for WJEC GCSE English Language grows, 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.

6. Key dates

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

- [GCSE English Language](#)

7. Next newsletter

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

Guy Melhuish
Subject Officer
GCSE English Language

Lewis Beecham
Subject Support Officer
GCSE English Language

029 2240 4291
gcseenglish@wjec.co.uk

029 2240 4291
gcseenglish@wjec.co.uk