

GCSE English Language and English Literature Newsletter September 2023

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

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1. Summer 2023 Results

GCSE results in English Language and English Literature were published in August. The papers and mark schemes are now 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

SEARCH

Remember that 28 September is the last date for receipt of applications for Reviews of Marking and Reviews of Moderation (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 Literature Summer 2023) and you will be able to 'View Moderator Report'. Moderators' reports can only be downloaded until the 31st of December 2023.

For the summer 2023 series, a free, unannotated scripts service is available for GCSE English Language (3700U20-1 and 3700U30-1) and GCSE English Literature (3720U10-1, 3720UA0-1, 3720U20-1, 3720UB0-1, 3720U30-1 and 3720UC0-1). Centres can download scripts on behalf of candidates via WJEC's secure website which also includes instructions on the process.

2. Analysing Candidates Results

WJEC offers two services to help you understand your learners' results and develop their exam skills: Exam Results Analysis and Online Exam Review.

Exam Results Analysis on the [secure website](#) allows you to compare your learners' 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 'View/Print Item Level Data' or 'View/Print Centre Performance' for comparable data.

[Online Exam Review](#) provides a number of marked exemplars, from previous years, of candidate responses to key questions in an interactive format. These allow learners to mark others' work and discuss ways in which it may be improved, thus developing their own skills. Exemplars from the Summer 2023 examinations are available now on the public website for [GCSE English Language](#) and [GCSE English Literature](#).

3. Principal Examiners' Reports

The Principal Examiners' reports for GCSE [English Language](#) and [English Literature](#) provide feedback on the previous series and are available on the website subject pages. 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 point and areas of concern and success as well as links to useful resources at the beginning of the report.

4. Autumn 2023 Examinations

The GCSE English Language Unit 1: Oracy submission deadline is 5th November and centres will have to upload their learners' Individual Researched Presentations and Group Discussions via Surpass, along with the new [record keeping mark sheets](#) and any notes that were used during the assessments. For learners wishing to re-sit the qualification after entering it in the summer, a carry-forward of marks is available as outlined in the specification.

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

The Unit 2 examination is [timetabled](#) for the morning of 6th November and the Unit 3 examination is timetabled for the morning of the 8th November.

The publication of results for the autumn 2023 examination series will be 11th January.

5. Professional Learning (CPD) 2023/24

This autumn, we will be hosting **free** online professional learning meetings to review the summer 2023 assessments, taking you through the Principal Examiners' Reports, as well as some marked candidates' work. Our full-day, face-to-face professional learning events, later in the year, will then provide an in-depth look at how candidates performed in the summer assessment series, exploring marked candidates' assessments. It will also consider how feedback on these assessments can inform, develop and improve teaching and learning. These full-day sessions are designed to enhance the teaching of each unit and will aim to provide strategies on how learners can produce successful examination responses in relation to the tested assessment objectives.

WJEC GCSE English Language and English Literature will host three separate full day face-to-face events for each subject. Details of the courses can be found on our [subject webpage](#).

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

The materials from previous CPD meetings are available on the training tab of both the WJEC English Language and English Literature subject pages on the WJEC website.

6. Resources

For both of our GCSE English qualifications, our teams have created many digital resources that will offer invaluable support in preparing learners for their assessments.

English Language

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 [Educational Resources](#) website.

- [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 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.

English Literature

There are a wide range of new and engaging resources tailored to support you in delivering WJEC GCSE English Literature. These can be found on the [Resources](#) tab on the website.

Under [Digital Resources](#), you will find: our interactive [Blended Learning Resources](#), our [Knowledge Organisers](#) and [Exam Walk Throughs](#) for each of the English Literature examinations.

Our Blended Learning Resources and Knowledge Organisers 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 tools, as part of catch-up, or for flipped learning.

Our Knowledge Organisers can be accessed here:

- [A Christmas Carol](#)
- [A View from the Bridge](#)
- [About a Boy](#)
- [An Inspector Calls](#)
- [Context](#)
- [Critical Analysis](#)
- [Heroes](#)
- [Literary Presentations](#)
- [Lord of the Flies](#)
- [Macbeth \(NEA 1\)](#)
- [Macbeth \(NEA 2\)](#)
- [Meaningful Comparisons](#)
- [Of Mice and Men](#)
- [Romeo and Juliet \(NEA 1\)](#)
- [Romeo and Juliet \(NEA 2\)](#)
- [To Kill a Mockingbird \(1\)](#)
- [To Kill a Mockingbird \(2\)](#)
- [Unseen Poetry Comparison](#)

Our Blended Learning Resources can be accessed here:

- [Unit 2a: An Inspector Calls](#)
- [Unit 2a: Heroes](#)
- [Unit 2b: A Christmas Carol](#)
- [Unit 2b: Blood Brothers](#)
- [Unit 1B: Unseen poetry](#)
- [Unit 1A: Of Mice and Men](#)
- [KS3-4 Bridging Unit: English Language/Literature](#)
- [Unit 2b: Lord of the Flies](#)
- [Unit 2b: A View from the Bridge](#)
- [Unit 1b: Making meaningful comparisons](#)
- [Unit 3a: Romeo and Juliet](#)
- [Unit 3a: Macbeth](#)
- [Developing Critical Analysis](#)
- [Making Productive use of Contextual Understanding](#)
- [Exploring Literary Presentations](#)

We also have [Welsh Writing in English, Poetry Resources](#).

[Sample Assessment Materials](#) are available within the Key Documents tab on the WJEC GCSE English Literature subject page. This document contains sample examination papers and detailed marking guidelines. We also have a wealth of Exemplar Material within the [Key Documents](#) tab.

The [Teachers' Guide](#) offers detailed advice on ways to successfully deliver the specification, from guidance in delivering the NEA and advice for examination preparation, to long-term course plans and mark schemes. Furthermore, we have a detailed [Resource Guide](#), which is an essential document for teachers as it curates the key support, guidance and resources offered by WJEC.

7. Have you considered becoming an examiner?

As the entries for WJEC GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature grow, 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 learners and developing your skills. It also provides a useful additional income. For further details, please see the [appointees section](#) of the website.

8. Key dates

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

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

9. Develop WJEC GCSE skills through WJEC ELC

Centres are reminded that learners who are not able to access GCSE English Language can be entered for Entry Level Certificate in English. This qualification contains one external assessment component and two non-examination assessment components which provide many of the assessment methods associated with GCSE English Language e.g. multiple choice questions, editing, sequencing, proof reading and extended writing.

The specification, specimen assessment materials, resources, key dates and resources for teachers can be found on the [Entry Level English](#) subject webpage. A review of the Summer 2023 examination series will be taking place via a pre-recorded event available during the autumn term.

10. Next newsletter

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

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