

WJEC GCSE English Literature Resources Guide

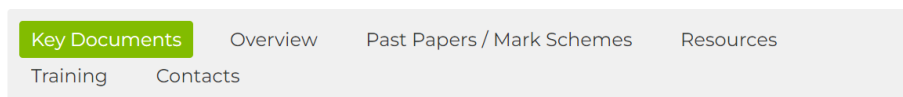
This booklet provides an overview of the support, guidance and resources available to those teaching the WJEC GCSE English Literature specification across our suite of websites.

Subject webpage <p>The WJEC GCSE English Literature 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.</p>	Portal <p>The WJEC Portal 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 other resources such as the Unit 3 NEA Assessment tasks (that are changed each year) and CPD materials.</p> <p><i>For teachers to access Portal, they will need a username and password, this will be set up by their Examinations Officer.</i></p> <p><i>Answers to frequently asked questions about Portal can be found here.</i></p>
Online Exam Review <p>The Online Exam Review website hosts marked examination exemplar in an interactive digital format.</p>	Educational Resources <p>The Educational Resources website hosts free digital resources created by our dedicated team of subject experts and web developers to support the teaching and learning of WJEC qualifications.</p>

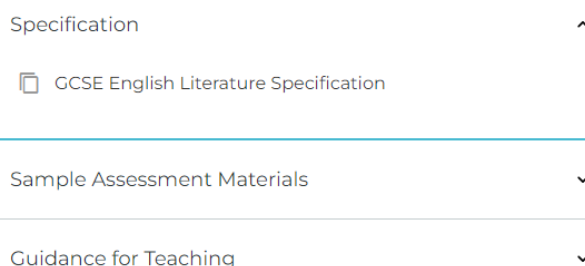
Contents	
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6.	Newsletters
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1. Key Documents

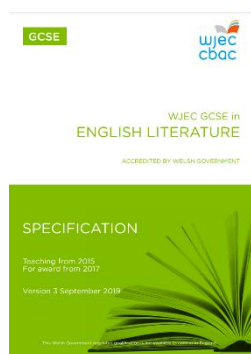
A list of key documents is available on the [subject webpage](#) of the WJEC website and is available by selecting [Key Documents](#).



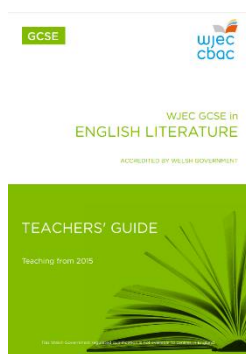
The documents are arranged in categories, and the documents in each category can be viewed by clicking the downward arrow alongside the category name.



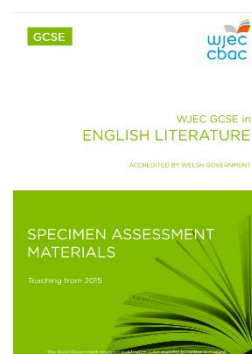
Below are direct links to some of the documents that you will need to get started teaching the qualification.



[GCSE English Literature: Specification](#)



[GCSE English Literature: Guidance for Teaching](#)



[GCSE English Literature: Sample Assessment Materials](#)

2. Past Papers



Question papers from past examination series are available for:

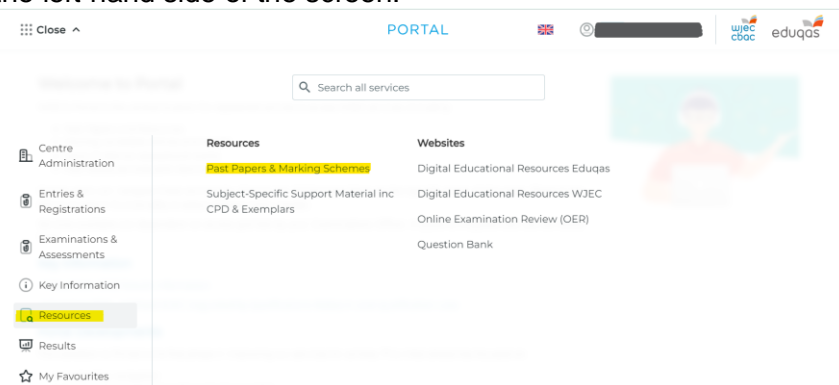
Unit 1 – Written: Different Cultures Prose and Contemporary Poetry, – Foundation and Higher Tier

Unit 2a – Written: Literary Heritage Drama and Contemporary Prose – Foundation and Higher Tier

Unit 2b – Written: Contemporary Drama and Literary Heritage Prose – Foundation and Higher Tier

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

Past papers are published initially on [Portal](#) 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:

Options

Subject

English Literature

Level

GCSE

Type of document

Past Papers

Publication Year

All

Language

English

Brand

WJEC

Enter free text search

SEARCH

Records found 89

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
January series – Unit 1 only	Between 1 and 28 February, the year after the examination has taken place
June series	Between 1 and 31 July, the year after the examination has taken place

They can be accessed on the [subject webpage](#) under the [Past Papers / Mark Schemes](#) tab.

Key Documents

Overview

Past Papers / Mark Schemes

Resources

Training

Contacts

Filter

Past Paper

All Series

All Years

43 documents found

☐ Collapse / Expand all
 ☐ Hide modified past papers

2023

Past Paper - Winter - Eng Lit Unit 1 Foundation:
Written:Prose, different cultures, and poetry,
contemporary - Found

Past Paper - Winter - Eng Lit Unit 1 Higher:
Written:Prose, different cultures, and poetry,
contemporary - Higher

Past Paper - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 1 Foundation:
Written:Prose, different cultures, and poetry,
contemporary - Found

Past Paper - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 2A Foundation:
Written:Literary heritage drama and contemporary
prose - Foundation

Past Paper - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 2B Foundation:
Written:Contemporary drama and literary heritage
prose - Foundation

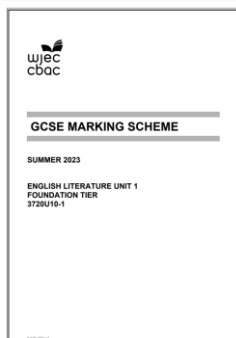
Past Paper - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 1 Higher:
Written:Prose, different cultures, and poetry,
contemporary - Higher

Past Paper - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 2A Higher:
Written:Literary heritage drama and contemporary
prose - Higher Tier

Past Paper - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 2B Higher:
Written:Contemporary drama and literary heritage
prose - Higher Tier

4

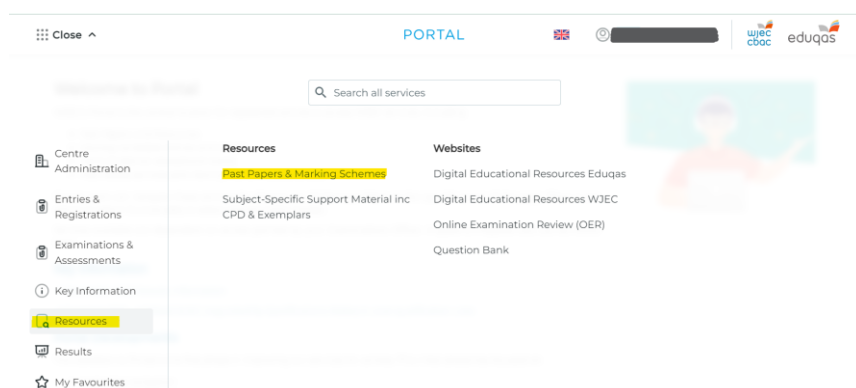
3. Marking Schemes



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 [Portal](#) 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:

Options

Subject
English Literature

Level
GCSE

Type of document
Marking Schemes

Publication Year
All

Language
English

Brand
WJEC

Enter free text search

SEARCH
Records found 65

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	Past Papers on public website
January series – Unit 1 only	Between 1 and 28 February, the year after the examination has taken place
June series	Between 1 and 31 July, the year after the examination has taken place

They can be accessed on the [subject webpage](#) under the [Past Papers / Mark Schemes](#) tab.

Key Documents Overview **Past Papers / Mark Schemes** Resources Training
Contacts

Filter



Mark Scheme



All Series



All Years











42 documents found

☐ Collapse / Expand all

☐ Hide modified past papers

2023



-  Mark Scheme - Winter - Eng Lit Unit 1 Foundation: Written:Prose, different cultures, and poetry, contemporary - Found
-  Mark Scheme - Winter - Eng Lit Unit 1 Higher: Written:Prose, different cultures, and poetry, contemporary - Higher
-  Mark Scheme - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 1 Foundation: Written:Prose, different cultures, and poetry, contemporary
-  Mark Scheme - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 2A Foundation: Written:Literary heritage drama and contemporary prose - Foundation
-  Mark Scheme - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 2B Foundation: Written:Contemporary drama and literary heritage prose - Foundation
-  Mark Scheme - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 1 Higher: Written:Prose, different cultures, and poetry, contemporary - Higher
-  Mark Scheme - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 2A Higher: Written:Literary heritage drama and contemporary prose - Higher
-  Mark Scheme - Summer - Eng Lit Unit 2B Higher: Written:Contemporary drama and literary heritage prose - Higher

4. Principals' Reports



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

Interim Principals' reports are published on Results Day for each series and are available on the [subject webpage](#) under [Key Documents > Examiners' Reports](#).

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

GCSE Interim Examiners' Report

English Literature
GCSE
Summer 2024

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Key Documents

Overview

Past Papers / Mark Schemes

Resources

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Contacts



GCSE English Literature
Specification

[Download](#)

Filter






Examiners' Reports

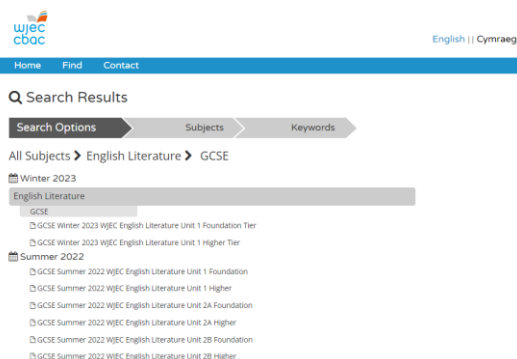
13 documents found

☐ Collapse / Expand all

Examiners' Reports

-  WJEC GCSE English Literature Examiners' Report Summer 2023
-  WJEC GCSE English Literature Examiners' Report January 2023
-  WJEC GCSE English Literature Examiners' Report Summer 2022

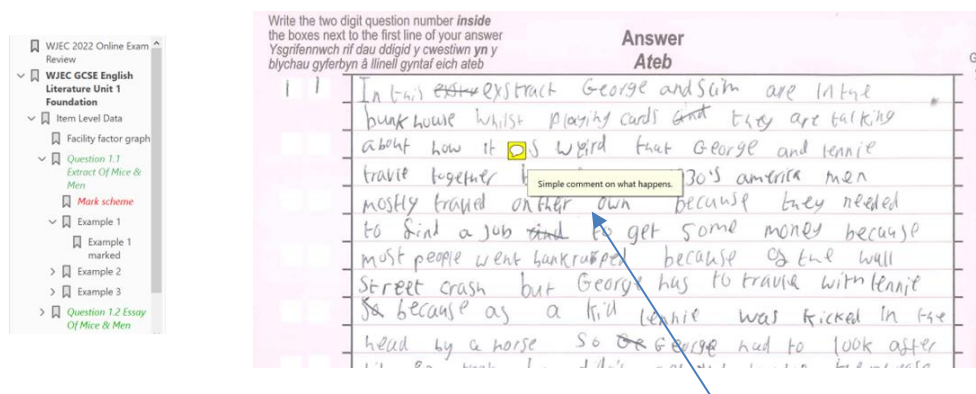
5. Online Exam Review (Marked Exemplar)



A set of [Online Exam Review](#) 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 [Online Exam Review](#) website and under the 'Exemplars' tab under [Key Documents](#) on the subject webpage and are made available shortly after results are issued for each series.

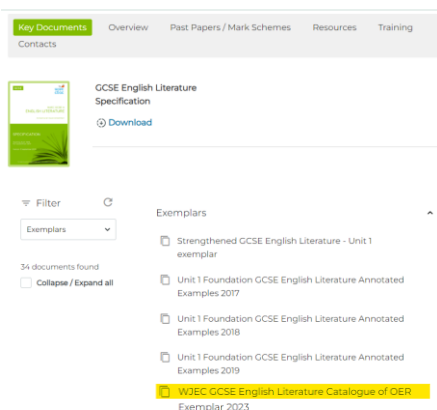
Please note that, from **Summer 2024 onwards**, new exemplar materials will be made available on [Portal](#) only.



Hover over the speech bubble in order to read the Principal Examiner's comments.

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.

A catalogue of OER and marked candidate responses are available to download from our [subject page](#) as a single pdf document together with instructions for printing with or without Principal Examiner comments.



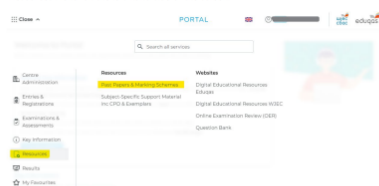
6. Newsletters

GCSE English Language and English Literature Newsletter September 2024

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

1. [Summer 2024 Results](#)
2. [Analysing Candidates' Results](#)
3. [Principal Examiners' Reports](#)
4. [Autumn 2024 Examinations](#)
5. [Professional Learning \(CPD\) 2024/25](#)
6. [Resources](#)
7. [Have you considered becoming an Examiner?](#)
8. [Key dates](#)
9. [WJEC GCSE English Language June 2025 e-submission](#)
10. [Remembering Stuart Sage](#)
11. [Next newsletter](#)

1. [Summer 2024 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 [Portal](#). If you don't have access, please contact your exams officer. To locate them, 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 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	Level	Year	Type of document	Publication Year	Language
English Literature	AS/A	GCSE	Past Papers	all	English

Enter free text search

Search

Remember that 26 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.

Click the [Subscribe for updates](#) button on the right-hand side of the [subject webpage](#) to sign up for email updates about the qualification, including the termly subject-specific newsletters published each September, January and April.

Get the latest subject updates

[+ Subscribe for updates](#)

Past newsletters are also available from the [subject webpage](#) under [Key Documents](#).

[Key Documents](#) [Overview](#) [Past Papers / Mark Schemes](#) [Resources](#) [Training](#)

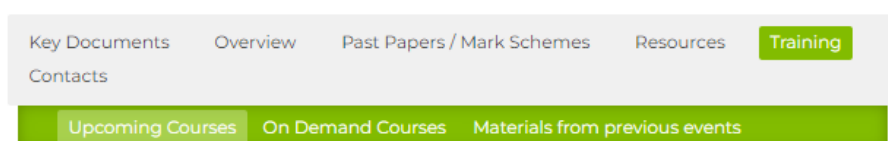
Newsletters

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 [subject webpage](#) under [Training > Upcoming Courses](#).



Materials from previous events



Materials from Professional Learning training events held in previous years are available on the [subject webpage](#) and can be accessed by selecting [Training > Materials from previous events](#).



Materials from previous courses can be found on the [Secure website](#).

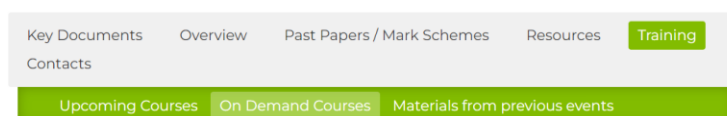
If you need further information or support, please contact our Professional Learning Team via cpd@wjec.co.uk.



Pre-recorded webinars



A number of pre-recorded webinars are available on the [subject webpage](#) under [Training > On Demand Courses](#).



A selection of the available webinars for WJEC GCSE English Literature is detailed below:

Reading Resilience: Introducing Strategies through Early Modern English - Student Resource

Reading Resilience:
Introducing Strategies through
Early Modern English

Kristen Wilcock

[Pre-recorded webinar](#) on exploring and developing reading resilience in learners by looking at Early Modern English texts. The video has been designed to support students and teachers at all Key Stages in delivering the English curriculum.

Teaching Approaches GCSE English Literature

Teaching Approaches
GCSE English Literature
September 2020

[Pre-recorded webinar](#) on teaching approaches for WJEC GCSE English Literature. The video has been designed to support teachers in delivering this GCSE.

Teaching The Novel and Unseen Prose

TEACHING THE NOVEL

[Pre-recorded webinar](#) on teaching the novel. 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

[Pre-recorded webinar](#) on teaching grammar. The video has been designed to support teachers at all Key Stages in delivering the English curriculum.

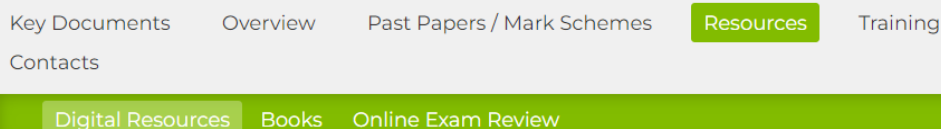
Teaching Approaches GCSE English Literature

Using Cognitive
Acceleration in the
English Classroom

[Pre-recorded webinar](#) on using cognitive acceleration in the English classroom. The video has been designed to support 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 Literature and these are available from our [Digital Resources](#) website.



The full range of resources can be accessed [here](#) and a selection of the resources are outlined below.

KS3-4 Bridging Unit: English Language/Literature



Firstly, there is a Bridging Unit to help learners with the move from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4. ([KS3-4 Bridging Unit: English Language/Literature](#))

GCSE English Literature Unit 1 – Blended Learning



Blended Learning Guides are designed to help support learners. They contain interactive self-study content and are designed to complement traditional face-to-face teaching with an online learning pack that allows students to learn at their own pace.

[Of Mice and Men](#), [To Kill a Mockingbird](#), [Unseen Poetry](#) and [Making Meaningful Comparisons](#) are some of the blended learning resources that could be used to help learners prepare for Unit 1.

GCSE English Literature Unit 2a – Blended Learning



These Blended Learning Guides on [Heroes](#), [An Inspector Calls](#) and on [Making Productive Use of Contextual Understanding](#) are some of the resources that can help learners prepare for Unit 2a.

GCSE English Literature Unit 2b – Blended Learning



These Blended Learning Guides on [A View from the Bridge](#), [Lord of the Flies](#), [Blood Brothers](#), [A Christmas Carol](#) and [Making Productive Use of Contextual Understanding](#) are some of the resources that can help prepare learners for Unit 2b.

GCSE English Literature Unit 3 – Blended Learning



The Blended Learning resources on [Macbeth](#), [Romeo and Juliet](#), [Making Meaningful Comparisons](#), [Developing critical analysis](#), and [Welsh writing in English poetry resources](#) are some of the resources that can help prepare learners for Unit 3 (NEA).

GCSE English Literature skills-based – Blended Learning



[Making Meaningful Comparisons](#), [Developing critical analysis](#), [Making Productive Use of Contextual Understanding](#) and [Exploring Literary Presentations](#) are skills based resources that will help learners prepare for assessment as a whole.

Knowledge Organisers

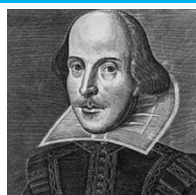


A bank of [knowledge organisers](#) can be used to support the teaching of the following texts:

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

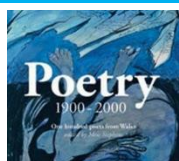
These could be used for revision or as a starting point for learners to create their own knowledge organisers.

GCSE English Literature – Shakespeare Resources



These Shakespeare resources ([Macbeth](#), [Romeo and Juliet](#), [Approaches to Shakespeare](#) and [Approaches to Shakespeare \(Student Focused\)](#)) can be used to guide learners in their preparation of the Unit 3 Section A Shakespeare NEA.

GCSE English Literature – Poetry Resources



These poetry resources ([Making Meaningful Comparisons](#), [Developing critical analysis](#), [Welsh writing in English, poetry resources](#); [Welsh writing in English \(Love\)](#); [Poetry Resources \(student focused\)](#); [Readings of selected poems from the WJEC GCSE Poetry Anthology](#)); [Approaches to unseen poetry](#) can be used to guide learners in their preparation of the Unit 3 Section B Poetry NEA.

GCSE English Literature – Exam Walk Through



Aimed at learners, this [Exam Walk Through](#) resource offers practical hints and tips on how to effectively approach questions in the examination paper.

GCSE English Literature – Other Resources – OER



The [Online Exam Review \(OER\)](#) allows teachers and learners access to past exam questions and responses and enables them to consider the examiner's comments.

GCSE English Literature – Other Resources – Hwb



This [Hwb resource](#) enables teachers and learners to view a collection of Key Stage 4 English Literature resources that are available on the Hwb website.

GCSE English Literature – Other Resources – Text Tools



A bank of [text tools](#) that allow teachers to use their own piece of text to generate a range of activities.

9. Grade Boundaries and Exam Results Analysis

Grade boundaries

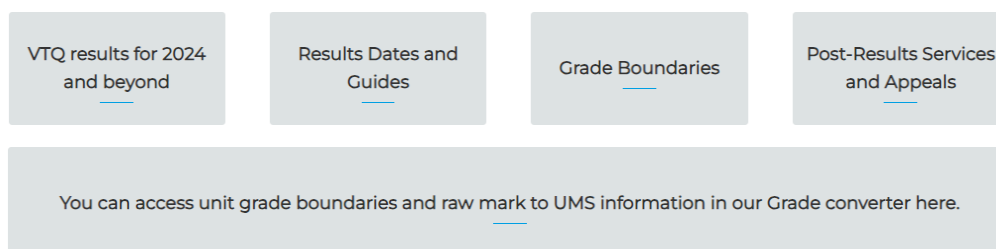
Grade boundaries from past examination series are available on the [subject webpage](#).



Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries are the minimum number of marks needed to achieve each grade.

If you click on 'Grade Boundaries' this will take you to [Administration > Results, Grade Boundaries and PRS](#).



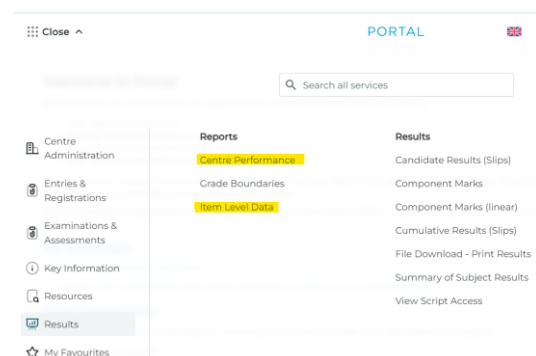
Grade boundary information is available for every unit. Make sure you select the correct information from the drop down.

Year	Session	Brand	Subject	Option
2024	GCSE June	WJEC	ENGLISH LITERATURE UNIT 1 (3720)	UNIT 1 FOUNDATION

GCSE June 2024 ENGLISH LITERATURE UNIT 1 (3720)

Grade	*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	What is a UMS?
UMS Grade Boundary	000	000	000	042	035	028	021	014	000	
Raw Mark Grade Boundary	999	999	999	033	027	021	015	009	000	

Exam Results Analysis



Exam Results Analysis can be used by teachers to:

- evaluate a learner's 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 [Portal](#) and allows teachers to compare a learners' performance on each question with that of the candidature overall, so that it is possible to 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 LITERATURE



Important Dates for 2024-2025	
26 September	June 2024 Series: Final date for receipt of Reviews of Marking and Moderation
22 October	WJEC GCSE English Literature: Feedback on summer assessments Free online event 4pm-6pm – Book you place now
25 November	WJEC GCSE English Language & Literature: NEW Specification briefing Free online event 3:30-5pm – Book you place now
2 December	WJEC GCSE English Language & Literature: NEW Specification briefing Free online event 3:30-5pm – Book you place now
9 December	WJEC GCSE English Language & Literature: NEW Specification briefing Free online event 3:30-5pm – Book you place now
8 January	January 2025 Series: GCSE English Literature Unit 1 HT / FT
21 February	Summer 2025 Series: Last date receipt of Summer Entries
6 March	January 2025 Series: Results published
10 March	Summer 2025 series: IAMIS opens for the submission of Unit 3 marks
18 March	Summer 2025 Series: Last date for entry amendments without late fees
24 March	Summer 2025 Series: Deadline for Unit 3 NEA marks to be submitted on IAMIS and work to be with moderator (mainstream centres <u>not</u> PRUs, FE colleges or special schools)
10 April	January 2025 Series: Final date for receipt of Reviews of Marking
5 May	Summer 2025 Series: Deadline for Unit 3 NEA marks to be submitted on IAMIS and work to be with moderator (PRUs, FE colleges and special schools only)
12 May	Summer 2025 Series: GCSE English Literature Unit 1 HT / FT Examination
20 May	Summer 2025 Series: GCSE English Literature Unit 2A and Unit 2B HT / FT Examination
21 August	Summer 2025 Series: Results published

A list of key dates for WJEC GCE English Literature is available on the [subject webpage](#) under [Key Documents > Key Information](#).

GCSE English Literature .



New GCSE - teaching from 2025

The new GCSE in English Language and Literature (Single and Double Award) will be available to teach from September 2025. For more information, please visit the qualification page [here](#).

Teaching: Sept 2015 • Reference Codes ⓘ

Key Documents

Overview

Past Papers / Mark Schemes

Resources

Training

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GCSE English Literature Specification

[Download](#)

Filter



Key Information ▼

4 documents found

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Key Information

- ☐ GCSE English Literature Closed Book Exams Some Observations
- ☐ Notice GCSE English Literature Onscreen Marking Booklet
- ☐ Approaches to closed texts
- ☐ Important Dates GCSE English Literature 2024-2025

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

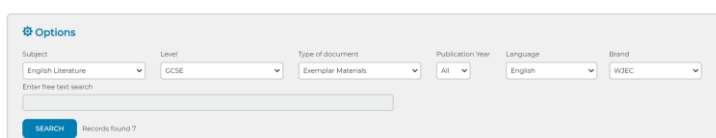
English Literature GCSE NEA Exemplar Materials

Filename

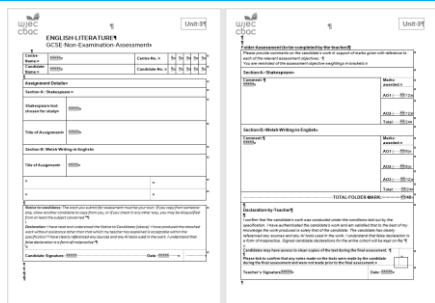
-  NEA Exemplar 2024 - Poetry.pdf
-  NEA Exemplar 2024 - Shakespeare.pdf
-  NEA Exemplar 2022 - Shakespeare.pdf
-  NEA Exemplar 2022 - Poetry.pdf

NEA standardising exemplars are available on [Portal](#) to support teachers standardising the marking of the NEA assessment.

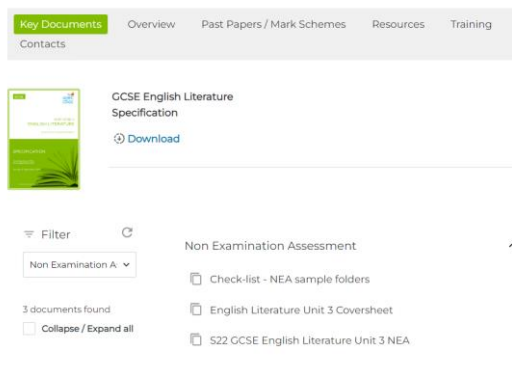
The exemplars can be located by selecting '**Subject-Specific Support Material including CPD and Exemplars**' on the '**Resources**' tab and then entering 'Exemplar Materials' in the search box. Remember to select the WJEC brand in the 'Brand' filters.



Non-Examination Assessment Guidance Documents



A number of documents to aid centres in administering the NEA are available on the [subject webpage](#) under [Key Documents](#).



These documents include:

- **Non-Exam Assessment Folder [Coversheet](#)** – should be completed for all candidates, not just for those candidates selected for the sample to be sent to the moderator.
- **Non-Exam Assessment Centre [Checklist](#)** – checklist to aid centres in preparing the NEA sample for submission.

Contact us

✉ gcseenglish@wjec.co.uk

Our subject team is happy to help you with all your queries related to the teaching and learning of WJEC GCSE English Literature. 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.