

On your
marks...

English Language:
Unit 1 Exam – 40%
Unit 2 Speaking &
Listening controlled
assessment – 20%
Unit 3 Written
controlled assessment
– 40%

English Literature:
Unit 1 Exam – 40%
Unit 2 Exam – 35%
Unit 3 Written
controlled assessment
– 25%

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Eston Park School English Department



Your guide to...




**GCSE English
Language
&
GCSE English**



Your guide to the new GCSE specifications in English.

Content of English Language GCSE

The English Language GCSE consists of:

-  1 examination
-  3 speaking and listening assessments
-  4 written assessments

Examination (unit 1 non-fiction)

2 hours

Section A: students will read unseen non-fiction texts and answer questions on facts and opinions, following an argument, language, layout and structure.



Section B: students will answer two questions where they are assessed on their writing skills.

Speaking and Listening: Students will be assessed on their ability to carry out tasks that cover presenting, discussion and role play. These will be assessed under controlled assessment conditions in class.

Written Assessments: Students will study a full prose/drama text, they will create two different pieces of creative writing and they will undertake a study of spoken language.

Content of English Literature GCSE

The English Literature GCSE consists of:

-  2 examinations
-  1 written assessment

Examinations

Unit 1 Prose/Drama and Other Cultures

1.5 hours

Section A: one question on prose or drama text studied in class.

Section B: one question on other cultures text studied in class.

Unit 2 Poetry

1.5 hours

Section A: one question from the Conflict section of the Anthology studied in class.

Section B: one question on an unseen poem.

Written Assessment: Students will study a Shakespeare play and a prose text and complete one task on both texts. These will be assessed under controlled assessment conditions in class.

Why study English?

English is invaluable for your future no matter what you are aiming for. A good command of the spoken and written word will help you every day – and benefit all your other GCSEs too. Whatever you end up doing, English is a must have subject for college, university, work and life!

Some questions and their answers...

How many GCSEs does my child gain from this subject?

TWO! English Language and English Literature.

What is 'controlled assessment'?

Controlled assessment has replaced traditional coursework for students. The main difference is that all students complete their tasks in controlled conditions in the classroom environment. Your child may bring home research, reading and analysis of texts BUT will not complete their assessment at home as part of their homework.

What is 'new' in the new specification?

The new specification is very similar to the old one. However, AQA have introduced a more formal system of coursework (see above). They have also introduced the highly valuable spoken language study; this will allow pupils a much broader understanding of the subject.