

GCE AS/A level English Language 2015

Specification at a glance: A level and AS level

A level

Component 1: Language Variation		35% weighting
Content	Assessment	
<p>Students will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how language varies depending on mode, field, function and audience • how language choices can create personal identities • language variation in English from c1550 (the beginnings of Early Modern English) to the present day. 	<p>Paper length: 2 hours 15 minutes</p> <p>Section A: Individual Variation One question on two thematically linked unseen 21st-century texts. Students produce an extended comparative response.</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4 assessed. 30 marks</p> <p>Section B: Variation over Time One question on two thematically linked unseen texts, from two different periods. Students produce an extended comparative response.</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4 assessed. 30 marks</p>	

Component 2: Child Language		20% weighting
Content	Assessment	
<p>Students will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spoken language acquisition and how children learn to write between the ages of 0 and 8 • the relationship between spoken language acquisition and literacy skills that children are taught, including the beginnings of reading • appropriate theories of children's language development. 	<p>Paper length: 1 hour</p> <p>One question based on a set of unseen data – <i>either</i> spoken <i>or</i> written. Students produce an extended response.</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3 assessed. 45 marks</p>	

Component 3: Investigating Language

25% weighting

Content	Assessment
<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • select a research focus from five topic areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Global English ○ Language and Gender Identity ○ Language and Journalism ○ Language and Power ○ Regional Language Variation <p>An investigative subtopic will be pre-released in the January before the examination. The pre-released subtopic will provide a steer for the students' research and investigation to enable them to prepare for the external assessment.</p>	<p>Paper length: 1 hour 45 minutes</p> <p>Section A: One question on unseen data. Students must answer the question on the subtopic they have researched.</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3 assessed. 15 marks</p> <p>Section B: One evaluative question.</p> <p>Students answer the question on the subtopic they have researched and must make connections with data from their investigation. Students produce an extended response.</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4 assessed 30 marks</p>

Coursework: Crafting Language

20% weighting

Content	Assessment
<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • research a selected genre • demonstrate their skills as writers within their selected genre, crafting texts for different audiences and/or purposes • reflect on their research and writing in an accompanying commentary. 	<p>Assignment 1: Two pieces of original writing from the same genre, differentiated by function and/or audience.</p> <p>AO5 assessed. 30 marks</p> <p>Assignment 2: One commentary, reflecting on the two pieces of original writing produced.</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4 assessed. 20 marks</p> <p>Advisory word count is 1500–2000 words for the writing pieces and 1000 words for the commentary. The advisory total word count is 2500–3000 words</p>

AS Level

Component 1: Language: Context and Identity		50% weighting
Content	Assessment	
<p>Students will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the range of contexts in which language is produced and received how the contexts of production and reception affect language choices how writers/speakers present themselves to their audience in a variety of modes how writers/speakers choose language to reflect and construct their identity or identities. 	<p>Paper length: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Section A: Language and Context One question on a small set of thematically linked unseen data. Students produce an extended comparative response.</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4, AO5 assessed. 25 marks</p> <p>Section B: Language and Identity One question on two thematically linked unseen 21st-century texts. Students produce an extended comparative response.</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4, AO5 assessed. 25 marks</p>	

Component 2: Child Language		50% weighting
Content	Assessment	
<p>Students will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> spoken language acquisition and how children learn to write between the ages of 0 and 8 appropriate theories of children's language development how to craft their writing for different forms, audiences and purposes. 	<p>Paper length: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Question 1: Creative response to one short piece of unseen written data.</p> <p>AO2, AO5 assessed. 20 marks</p> <p>Question 2: Extended response to one longer set of unseen spoken data.</p> <p>AO1, AO2, AO3 assessed. 30 marks</p>	