## Mapping the AQA Specification to the Pearson Edexcel GCSE in English Language

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AQA</th>
<th>Pearson Edexcel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>50% Reading, 50% Writing</strong></td>
<td><strong>50% Reading, 50% Writing</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing</strong>&lt;br&gt;1 hour 45 mins (50%)</td>
<td><strong>Paper 1: Fiction and Imaginative Writing</strong>&lt;br&gt;1 hour 45 mins (40%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section A</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Reading an unseen 20th or 21st century fictional prose text. Responding to a range of question types.</td>
<td><strong>Section A</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Reading an unseen extract from a 19th century fictional prose text. Responding to a range of question types.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section B</strong>&lt;br&gt;• One imaginative writing task from a choice of two. Linked to theme of reading text in Section A. Photos included as a prompt. Includes marks for vocab, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</td>
<td><strong>Section B</strong>&lt;br&gt;• One imaginative writing task from a choice of two. Linked to the theme of the reading text in Section A. Photos included as a prompt. Includes marks for vocab, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Paper 2: Writers’ Viewpoints and Perspectives</strong>&lt;br&gt;1 hour 45 mins (50%)</td>
<td><strong>Paper 2 Non-fiction and Transactional Writing</strong>&lt;br&gt;2 hours 5 mins (60%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section A</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Response to unseen extracts from 19th century and either 20th or 21st century texts (one fiction and one literary non fiction). Including comparison between the two texts.</td>
<td><strong>Section A</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Response to unseen 20th/21st century texts (one non-fiction and one literary non-fiction). Including comparison between the two texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section B</strong>&lt;br&gt;• One transactional writing task (no choice of question). Linked to the theme of the reading text in Section A. Includes marks for vocab, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</td>
<td><strong>Section B</strong>&lt;br&gt;• One transactional writing task from a choice of two. Linked to the theme of the reading text in Section A. Includes marks for vocab, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spoken Language Endorsement</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Spoken Language&lt;br&gt;• Individual presentation skills&lt;br&gt;• Explain, describe, narrate; discuss, argue, persuade.</td>
<td><strong>Spoken Language Endorsement</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Spoken Language&lt;br&gt;• Individual presentation skills&lt;br&gt;• Explain, describe, narrate; discuss, argue, persuade.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Key Similarities
- Unseen extracts from 19th, 20th and 21st centuries to assess reading
- Imaginative and transactional writing requirement
- Spag assessed in the writing question of each paper (Section B)
- Exactly the same requirements for the Spoken Language assessment across all awarding bodies
  This can be simply carried over.

### Key benefits of the Pearson Edexcel Specification
- The 19th century extract is always a fictional text in the Pearson Edexcel paper, **allowing crossover** with GCSE Literature
- There is a **choice of question** for the transactional writing task.
# Mapping the AQA Specification to the Pearson Edexcel GCSE in English Literature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AQA</th>
<th>Pearson Edexcel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Paper 1</strong>: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel 1 hour 45 minutes (40%)</td>
<td><strong>Paper 1</strong>: Shakespeare and Post-1914 Literature 1 hour 45 minutes (50%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Shakespeare**  
• One essay question with two parts, one focussing on the extract given in the paper and the other on the whole play. | **Shakespeare**  
• One essay question with two parts, one focusing on the extract given in the paper and the other on the whole play. |
| **19th-century novel**  
• One essay question with two parts, one focussing on the extract given in the paper and the other on the whole novel. | **Post-1914 Literature**  
• One essay question on chosen play or novel from a choice of two. Questions focus on the text as a whole. A quotation from the text is given. |
| **Paper 2**: Modern texts and Poetry 2 hours 15 minutes (60%) | **Paper 2**: 19th-century Novel and Poetry 2 hours 15 minutes (50%) |
| **Modern texts**  
• One essay question on chosen modern text from a choice of two. Questions focus on the text as a whole. | **19th-century novel**  
• One essay question with two parts, one focussing on the extract given in the paper and the other on the whole novel. |
| **Poetry**  
• One question comparing two poems from the AQA Anthology. | **Poetry**  
• Two questions: one comparing two poems from the Anthology and the other comparing two unseen contemporary poems. |
| **Unseen Poetry**  
• Two questions: one question on an unseen poem and one question comparing two unseen poems. |  |

## Texts

- **Shakespeare**: Macbeth, The Tempest, Romeo and Juliet, Much Ado About Nothing, The Merchant of Venice, Julius Caesar
- **Modern text**: Inspector Calls, Blood Brothers, Lord of the Flies, Animal Farm, Anita and Me, History Boys, DNA, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, A Taste of Honey, Telling Tales, Never Let Me Go, Pigeon English
- **19th century novel**: Jane Eyre, Great Expectations, Jekyll and Hyde, Christmas Carol, Pride and Prejudice, Frankenstein, The Sign of Four.
- **Shakespeare**: Macbeth, The Tempest, Romeo and Juliet, Much Ado About Nothing, The Merchant of Venice, Twelfth Night
- **Post 1914 British play/novel**: Inspector Calls, Blood Brothers, Lord of the Flies, Animal Farm, Anita and Me, Hobson's Choice, Journey's End, The Woman in Black, The Empress, Refugee Boy
- **19th century novel**: Jane Eyre, Great Expectations, Jekyll and Hyde, Christmas Carol, Pride and Prejudice, Frankenstein, Silas Marner, Boys Don't Cry, Coram Boy.

## Key Similarities

- Choice of texts
- Shakespeare and 19th century exam questions have the same requirement – one part of the question based on extract given in the paper and the other part on the whole play.

## Key benefits of the Pearson Edexcel Specification

- Additional option of ‘Time and Place’ cluster of poems, and new Belonging poetry collection added (2019) **giving greater choice**
- A quotation from the play/novel is given in the question on the modern text to support students
- One question on unseen poetry, rather than two.