Your guide to Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) English Language and English Literature

First teaching September 2015
Welcome

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) qualifications have been designed with the global learner in mind. They differ from A levels in that they have a flexible, modular structure, but maintain the rigorous standards of all Pearson Edexcel qualifications and are comparable to the UK A level, as confirmed by NARIC*.

Developed in consultation with the international school community, including a large number of teachers and university lecturers, these globally recognised qualifications open doors to universities worldwide, giving students the necessary skills to support progression to higher and further study.

Available in 21 popular subjects and designed to be engaging for international learners, they offer progression from International GCSEs to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need for a successful future. In 2018 we launched 8 updated subjects – Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Business, Economics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Pure Mathematics and also a brand new Information Technology qualification, which our schools started teaching in September 2018.

IAL qualifications are not available in the UK, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or in British Armed Forces schools overseas.

For further information, updates and support, visit qualifications.pearson.com/IAL

“It’s been my dream to attend a world-renowned university. Pearson Edexcel IALs have given me a solid academic foundation for further studies.”

Fei Xue, studying Computer Science, University College London

*UK NARIC is the designated United Kingdom National Agency for the recognition and comparison of international qualifications and skills. It performs this official function on behalf of the UK Government.

Illustration by Lauren Rolwing
Why choose Pearson Edexcel IALs?

Flexible and modular structure
The flexible modular approach takes a synoptic approach to assessment, which means learners are examined on their learning from each unit and are also able to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding across the whole subject.

Unlike a linear structure, where assessment is taken at the end of a two year course, the results from each module provide formal feedback throughout the course. This means learners can quickly grasp the standard required to reach the level they are aiming for. This understanding motivates students to improve, and builds a sense of ownership through bite-size, short-term goals.

IAS results contribute to IAL grade
International AS qualifications can be taken separately as a stand alone qualification, or used as a stage on the way to completing an International Advanced Level qualification. This provides international schools and learners with greater choice and flexibility to meet their needs and aspirations.

Recognised by universities worldwide
Fully comparable to UK reformed GCE A levels, as confirmed by NARIC, Pearson Edexcel IALs provide learners with access to the world’s top universities and prestigious employment opportunities. They are recognised by leading universities across the world, including Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia, Yale, MIT, Caltech, Hong Kong / China University of Science and Technology and the National University of Singapore.

Internationally relevant content
Pearson Edexcel IAL qualifications and accompanying published resources contain international content where possible, such as topic themes, examples, case studies and photos, making content more relevant and engaging for all learners. Language is also reviewed by a specialist to ensure materials are written with EAL learners in mind, in a clear and accessible style.

Multiple examination opportunities
Examinations are available for many subjects in January, June and October, with all subjects offering at least two assessment opportunities as standard*. As exams are spread throughout the course, there are less high stakes assessments, enabling learners to focus their revision appropriately. Learners can resit individual unit examinations.

Accessible examination papers
At Pearson Edexcel, we develop our examination papers over a two-year period. The papers go through a rigorous world class assessment design process, which ensures that the content is relevant for international learners, and there is a clear and consistent relationship between command words, marks and skills. With logical progression of difficulty throughout and consistency in template and design, our question papers are clear and provide suitable challenge and support for students of all ability ranges.

100% externally assessed
Learners can resit individual unit examinations.

*With the exception of IAL Information Technology which offers June examination only.
Qualifications overview

The Pearson Edexcel International qualifications in English Language and English Literature are 100% externally assessed with exams in January and June.

IAS: Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Subsidiary qualifications in English Language and English Literature

These qualifications consist of **two** externally-examined units.

The International Advanced Subsidiary is the first half of the International Advanced Level qualification and consists of two IAS units, Units 1 and 2.

These qualifications may be awarded as a discrete qualification or may contribute 50 per cent towards the International Advanced Level qualifications.

IAL: Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level qualifications in English Language and English Literature

This qualification consists of **four** externally-examined units.

The International Advanced Level consists of the two IAS units (Units 1 and 2) plus two IA2 units (Units 3 and 4).

Students wishing to take the International Advanced Level must complete all four units.

The structure of these qualifications allows teachers to construct a course of study that can be taught and assessed as either:

- distinct modules of teaching and learning with related units of assessment taken at appropriate stages during the course; or, if wished,
- a linear course assessed in its entirety at the end.
Pearson Edexcel IAL in English Language

Students of our Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level in English Language will study English Language in a global context, including the influence of other languages on the development of English.

Aims of the Qualification

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- develop and apply their understanding of the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis and study of language
- explore data and examples of language in use
- engage creatively and critically with a varied programme for the study of English
- develop their skills as producers and interpreters of language
- independently investigate language in use.

Key qualification features

- A focus on how language is used to construct identity.
- Study of how other languages have affected the development of English, and how English has developed outside of the British Isles.
- Students create their own text based on an unseen source text linked to a single topic. Students choose their own audience, purpose and context.
- Carry out independent research.

For further information and to download the specification, visit qualifications.pearson.com/ialenglishlanguage
## IAS in English Language: Content & Assessment Overviews

### Unit 1 - Language: Context and identity

**Unit code:** WEN01/01

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written examination</th>
<th>50% of the total IAS</th>
<th>25% of the total IAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 hour 45 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Availability: January and June</td>
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**Content** - Students will study:

- 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
- how writers create texts for different forms, purposes, audiences, and contexts.

**Assessment** - Students answer two compulsory questions: one question from Section A and one question from Section B.

**Section A: Context and Identity**

- Students answer a comparative question based on two unseen texts selected from 20th and 21st century sources.
- The question focusses on the presentation of identity and how this is shaped by various factors.
- The two texts are presented in a Source Booklet for students.
- 35 marks. AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO4 are assessed.

**Section B: The Creation of Voice**

- Students create a new text for a specified audience, drawing on their own ideas and on at least one of the unseen texts from Section A.
- 15 marks. AO5 is assessed.

### Unit 2 - Language in Transition

**Unit code:** WEN02/01

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written examination</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 hour 45 minutes</td>
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**Content** - Students will study:

- the influence of other languages on the development of English
- pidgins and creoles
- the development of English outside the British Isles.

Students will explore the ways in which languages change, with a focus on English in a global context. Students will need to know about the mechanisms of language change but they will not need to study the historical development of English.

**Assessment** - Students answer two compulsory questions: one question from Section A and one question from Section B.

**Section A: Spoken Language Today**

- Students answer one question on an unseen transcript of spoken English of the 21st century.
- 25 marks. AO1 and AO4 are assessed.

**Section B: Written Language of the 19th–20th Century**

- Students answer one discussion question using unseen transcripts and their own knowledge to look at the issue highlighted in Section A from a wider perspective.
- 25 marks. AO2 and AO3 are assessed.
## Unit 3: Crafting Language (Writing)

**Unit code:** WEN03/01  
**Content & Assessment Overviews**  
**Written examination:** 2 hours  
**Availability:** January and June  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Students will:  
- study a range of specified writing genres and appropriate style models  
- demonstrate their skills as writers in re-creating texts for a different context, purpose and audience.  |
| Students answer **two** compulsory questions: one question from Section A and one question from Section B.  |

**Section A: Creating Text**  
- Students create their own texts based on unseen source texts linked to a single topic. Students are given a genre and then choose their own audience, purpose and context.  
- The source texts will be taken from a wide range of genres (not only from those listed for study) and each source text will be taken from a different genre.  
- 20 marks. AO5 is assessed.

**Section B: Commentary**  
- Students produce a commentary reflecting on the writing process done in Section A.  
- The commentary focuses on:  
  - analysis and evaluation of the language choices made  
  - the re-shaping of the source texts to meet the genre, audience, purpose and context  
  - how contextual factors have influenced language choices.  
- 30 marks. AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO4 are assessed.

## Unit 4: Investigating Language

**Unit code:** WEN04/04  
**Content & Assessment Overviews**  
**Written examination:** 2 hours  
**Availability:** January and June  

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<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
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| Students will:  
- develop their research and investigation skills  
- undertake a focused investigation of their selected topic  
- apply their knowledge of language levels and key language concepts developed through the whole course  
- develop a personal language specialism.  |
| Students answer **two** compulsory questions on one overall subtopic: one question from Section A and one question from Section B.  |

- Select one research focus from four topic areas:  
  1. Contemporary Global English  
  2. Children's Language Development  
  3. Language and Power  
  4. Language and Technology  
- Pre-released materials will be provided in order for students to focus their research. For each topic a subtopic will be pre-released on the website (in May for the January examination series and in January for the June examination series).  

**Section A: Unseen Data Analysis**  
- Students answer one question on the subtopic that they have researched using unseen data given in a Source Booklet.  
- 20 marks. AO1, AO2 and AO3 are assessed.

**Section B: Extended Response**  
- Students produce one extended response to an evaluative question.  
- Students must answer the question on the subtopic that they have researched and must make connections with data from their investigation.  
- 30 marks. AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO4 are assessed.
Pearson Edexcel IAL in English Literature

Students of our Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level in English Literature will study works by Dickens, Brontë and Shakespeare, pre-1900 poetry as well as post-2000 poetry and prose, together with a range of texts with a wide international appeal, including The Kite Runner and White Tiger.

**Aims of the Qualification**

The aims and objectives of this qualification is to enable students to:

- read widely, and read independently set texts and those that they have selected for themselves
- engage critically and creatively with a substantial body of texts and explore ways of responding to them
- develop and apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation effectively
- explore the contexts of the texts they are reading and others’ interpretations of them
- undertake independent and sustained studies to deepen their appreciation and understanding of English literature, including its changing traditions.

**Key qualification features**

- A choice of two drama texts, one pre-1900 and one post-1900.
- Unseen questions on post-1900 poetry and one prose theme from a choice of Growing up, Colonisation and After, Science and Society and Women and Society.
- The study of one pre-1900 literary poetry movement.
- Study of a Shakespearian play from a choice of Hamlet, King Lear, Measure for Measure and The Taming of the Shrew.

For further information and to download the specification, visit qualifications.pearson.com/ialenglishliterature
# IAS in English Literature: Content & Assessment Overviews

## Unit 1 - Post-2000 Poetry and Prose

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<tr>
<th>Unit code: WET01/01</th>
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<tr>
<td>Written examination: 2 hours</td>
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**Content** - Students will study:
- one post-2000 prose fiction text from a choice of five texts.

**Assessment** - Open book examination.

**Section A: Post-2000 Poetry**
- Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on the prescribed poems.
- The essay questions will be comparative covering one named poem, plus a free choice of second poem from the prescribed list of poems.
- 25 marks. AO1, AO2 and AO4 are assessed.

**Section B: Post-2000 Prose**
- Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen prose fiction text.
- 25 marks. AO1, AO2 and AO3 are assessed.

## Unit 2 - Drama

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<th>Unit code: WET02/01</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written examination: 2 hours</td>
<td>Availability: January and June</td>
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**Content** - Students will study:
- one pre-1900 drama text from a choice of five and
- one post-1900 drama text from a choice of five.

**Assessment** - Open book examination.

**Section A: Pre-1900 Drama**
- Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen drama text.
- 25 marks. AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO5 are assessed.

**Section B: Post-1900 Drama**
- Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen text.
- 25 marks. AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO5 are assessed.
# IA2 in English Language: Content & Assessment Overviews

## Unit 3 - Poetry and prose

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<th>Unit code: WET03/01</th>
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<tr>
<td>Written examination: 2 hours</td>
<td>Availability: January and June</td>
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### Content - Students will study:
- post-1900 unseen poetry
- two prose fiction texts from a choice of three texts, covering one theme (choice of four themes).

### Assessment - Open book examination.

**Section A: Poetry**
- Students answer one essay question on a post-1900 unseen poem.
- 20 marks. AO1 and AO2 are assessed.

**Section B: Prose**
- Students answer one comparative essay question, from a choice of two, on their two chosen texts from their chosen theme.
- 30 marks. AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO4 are assessed.

## Unit 4: Shakespeare and Pre-1900 Poetry

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<th>Unit code: WET04/04</th>
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### Content - Students will study:
- one Shakespeare text from a choice of four
- one specified collection of pre-1900 poems from one literary movement, from a choice of three.

### Assessment - Open book examination.

**Section A: Shakespeare**
- Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen text.
- 25 marks. AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO5 are assessed.

**Section B: Pre-1900 Poetry**
- Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen movement.
- 25 marks. AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO5 are assessed.

*Currently available for Pearson Edexcel IAL English Literature.*
Developing transferable skills valued by universities and employers

In recent years, universities and employers have highlighted the need for students and graduates to develop a range of transferable skills, often referred to as ‘soft skills’, to enable them to better meet the demands of undergraduate study and the world of work.

In fact, universities and employers consider transferable skills to be the largest skills gap overall.

1 in 6 employers have difficulty finding candidates with the skills they require

54% of companies say that skills shortages impact their ability to serve their customers

1 in 3 skills in a job posting is a “soft skill”

87% of university professors do not think students have the research skills needed for degree-level study

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Levels (IALs) equip students with these embedded transferable skills sought after by universities and employers. They develop core competencies, such as problem-solving, critical thinking and verbal reasoning. Transferable skills are signposted in our IAL qualifications and published teaching and learning resource so students know the skills they are developing throughout their studies.

Prepare your learners for more than just a grade

We’ve provided skills mapping and transferable skills subject definitions documents for your subject area, so you can easily identify what skills can be developed in your day to day teaching. Find out more online by visiting your subject page and searching under the Teaching and Learning materials tab qualifications.pearson.com/IAL

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2 Employability report from PSB for Pearson, 2016.
3 Bridging the Gap: Understanding the Differing Research Expectations of First-Year Students and Professors, Meg Raven, Mount Saint Vincent University, 2016.
Supporting you at every stage

We provide an unparalleled level of support services, tools, resources and training alongside qualifications, making teachers and students lives easier at every stage.

Your free subject support

Subject Advisors
Providing fast, reliable, expert help on a specific subject area of your choice. We aim to answer all emailed questions within 48 hours and resolve 90% of issues phoned in on the first call.

Contact support.pearson.com/uk/s/qualification-contactus

Pearson International Schools Community
Connect with other educators around the world, share ideas and resources and stay up to date with the latest subject developments by joining our international schools community at community.pearsoninternationalschools.com

At a glance: support for you at every stage

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<td>Training events (face-to-face, online &amp; downloadable content)</td>
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<td>Subject advisor support</td>
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<tr>
<td>FREE Access to Scripts service (ATS)</td>
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Additional paid for resources

| Online Teacher Resource Packs*                      | ✓                     | ✓                              |                 |

*Currently available for Pearson Edexcel IAL English Literature.
Offering more advanced support services and tools

Our technology capability also allows us to provide the following unique services and tools to teachers and students:

**ResultsPlus** provides detailed information on exam performance and a platform to view and compare student results – as individuals or as groups – across the world. It helps with planning improvements in teaching and learning. ResultsPlus Direct is a free online service that gives students a detailed breakdown and comparison of their performance in Pearson Edexcel exams, globally, to help them identify areas of improvement.

**FREE Access to Scripts Service (ATS)** is an online service which allows access to view electronically marked exam papers, free of charge, providing enhanced transparency and support for teachers to evaluate a student’s performance on particular questions in relation to what they have been taught.

**examWizard** is our free exam preparation tool containing a bank of past Pearson Edexcel exam questions, mark schemes and examiners’ reports for a range of subjects. It saves you time by enabling you to create your own mock exams, topic tests, homework or revision activities in minutes and links directly to associated examiner reports and mark schemes!

**Awarding reliability.** We use ePEN, our unique, image-based marking system ensuring real time monitoring, quality control and reporting to ensure the highest quality marking and provision of data for tools such as ResultsPlus. Pearson Edexcel exam marking processes have been proven to produce the most reliable results. This demonstrates that our qualifications maintain the highest standards and can be relied upon to deliver to expectation.

“Because of ResultsPlus, students can learn about their mistakes and rectify.”

Kanagambigai, Chief Counsellor, Chemistry Lecturer, A levels Department, HELP Academy, Malaysia commenting on the ResultsPlus mocks service.
Published resources

The new online published teacher resources are designed to support you teach English Language and English Literature in an international context and are written to cover all aspects of the latest specifications, so you can be confident that you are providing your students with the best chance of succeeding.

Our **Online English Literature Teacher Resource Pack** supports the Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) in English Literature, for first teaching from September 2015*.

This curriculum-matched, up-to-date teacher resource is designed to save you time, enabling you to deliver a high-quality experience to your students, ensuring the best possible learner outcomes.

- Available through a two-year subscription.
- Practice exam papers.
- Mark schemes for the mock papers.
- Summative (practice) assessments.
- Exam practice PowerPoints.
- Mapping document.
- Glossary of key terminology.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pearson Edexcel International AS/A Level English Literature Teacher Resource Pack</td>
<td>9781292277578</td>
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*You do not have to purchase our published resources, or endorsed resources from any other publisher, to deliver our qualifications.*
SECTION A: Post-2000 Poetry

Answer ONE question from Section A.

You must select your second poem from the prescribed poems listed in the Source Insert on page 11.

EITHER

1 Compare the ways in which poets write about aspects of the self in ‘A Minor Role’ by U A Fanthorpe and one other poem of your choice from Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry 2002-2011.

In your answer, you should consider the following:
• the poets’ development of themes
• the poets’ use of language and imagery
• the use of other poetic techniques.

(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

OR

2 Compare the ways in which poets write about women in ‘The Map Woman’ by Carol Ann Duffy and one other poem of your choice from Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry 2002-2011.

In your answer, you should consider the following:
• the poets’ development of themes
• the poets’ use of language and imagery
• the use of other poetic techniques.

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS
I like the modular nature of IAL, the fact that I can choose whichever core units I want to do, whichever applied units I want to do. It’s very comprehensive. It opens up many doors to many international universities.

Wang, Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level student from Sri Lanka, studying Chemistry, Biology, Physics, and Mathematics.

About Pearson Edexcel
At the core of everything we do at Pearson is the desire to make a measurable impact on improving people’s lives through learning. From primary school to secondary school, through to professional certification; our qualifications help educate millions of people worldwide.

Foundations for success
Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) is part of the iProgress family for ages 5 to 19, which also includes iPrimary, iLowerSecondary and International GCSE (IG). We offer more than just a qualification, with professional development training that keeps teachers up-to-date with the latest educational practices, support materials that make planning and teaching lessons easier, and student textbooks and online resources, so you’ll have more time to focus on the development of your students’ progress.

Progress to university
Developed by education specialists specifically for international learners, Pearson Edexcel IAL qualifications are recognised by leading universities across the world, including Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia, Yale, MIT, Caltech, Hong Kong / China University of Science and Technology and the National University of Singapore.

Find out more
To find out more about our Pearson Edexcel International A Level qualifications and to sign up to our monthly newsletter, visit our website, qualifications.pearson.com/IAL