



INTERNATIONAL A LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE XEN01/YEN01

Switching from Cambridge International or OxfordAQA to Pearson Edexcel

Cambridge International AS & A Level English Language (9093) Available June and November	OxfordAQA International AS and A-level English Language (9670) Available June and January	Pearson Edexcel International A Level English Language (XEN01/YEN01) Available June and January	Notes
Overview			
<p>AS: Candidates take paper 1 and 2 as examinations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading 2. Language Analysis <p>Papers are equally weighted and can be either a whole AS or 50% of the A Level course.</p> <p>A Level: Candidates take the AS paper as well as two IA2 papers (3 and 4). All are equally weighted, external examinations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading 2. Language Analysis 3. Writing 4. Language Topics 	<p>AS: Candidates take units 1 and 2 as examinations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language and Context 2. Language and Society <p>A Level: Candidates can take the AS units as well as two IA2 units (3 and 4). All are external examinations. Alternatively, students can take the AS units as well as unit 3 as an exam and the non-exam assessment (NEA) equivalent of unit 4.</p> <p>Compulsory</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language and Context 2. Language and Society 3. Language Variation 	<p>AS: Candidates take unit 1 and 2 as examinations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language: Context and Identity 2. Language in Transition <p>Units are equally weighted and can be either a whole AS or 50% of the A Level course.</p> <p>A Level: Candidates take the AS units as well as two IA2 units (3 and 4). All are equally weighted, external examinations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language: Context and Identity 2. Language in Transition 3. Crafting Language (Written) 4. Investigating Language 	<p>Equivalent four exam pathway available on all for A Level.</p> <p>AS pathway same structure for all three options.</p> <p>OAQA offer optional NEA component instead of fourth exam for A Level.</p> <p>Equally weighted assessments on Pearson and Cambridge; AS and IA2 units weighted differently on OAQA.</p>

	<p>Choice Between 4a. Language Exploration (Exam) Or 4b. Language Exploration (NEA)</p> <p>Weighting differs on AS and A Level:</p> <p><u>AS:</u> Unit 1: 50%, Unit 2: 50%</p> <p><u>A Level:</u> Unit 1: 20%, Unit 2: 20%, Unit 3: 30%, Unit 4a/b: 30%</p> <p>Raw mark of 50 for each unit with scaled UMS mark (20% is 80 and 30% is 120).</p>		<p>Pearson and OAQA offer fully-flexible modularity as opposed to partial modularity.</p>
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Assessment Objectives			
<p>AO1: Read and demonstrate understanding of a wide variety of texts.</p> <p>AO2: Write effectively, creatively, accurately and appropriately, for a range of audiences and purposes.</p> <p>AO3: Analyse the ways in which writers' and speakers' choices of form, structure and language produce meaning and style.</p> <p>AO4: Demonstrate understanding of linguistic issues, concepts, methods and approaches.</p> <p>AO5: Analyse and synthesise language data from a variety of sources.</p>	<p>AO1: Demonstrate understanding of methods, terminology, concepts and issues in English language.</p> <p>AO2: Analyse how meanings are shaped in a range of texts and data.</p> <p>AO3: Demonstrate ability to use English in different ways.</p> <p>Every assessment assesses every AO.</p>	<p>AO1: Apply appropriate methods of language analysis, using associated terminology and coherent written expression.</p> <p>AO2: Demonstrate critical understanding of concepts and issues relevant to language use.</p> <p>AO3: Analyse and evaluate how contextual factors and language features are associated with the construction of meaning.</p> <p>AO4: Explore connections across texts, informed by linguistic concepts and methods.</p> <p>AO5: Demonstrate expertise and creativity in the use of English to communicate in different ways.</p>	<p>Assessments target different AOs on Pearson and Cambridge pathways.</p>
Assessments			
<p><u>Paper 1: Reading</u> AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours, 15 minutes 50 marks across two sections</p>	<p><u>Unit 1: Language and Context</u> AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections</p>	<p><u>Unit 1: Language: Context and Identity</u> AS and A Level External examination, 1 hour, 45 minutes 50 marks across two sections</p>	<p>Pearson qualification includes pre-release material used for Unit 4.</p>

<p>Candidates must answer two compulsory questions. Each question requires candidates to respond to an unseen text.</p> <p><u>Section A: Directed Response (25 marks)</u> Question 1 is in two parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Directed writing task in response to a text (10 marks) AO1, AO2 b) Comparison of the form, structure and language of the candidate's response in part (a) with that of the original text (15 marks) AO1, AO3 <p><u>Section B: Text Analysis (25 marks)</u> Candidates are required to read a text of approximately 550–750 words, and comment on the form, structure and language of the text. AO1, AO3</p>	<p><u>Section A: Understanding Texts (25 marks)</u> Students carry out one compulsory analysis of two texts linked by a common theme.</p> <p>Texts will be drawn from a range of English language sources.</p> <p><u>Section B: Directed Writing (25 marks)</u> Students carry out one writing task, from a choice of two questions. Students will be credited for their ability to sustain a style of writing which is appropriate to the task chosen.</p>	<p><u>Section A: Context and Identity (35 marks)</u> Students answer a comparative question based on two unseen texts selected from 20th and 21st century sources.</p> <p>The question focusses on the presentation of identity and how this shaped by various factors.</p> <p>The two texts are presented in a Source Booklet. AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4</p> <p><u>Section B: The Creation of Voice (15 marks)</u> 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. AO5</p>	<p>Each Pearson exam is made up of two sections, with one question answered in each section.</p> <p>Unit 4 for Pearson gives students a choice of what English Language topics they respond to.</p>
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<p>Paper 2: Writing AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours, 15 minutes 50 marks across two sections</p> <p><u>Section A: Shorter Writing and Reflective Commentary (25 marks)</u> Question 1 is in two parts:</p> <p>a) Writing a short text in response to a prompt (15 marks) AO2</p> <p>b) Writing a reflective commentary based on how the text produced in part (a) fulfils the brief (10 marks) AO3</p> <p><u>Section B: Extended Writing (25 marks)</u> Candidates choose to answer one out of three questions.</p> <p>Each question corresponds to one of the three following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imaginative/descriptive • Discursive/argumentative • Review/critical <p>AO2</p>	<p>Unit 2: Language and Society AS and A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections</p> <p><u>Section A: Language and Social Groups: Texts (25 marks)</u> Students carry out one compulsory text analysis task.</p> <p><u>Section B: Language and Social Groups: Writing (25 marks)</u> Students carry out one compulsory writing task. The essay question will require students to discuss an aspect of language and social group behaviour that connects with the data analysed in Section A.</p>	<p>Unit 2: Language in Transition AS and A Level External examination, 1 hour, 45 minutes 50 marks across two sections</p> <p><u>Section A: Spoken Language Today (25 marks)</u> Students answer one question on an unseen transcript of spoken English of the 21st century. A01, A04</p> <p><u>Section B: Written Language of 19th-20th Century (25 marks)</u> Students answer one discussion question using the unseen transcripts and sources and their own knowledge that look at the issue highlighted in Section A from a wider perspective. AO2, AO3</p>	
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<p><u>Paper 3: Language Analysis</u> A level External examination, 2 hours, 15 minutes 50 marks across two sections</p> <p><u>Section A: Language Change (25 marks)</u> Candidates are required to respond to three texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prose text of approximately 300–400 words, written at any time from 1500 to the present day • Two further sources of language data: an <i>n</i>-gram graph and a word table of corpus data. <p>AO2, AO4, AO5</p> <p><u>Section B: Child Language Acquisition (25 marks)</u> Candidates respond to a transcript. AO1, AO4, AO5</p>	<p><u>Unit 3: Language Variation</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections</p> <p><u>Section A: Learning Language (25 marks)</u> Students answer one question from a choice of two. Data will be provided as a starting point for each question.</p> <p><u>Section B: International Language (25 marks)</u> Students answer one question from a choice of two. Questions will set out an issue for discussion.</p>	<p><u>Unit 3: Crafting Language</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections</p> <p><u>Section A: Creating Texts (20 marks)</u> 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.</p> <p>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. AO5</p> <p><u>Section B: Commentary (30 marks)</u> Students produce a commentary reflecting on the writing process done in Section A. AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4</p>	
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<p><u>Paper 4: Language Topics</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours, 15 minutes 50 marks across two sections</p> <p><u>Section A: English in the World (25 marks)</u> Candidates are required to respond to approximately 400–500 words on the topic of ‘English in the World’. AO1, AO2, AO4</p> <p><u>Section B: Language and the Self</u> Candidates are required to respond to approximately 400–500 words of text on the topic of ‘Language and the self’. AO1, AO2, AO4</p>	<p><u>Unit 4a: Language Exploration</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks</p> <p>Students answer one question from a choice of two.</p> <p>Students investigate the data provided which will be linked by a common theme or topic. Students plan and carry out an analysis and write up their results in the form of a report.</p> <p><u>Unit 4b: Language Exploration</u> A Level Non-exam assessment 50 marks</p> <p>Students carry out a language investigation of 2,500–3,000 words by collecting their own data and analysing it.</p> <p>Any topic is acceptable providing that its central focus is on an aspect of language</p>	<p><u>Unit 4: Investigating Language</u> A Level External examination, 2 hours 50 marks across two sections</p> <p><i>To provide a focus for students’ research, a subtopic for each topic will be pre-released on the Pearson website.</i></p> <p><u>Section A: Unseen Data Analysis (20 marks)</u> Students answer one question on the topic that they have researched using unseen data given in a Source Booklet. AO1, AO2, AO3</p> <p><u>Section B: Extended Response (30 marks)</u> Students produce one extended response to an evaluative question on the topic that they have researched.</p> <p>Students must make connections with data from their investigation. AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4</p>	
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SUMMARY OF KEY DIFFERENCES:

- No NEA option on Pearson or Cambridge
- Pearson pathway offers candidates a choice on what topics they write about in the final unit
- Pearson and OxfordAQA offer fully-flexible modularity as opposed to partial modularity

KEY SIMILARITIES THAT AID SWITCHOVER:

- Pathway available on each qualification for four externally examined units
- All pathways have June availability with a secondary entry point
- Broad parity across assessment structure