



International GCSE English: all set for the 2025– 2026 school year

Presenter: Clare Haviland, English Subject Advisor

11.9.25, 08:00–09:00 BST

[Access the pre-recorded version](#)

What we'll cover

- General reminders
- Staying in the loop: Facebook group
- Summer 2025 exam series (using post-results services)
- Are there any changes for 2025-2026?
- November 2025 exam series
- Coursework and AI challenges/planning the course after moving from coursework to exam-only route
- Teacher networking
- June 2026 exam series
- Resources, ordering anthologies and set texts
- Forthcoming training
- Onscreen assessment in June 2026
- Mocks service
- Any questions?
- Contact

Join the Int GCSE English teachers' Facebook group

[Join now](#)



Pearson Edexcel
International GCSE English teacher group

For International GCSE English teachers

Run by your Subject Advisor, Clare Haviland

 @PearsonEdexcel




 Edit

**Pearson Edexcel - International GCSE
English teacher group**

Summer 2025 exam series (using post-results services)

We hope you were happy with your students' results.

If you need to access post results services, there's guidance in [this update](#).

Key deadlines to work to:

- 12 September 2025: entry deadline for the November 2025 exam series
- 25 September 2025: deadline to request reviews of results
- 12 December 2025: end date for downloading students' scripts from the June 2025 exam series using the free access to scripts service

Reminder about specifications on the website

Linear specifications

4EA1

Use the issue 7 specification (available from 1.9.25)

4ET1

Use the [issue 3 specification](#) with the two new texts for first assessment in May/June 2026, 'Klara and the Sun' and 'Western Lane'.

4EB1

Use the issue 4 specification (available from 1.9.25)

Modular specifications (international centres only)

4XEA1

Use the issue 2 specification (available from 1.9.25)

4XET1

[Use the issue 2](#) specification with the two new texts for first assessment in May/June 2026, 'Klara and the Sun' and 'Western Lane'.

**Are there any changes
for 2025-2026?**

4EA1 specification (linear)

Issue 7 specification: formalised transactional writing types from [the guide](#)

[Read the full details](#)

Paper 1 text types which have been set:

- Article for a magazine or newspaper
- Speech
- Letter
- Guide
- Review
- Text of a leaflet.

The questions set may refer to a digital location for the texts, such as a website. This does not impact on the expected format of the writing.

4EA1 SAMs

Issue 4 sample assessment materials: minor amendment to the 4EA1 02, AO1 mark scheme for question 1

Level	Mark	AO1 Read and understand a variety of texts, selecting and interpreting information, ideas and perspectives (12 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1 <i>Limited Basic</i>	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic understanding of the text. Limited selection of information/ideas/perspectives. Limited use of references.
Level 2 <i>Some Developing</i>	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some understanding of the text. Selection and interpretation of information/ideas/perspectives is valid, but not developed. The selection of references is valid, but not developed.
Level 3 <i>Clear Relevant</i>	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sound understanding of the text. Selection and interpretation of information/ideas/perspectives is appropriate and relevant to the points being made. The selection of references is appropriate and relevant to the points being made.
Level 4 <i>Detailed Sustained</i>	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustained understanding of the text. Selection and interpretation of information/ideas/perspectives is appropriate, detailed and fully supports the points being made. The selection of references is detailed, appropriate and fully supports the points being made.

Level	Mark	AO1 Read and understand a variety of texts, selecting and interpreting information, ideas and perspectives (12 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1 <i>Limited Basic</i>	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic selection of information/ideas. Limited use of quotations/textual references. Limited understanding of information/ideas, likely through retelling or paraphrasing.
Level 2 <i>Some Developing</i>	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some selection of valid information and ideas. Some use of valid quotations/textual references. Some valid interpretation demonstrating a developing understanding of information and ideas.
Level 3 <i>Clear Relevant</i>	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear and relevant selection of information, ideas and/or perspectives. Clear and relevant use of supporting quotations/textual references. Relevant interpretation demonstrating a clear understanding of information, ideas and/or perspectives.
Level 4 <i>Detailed Perceptive</i>	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed and persuasive selection of information, ideas and perspectives. Discriminating use of supporting quotations and textual references. Perceptive interpretation demonstrating a convincing understanding of information, ideas and perspectives.

English Language A (linear) coursework for November 2025 and June 2026

Reminder: we have transitioned to coursework, Assignment A: Poetry and Prose Texts

- Students write on 3, rather than 2 texts from Part 2 of the anthology, with a single focus/theme across the 3 texts
- The 3 texts must include poetry and prose
- There is no commentary
- Comparison is not assessed

The word count is 1200 (advisory)

Assignment B is unchanged

See the guidance in the issue 7 specification

See the [Getting Started Guide](#)

See the [exemplars](#) for the 'new' format coursework

See the [support links](#) for the 'new' coursework

4EB1 specification (linear)

Issue 4 specification: formalised transactional writing types from [the guide](#)

[Read the full details](#)

Question 8, Section B text types (Reading and Writing) which have been set:

- Article for a school or college magazine, website
- Speech/talk to peers
- Contribution to a website
- Letter

The questions set may refer to a digital location for the texts, such as a website. This does not impact on the expected format of the writing.

4XEA1 specification (modular)

Issue 2 specification: formalised transactional writing types from [the guide](#)

[Read the full details](#)

Paper 1 text types which have been set:

- Article for a magazine or newspaper
- Speech
- Letter
- Guide
- Review
- Text of a leaflet.

The questions set may refer to a digital location for the texts, such as a website. This does not impact on the expected format of the writing.

4XEA1 SAMs

Issue 2 sample assessment materials: minor amendment to the 4WEA1 02, AO1 mark scheme for question 1

Change to the question paper used in the SAMs

Level	Mark	AO1 Read and understand a variety of texts, selecting and interpreting information, ideas and perspectives (12 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1 <i>Limited Basic</i>	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic understanding of the text. Limited selection of information/ideas/perspectives. Limited use of references.
Level 2 <i>Some Developing</i>	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some understanding of the text. Selection and interpretation of information/ideas/perspectives is valid, but not developed. The selection of references is valid, but not developed.
Level 3 <i>Clear Relevant</i>	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sound understanding of the text. Selection and interpretation of information/ideas/perspectives is appropriate and relevant to the points being made. The selection of references is appropriate and relevant to the points being made.
Level 4 <i>Detailed Sustained</i>	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustained understanding of the text. Selection and interpretation of information/ideas/perspectives is appropriate, detailed and fully supports the points being made. The selection of references is detailed, appropriate and fully supports the points being made.

Level	Mark	AO1 Read and understand a variety of texts, selecting and interpreting information, ideas and perspectives (12 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1 <i>Limited Basic</i>	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic selection of information/ideas. Limited use of quotations/textual references. Limited understanding of information/ideas, likely through retelling or paraphrasing.
Level 2 <i>Some Developing</i>	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some selection of valid information and ideas. Some use of valid quotations/textual references. Some valid interpretation demonstrating a developing understanding of information and ideas.
Level 3 <i>Clear Relevant</i>	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear and relevant selection of information, ideas and/or perspectives. Clear and relevant use of supporting quotations/textual references. Relevant interpretation demonstrating a clear understanding of information, ideas and/or perspectives.
Level 4 <i>Detailed Perceptive</i>	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed and persuasive selection of information, ideas and perspectives. Discriminating use of supporting quotations and textual references. Perceptive interpretation demonstrating a convincing understanding of information, ideas and perspectives.

4ET1 English Literature: resources for 2 new modern prose texts

[Sample assessment materials](#): questions on the new texts

[Specimen papers](#): locked questions on the new texts

[Updated Getting Started Guide](#)

[KO & key links to resources 'Klara'](#)

['KO & key links to resources 'Western Lane'](#)

In production: 'Klara' resources from Educake

[A film production of 'Klara' starring Jenny Ortega](#) as Klara

English Literature: expanded choice of set text editions for Paper 2

We've listened to feedback from you and have given you a wider choice of editions of the set texts for Paper 2 open book exams.

The advantages:

- You can use editions you may already have in the stock cupboard instead of buying a new edition.
- You can purchase cheaper editions where available.
- You can make use of dyslexia-friendly editions where available so that students have a seamless study/assessment experience rather than having to sit exams with a different edition.
- In countries where it may be more challenging to source texts, there is more choice, hopefully making purchasing easier.

Resit rules for linear Int GCSEs

Resit rules

The next resit option is the November exam series, open to all candidates (first sitters and resitters).

4EA1/4ET1

Students have the option to sit Papers 1 and 2 (exam-only route), or 1 and 3 (coursework).

Resitting students on the exam-only route must resit both papers 1 and 2.

Resitting students who have sat Paper 1 and coursework, must resit Paper 1. They have the option to either carry forward their coursework marks or submit new coursework. New coursework may be written on the same texts as in the previous attempt at the qualification, but a new title must be selected and new work submitted. After making the entry with the correct option code, the teacher/exams officer submits the student's marks and their coursework (if the student forms part of the requested sample).

If a student chooses to carry forward their coursework marks, after making the entry with the correct option code, the teacher/exams officer does not resubmit the student's marks or coursework to the moderator. The student's work will not be a part of the sample.

4EA1 cwk change: The total marks for the coursework is the same for both specifications and **the change in format does not affect the carry forward arrangements**. A student may carry forward coursework marks from a pre-May/June 2024 certification in subsequent exam series.

Resit rules for modular Int GCSEs

Please see the guidance on [entry, aggregation and certification](#).

November 2025 exam series

Resit rules

Entry deadline	12.9.25
Submit SLE grades on Edexcel Online and video-recordings on the Learner Work Transfer portal (LWT) by	5.11.25
Submit coursework marks on Edexcel Online and sample on the Learner Work Transfer portal (LWT) by	5.11.25

November 2025 exam timetable

See full timetable details on the [exam timetable page](#).

English Language A	4EA1 01	Paper 1: Non-fiction Texts and Transactional Writing	Tuesday 04 November	Morning	2h 15m
	4EA1 02	Paper 2: Poetry and Prose Texts and Imaginative Writing	Thursday 06 November	Morning	1h 30m
English Language A (Modular)	4WEA1 01	Unit 1: Non-fiction Texts and Transactional Writing	Tuesday 04 November	Morning	2h 15m
	4WEA2 01	Unit 2: Poetry and Prose Texts and Imaginative Writing	Thursday 06 November	Morning	1h 30m
English Language B	4EB1 01	Paper 1	Tuesday 04 November	Morning	3h 00m
English Literature (Linear)	4ET1 01	Paper 1: Poetry and Modern Prose	Monday 03 November	Morning	2h 00m
	4ET1 02	Paper 2: Modern Drama and Literary Heritage Texts	Monday 17 November	Morning	1h 30m
English Literature (Modular)	4WET1 01	Unit 1: Poetry and Modern Prose	Monday 03 November	Morning	2h 00m
	4WET2 01	Unit 2: Modern Drama and Literary Heritage Texts	Monday 17 November	Morning	1h 30m

Coursework and AI challenges

We are currently authoring additional AI guidance for centres offering the coursework option. This is expected to be published by September 2025.

[Please see the JCQ guidance.](#)

You will also find guidance in the coursework clinics:

[English Language A](#)

[English Literature](#)

Coursework remains significantly more popular than the exam:

4EA1:

Approx 40% exam: 60% coursework, with coursework significantly more popular with UK centres.

4ET1

Approx 30% exam: 70% coursework, with coursework significantly more popular with UK centres.

Teacher views on coursework versus exam

From the Facebook group:

- I would opt for coursework if I was given the opportunity. It gives students more flexibility, and I think it allows them to show their strengths better than in timed exams. AI is a concern, but I'd manage that by having them draft in class and discuss their ideas with me regularly.
- Agree re the vigilance required because of AI. We now manage it like the old CAs. We have them plan in advance then they have a set number of lessons in which to do their write up. This has to be done under teacher supervision with Apple Classroom enabled so we can see which apps they've accessed. They then have time to redraft but again, it has to be under supervision. They must submit what's been done after each lesson so we can see where it's come from and there's much less chance of unexpected magical transformations! We've been considering going back to 100% exam, but that would put huge pressure on the students, so we've held off, for now!

Teacher views on coursework versus exam

From the Facebook group:

- In terms of administering – you have to be really vigilant with AI monitoring – we make the students plan in detail by hand first and then they have to submit that with the piece. We also (with some classes) get them to write a section with wifi access cut off then submit via google classroom for us to check and then repeat.
- I think the coursework dominates too much and you need very high marks to access good levels. It becomes a burden imo and we have achieved much better results by going to all examinations for both Lang and Lit if that helps. It's not worth the hassle.

Course planning exam-only route

4EA1

[Course planners are offered for 4EA1 for both Paper 2 and coursework](#)

[Combined Language and Literature course planner](#)

[Thematic course planner for 4EA1](#)

[SoW for 4EA1 with Paper 2/coursework](#)

4ET1

[Course planner](#)

[SoW](#)

Teacher networking

If you're looking to share ideas/resources/marking with teachers locally or online, please use the chat now to reach out.

'I'm teaching 'The Whale Rider'. Does anyone want to share resources?'

'I'm going to teach 'Klara and the Sun' would anyone like to collaborate on teaching?'

'I'm based in Oxford. Is anyone nearby available to talk through English Language coursework with me?'

May/June 2026 exam series

Resit rules

Entry deadline: **21 March 2026**

Submission deadline for coursework and (optional) SLE grades and sample: **15 May 2026**

Coursework marks and SLE grades are submitted on Edexcel Online

Coursework samples are submitted digitally on the LWT

SLE: a sample of audio-visual recordings is required, submitted on the LWT

Entry codes are listed in the [information manual](#).

[Video guide to entry codes](#).

Resources, ordering anthologies and set texts

- Updated question summaries for [4EA1](#), [4EB1](#) and [4ET1](#)
- Padlocks were removed from June 2024 exam materials on 1.8.25.
- [Order anthologies](#) for 4EA1 and 4ET1
- Set texts for 4ET1: please see the [guidance](#).

Anthology

[Access the anthology](#)

We have voice recordings of all texts in the anthology and modified versions of the anthology (digital only) at this link.

[How to order anthologies](#)

Please note, if you have a stock of issue 5 or issue 6 anthologies, there is no need to order issue 7 anthologies. You should only order new hard copy anthologies when you have used up your issue 4, 5s or 6s. There are no content changes to issue 7 other than in some introductory text. Issue 7 has a pink front cover on the stationery website. The pink anthology is for both linear and modular routes.

Everyone can continue to use hard copy issue 4, 5 or 6 anthologies.

Forthcoming training for 4EA1, 4EB1 & 4ET1

Browse and book courses on the [PDA](#).

Courses available:

- Getting ready to teach
- Coursework marking training
- Achieving grade 8-9
- Achieving grade 4-5
- Meeting the assessment criteria

Modular routes for international centres

A guide to modular results will be offered separately.

In September 2023, we introduced a modular version of 4EA1 and 4ET1 for first certification in August 2025 **for international centres only**.

The introduction of this option (which does not include coursework) does not affect the existing linear specifications 4EA1 and 4ET1. They will continue to be offered both in the UK and internationally in their current forms. **The availability of coursework for the linear Int GCSEs is completely unaffected.**

Apart from the mode of assessment and the absence of coursework on the modular specifications, the linear and modular specifications are identical in terms of course content.

Read more about [modular Int GCSEs](#).

Mocks service

Explore our range of [mocks services](#).

Exam formats:



Paper



Onscreen























Moderation
service



Available during
high stakes period*

International GCSE English

English Language A - Paper 1: Non-Fiction Texts and Transactional Writing    		4EA1_01	Summer 2025	November 2025
English Language A Paper 2: Poetry and Prose Texts and Imaginative Writing    		4EA1_02	Summer 2025	November 2025
English Literature - Paper 1: Poetry and Modern Prose    		4ET1_01	Summer 2025	November 2025
English Literature - Paper 2: Modern Drama and Literary Heritage Texts    		4ET1_02	Summer 2025	November 2025
English Language B    		4EB1_01	Summer 2025	November 2025

Onscreen assessment

Onscreen assessment is available for your students this academic year

English qualifications available:

4EA1

4XEA1

4ET1

4XET1

IAL English Language

IAL English Literature

Find out more about [onscreen assessment](#).

Any questions?

Contact

Clare Haviland

Pronouns: She, her, hers

- (+44) 344 463 2535
- qualifications.pearson.com/contactus
- Email: teachingenglish@pearson.com
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