

Features: 4 hours' assessment time; two equally weighted examined components; clear, straightforward assessment structure mirrored in the two components; one exam focuses on unseen non-fiction texts and non-fiction writing tasks and the other exam focuses on unseen literary texts and creative writing tasks; all Assessment Objectives are assessed in each exam; Spoken Language is a separate endorsement.

EXAM 1	EXAM 2	NON-EXAM ASSESSMENT
50% 2 hour examination – (Reading & Writing equally weighted)	50% 2 hour examination – (Reading & Writing equally weighted)	Separately endorsed; marks do not contribute to the GCSE grade
Communicating information and ideas	Exploring effects and impact	Spoken language
Candidates respond to questions on two unseen non-fiction texts: one 19th century non-fiction text and one 20th or 21st century non-fiction text. Candidates write one piece of non-fiction writing.	Candidates respond to questions on two unseen prose or literary non-fiction texts from the 20th century and/or 21st century. (The combination of texts in this exam will depend upon the combination chosen for Component 1.) Candidates write one piece of creative writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One spoken presentation per candidate • Internally assessed and externally monitored
Section A: Reading information and ideas (25%) 1 hr	Section A: Reading meaning and effects (25%) 1 hr	
Candidates respond to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short answer questions identifying and interpreting information and ideas in the texts • One question synthesising information from both texts • One question on the writer's use of language and structure in one of the texts • One comparative question, critically evaluating both texts 	Candidates respond to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short answer questions identifying and interpreting information and ideas in the texts • Two questions on the writers' use of language and structure – one question per text • One comparative question, critically evaluating both texts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sample of up to 30 presentations must be video recorded for monitoring purposes • Reported as a separate grade: Pass, Merit, Distinction or Not Classified
Section B: Writing for audience, impact and purpose (25%) 1 hr	Section B: Writing imaginatively and creatively (25%) 1 hr	
Candidates respond to 1 non-fiction writing task from a choice of 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The task is connected to the reading theme • The task will have a specified form, audience and purpose • The task may include writing to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe • explain • inform • instruct • argue • persuade. • Bullet points will be provided for support • Candidates are assessed on their use of a range of vocabulary and sentence structures, with accurate spelling and punctuation • Presentational/visual features are not assessed 	Candidates answer 1 creative writing task from a choice of 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The task is connected to the reading theme • The task may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • narrative writing • descriptive writing • autobiographical writing. • Bullet points will be provided for support • Candidates are assessed on their use of a range of vocabulary and sentence structures, with accurate spelling and punctuation • Presentational/visual features are not assessed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compulsory requirement of the GCSE English Language course.