

ENGLISH QUALIFICATIONS

Summary Brochure

When it comes to providing your students with inspiring, engaging English specifications, we've got it covered. Our qualifications are designed to meet the needs of 14–19 year olds – whether that's life skills, progression to further studies or career choice.

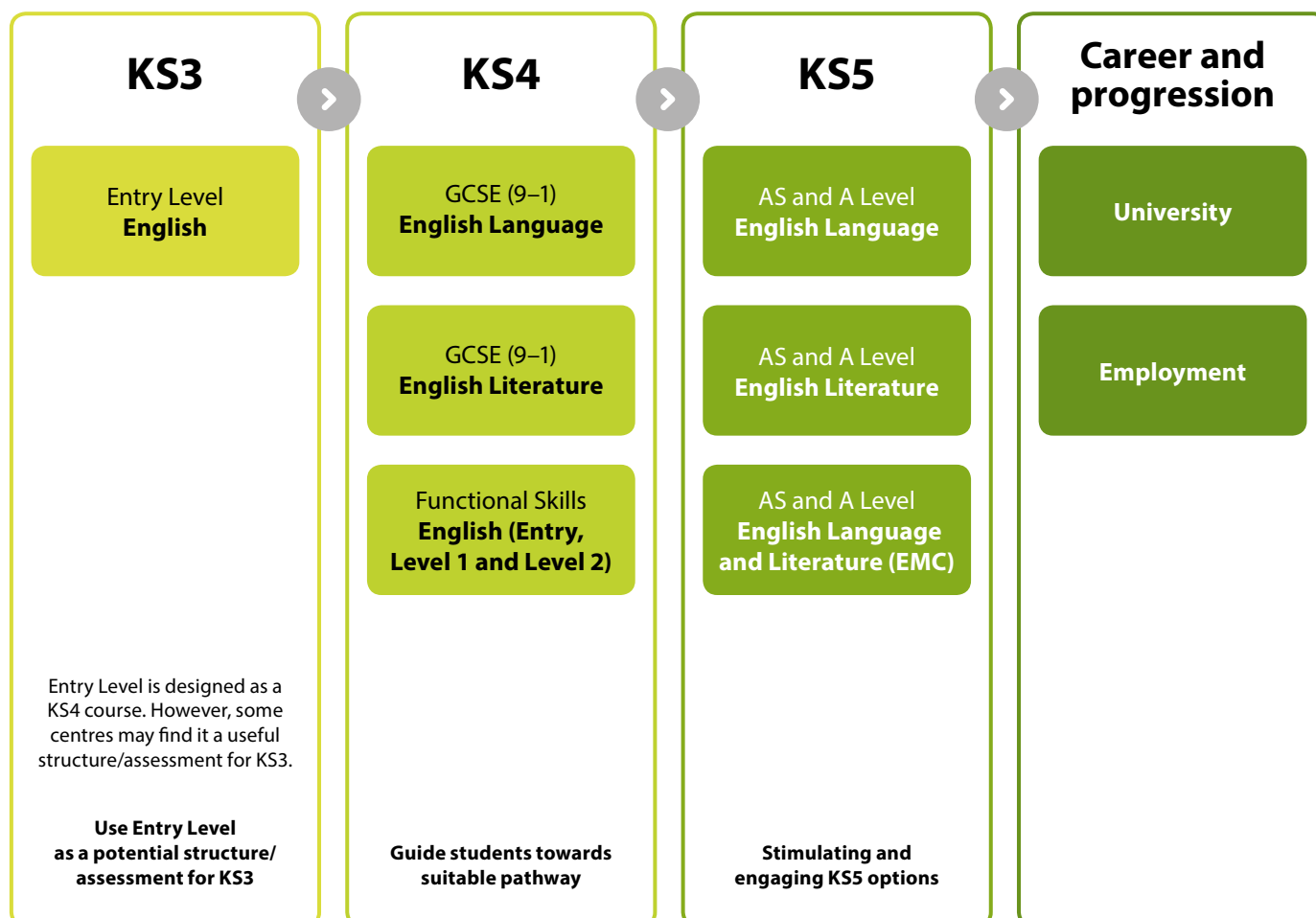
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Making words come to life

Whatever path your students follow, our comprehensive English suite provides a range of qualifications to prepare them for their next step. With carefully planned content and practical, creative resources, our aim is to support your success and increase your confidence in delivering our specifications.

PATHWAYS FOR ENGLISH



ENTRY LEVEL ENGLISH

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

R393 (from 2016)

IDEAL FOR:

A variety of students, including those who may find it difficult to access GCSE (9–1) qualifications, students on taster courses, students with learning difficulties and adult returners

PROGRESS TO:

This qualification is directly linked to GCSE (9–1) in English Language and would allow for a natural progression to a higher level of study

FINAL AWARD:

Entry 3 (highest), Entry 2 or Entry 1

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

No

THE QUALIFICATION

Our new Entry Level Certificate in English inspires and engages students with a broad course of study. It builds confidence in reading, writing and spoken language skills, and encourages them to read fluently and write effectively.

This specification will enable your students to develop:

- Knowledge and understanding of engaging non-fiction and literary texts
- Informative and imaginative writing styles and the ability to produce texts for different purposes
- Confidence in using spoken language skills to communicate clearly and effectively.

Students can progress at their own pace, so they can develop their knowledge and skills and be put forward for the assessment when they're ready. This specification is designed to be accessible and relevant and provide students with recognition for their achievements. It can be the gateway to further qualifications and can be co-taught with GCSE (9–1) qualifications.

ASSESSMENT

Our Entry Level Certificate in English is designed to be as flexible as possible. It's made up of 100% internally assessed tasks and tests that can be taken at any point during the course. The flexibility allowed through this approach to assessment will allow you to take any issues that may affect your students' performance into account in your planning.

There are three areas of assessment: Reading, Writing and Spoken language. The Reading tasks are set by us and the Writing and Spoken language tasks are set by you, with detailed guidance from us. All three assessments are marked by teachers.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/entrylevelenglish



GCSE (9–1) ENGLISH LANGUAGE

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

J351

IDEAL FOR:

Students who want to go on to AS or A Levels, higher education or a career choice

PROGRESS TO:

AS/A Level English qualifications: English Language, English Literature or English Language & Literature, further education or the workplace

FINAL AWARD:

9 (highest) to 1 (lowest)

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

Yes

THE QUALIFICATION

Our qualification meets the needs of students of differing abilities and interests and encourages an exploration of communication, culture and creativity through exciting 19th, 20th and 21st century texts.

It enables your students to engage with a wide variety of high-quality texts both literary and non-fiction, across a range of familiar genres. They'll develop the skills to analyse critically and synthesise and evaluate ideas and information across unseen texts. They'll also develop the skills to read fluently and write effectively.

The syllabus will encourage students to:

- Develop independent and critical thinking
- Engage with the richness of our language and literary heritage
- Experiment in writing across a range of contexts and styles.

ASSESSMENT

There are two exams: one focusing on non-fiction texts and writing tasks, the second focusing on literary texts and creative writing tasks. Both exams put equal emphasis on reading and writing skills.

Spoken language is a separate endorsement, internally assessed and externally moderated.

COMPONENT 1: COMMUNICATING INFORMATION AND IDEAS

- 50% of the total GCSE
- 2-hour written paper
- 80 marks

COMPONENT 2: EXPLORING EFFECTS AND IMPACT

- 50% of the total GCSE
- 2-hour written paper
- 80 marks

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/gcseenglishlanguage



GCSE (9–1) ENGLISH LITERATURE

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

J352

IDEAL FOR:

Students who want to go on to AS or A Levels, further education or a career choice

PROGRESS TO:

AS/A Level English qualifications: English Language, English Literature or English Language & Literature, further education or the workplace

FINAL AWARD:

9 (highest) to 1 (lowest)

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

Yes

THE QUALIFICATION

We want students to gain insight into and experience of a diverse and engaging range of literature, both modern and classic.

The course is designed to develop students' confidence and skill in engaging with and responding to whole texts in the major genres, stimulating their curiosity and encouraging them to reflect on literature in relation to their own experiences in the modern world.

Students will study modern drama or fiction, a 19th century novel, a Shakespeare play and a range of poetry from the late 18th century to the modern day.

It's designed to develop:

- Skills in writing critically, effectively and analytically about a range of texts that have been chosen to appeal to students with different interests and enthusiasms
- Engaged personal responses to poetry, choosing from diverse and stimulating themes for study in the free OCR Poetry Anthology
- Confidence in developing and articulating a fresh, individual response to texts, including unseen texts.

ASSESSMENT

This is a linear qualification with 100% external assessment at the end of the course. There are two, 2-hour exams, each with a 50% weighting:

- Exploring modern and literary heritage texts (01)
- Exploring poetry and Shakespeare (02).

Students have the opportunity to answer either extract-based and discursive-style questions, exploring key themes and ideas in their chosen texts, as well as evaluating how writers use language and create effects.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/gcseenglishliterature



FUNCTIONAL SKILLS – ENGLISH

FROM ENTRY LEVEL 1 TO LEVEL 2

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

LEGACY REFORMED FROM SEPT 2019

English Entry Level – 09495, 09496, 09497	English Entry Level – 08840, 08841, 08842
English Level 1 – 09498	English Level 1 – 08843
English Level 2 – 09499	English Level 2 – 08844

IDEAL FOR:

Young people and adults, whether they're in education, training, work or preparing for work

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

No

THE QUALIFICATION

Functional skills matter. They provide students with the skills they require in the broader context of work and everyday life. By successfully achieving their functional skills qualification, students will be able to demonstrate to employers and Higher Education that they:

- Can demonstrate the ability to read, write, speak, listen and communicate in English at an appropriate level
- Can show their competence in English by using it in real-world situations as well as demonstrating a sound grasp of basic English knowledge and skills
- Can apply these skills effectively to a range of purposes in the workplace and in other real life situations.

They're available at different levels:

- English Entry Levels 1, 2 and 3
- English Level 1 and English Level 2
- All levels are designed to be accessible and support students to develop their skills and competences in English whilst working towards achieving a nationally recognised qualification.

ASSESSMENT

Our Functional Skills English qualifications are available as on-demand on-screen assessment or as on-demand paper-based assessment. This enables us to offer assessment all year round (excluding Christmas holidays) rather than just monthly. Results turnaround has also been reduced, with confirmed results being available in as little as 15 days.

- All OCR Entry Level Functional Skills assessments are centre set and internally assessed with external moderation undertaken by OCR.
- At Level 1 and Level 2, assessments are centre set and externally assessed with external moderation undertaken by OCR.
- All assessments are designed to be as accessible as possible and are based on real life texts and scenarios that enable students to apply their existing knowledge to the assessments.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/functionalskills

ocr.org.uk/fsenglishcpd



AS AND A LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

AS Level – H070

A Level – H470

IDEAL FOR:

Students who want to explore how English language works in a variety of contexts, develop linguistic analysis skills and get creative with language use.

PROGRESS TO:

Undergraduate study in either English language or linguistics, as well as progression into other language-related degrees such as modern languages or classics, apprenticeships or employment

FINAL AWARD:

A* (highest) to E (lowest)

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

Yes

THE QUALIFICATION

These specifications build on what students know already from GCSE, to teach the skills every linguist needs to explore language use and understand the differences between spoken and written language.

There are plenty of opportunities for students to engage with real world language use – including exploring attitudes to current language issues, spoken language acquisition and looking at language in particular contexts. Our specifications give students the practical skills to become independent critical readers and analysers of language use in the 21st century.

The course has textual analysis at its heart. All components develop students' ability to understand the main language frameworks, explore features and patterns across a wide range of spoken and written forms and understand their intended purpose.

ASSESSMENT

There's a clear sense of development throughout the course, culminating in the opportunity to undertake an independent language investigation. This allows students to pursue more detailed work in a field of particular personal interest, offering excellent preparation for study at undergraduate level.

AS Level

There are two examined components, worth 50% each. It's important to note that both components cover topics included in the A Level and so maximise the opportunities for co-teachability with the full A Level.

A Level

There are two examined components and one non-exam assessment component. The two exams are equally weighted at 40% each, and offer the opportunity for students to provide exploratory responses to a range of texts.

The non-exam assessment is worth 20% and comprises of two tasks – an independent language investigation and a poster summarising the investigation for a new audience.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/alevelenglishlanguage



AS AND A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

AS Level – H072

A Level – H472

IDEAL FOR:

Students who want to develop their understanding of literary analysis and engage critically and creatively with a wide range of literature.

PROGRESS TO:

Higher Education, employment or apprenticeships

FINAL AWARD:

A* (highest) to E (lowest)

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

Yes

THE QUALIFICATION

The English team has developed A Levels that prepare students for university study, and engage and enthuse aspiring students and teachers alike. This specification builds on what students know already from GCSE, to teach the skills every literature student needs to explore and understand a wide range of texts, and to help develop the valuable transferable skills of wide, independent reading and the ability to produce a critical argument.

Throughout the course, students are encouraged to develop critical awareness and understanding of individual works of literature, of relationships between texts and of the significance of cultural and contextual influences on readers and writers. The variety and breadth of texts on offer mean that there are many opportunities for a personal, tailored approach. We have chosen both familiar and fresh topic areas for study, including American Literature and The Immigrant Experience.

All examinations are closed text. This means set texts don't have to be specified editions, so you can use existing resources or purchase inexpensive ones. We've created extended set text lists for each section to increase the teaching choice available. This means if a set text isn't working, you'll have the confidence to change.

ASSESSMENT

AS Level

There are two examined components worth 50% each. The simple structure is easy to navigate and reflects that of the A Level English Literature qualification. The set texts for AS Level have been chosen to support co-teachability with the full A Level.

A Level

There are two examined components and one non-exam assessment component. The two exams are equally weighted and offer opportunities for students to provide extended exploratory responses to their studied texts. The freedom within the non-exam assessment allows students to study their own choice modern literature texts, offering excellent preparation for study at undergraduate level.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/alevelenglishliterature



AS AND A LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (EMC)

KEY INFORMATION

SPECIFICATION CODE:

AS Level – H074

A Level – H474

IDEAL FOR:

Students who want to develop both literary and linguistic approaches to exploring texts and to become both confident readers and skilled producers of original writing.

PROGRESS TO:

Higher Education, employment or apprenticeships

FINAL AWARD:

A* (highest) to E (lowest)

PERFORMANCE POINTS:

Yes

THE QUALIFICATION

English Language and Literature (EMC) is a unique and distinctive qualification developed in partnership with the English & Media Centre (EMC). By A Level, English students are cultivating their own critical responses and engaging with the richness of language and literature. Our English Language and Literature (EMC) AS/A Level qualifications are designed for depth and breadth of study, with flexible content that supports independence, wide reading and creativity.

Students study a diverse and stimulating range of fiction, non-fiction and spoken texts. The course also enables students to develop their creativity and expertise by producing their own original writing both in the exam and the non-exam assessment.

ASSESSMENT

AS Level

There are two examined components. The first focuses on the OCR/EMC anthology of non-fiction spoken and written texts. The second focuses on the same prose fiction texts and poetry texts as for A Level.

A Level

There are three examined components and one non-exam assessment component. The first focuses on non-fiction spoken and written texts from an OCR/EMC anthology. The second explores poetry and drama. The third involves the study of narrative fiction, from a choice of six prose texts. In this exam, students also produce their own piece of creative writing and a commentary.

The non-exam assessment comprises two tasks – an analytical comparative essay and a non-fiction original writing piece.

READ MORE:

ocr.org.uk/alevelenglishlanguageandliterature



SUPPORTING YOU IN QUALIFICATION DELIVERY

We are with you all the way on your journey with us; from initial enquiry right through to results. We provide a range of advice, resources and assessment support that will help you develop professionally and secure your students' futures.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

EXPERT SUBJECT ADVICE

Our Subject Advisors provide information and support to schools, including specification and non-exam assessment advice, updates on resource developments and a range of training opportunities. You can reach them through our Customer Support Centre on **01223 553998** or by email at **english@ocr.org.uk**

You can also find teacher support at **ocr.org.uk/english**

TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCES

- **Teaching activities**
Activities to support and inspire your English lessons.
- **Skills Guides**
A range of generic skills guides providing knowledge and tips covering topics such as communication, research skills and exam techniques.
- **Topic Exploration Packs**
- **Teacher and Delivery Guides**
A range of lesson ideas with associated activities that you can use with students to deliver the contents of the qualifications.
- **Scheme of Work Builder**
Create and export your own schemes of work based on specification statements and our new teaching and learning resources.
- **Poetry Anthology**
Towards a World Unknown is our set poetry anthology with three themed poetry clusters to choose from.

PARTNER RESOURCES AND TEXTBOOKS

Our English qualifications are supported by endorsed textbooks and resources published by leading publishers. You can find more details about our publisher partners and the resources they're providing at **ocr.org.uk/publishing-partners**

ENGLISH COMMUNITY

If you want to interact with other teachers/lecturers, our online community is the place to go. Our virtual communities are grouped by subject area and offer an opportunity to ask for advice, swap resources and suggest ideas for teaching and lesson planning.

Sign up at: **social.ocr.org.uk** or join us on Twitter: **@OCR_English**

OCR BLOGS

Read our English blogs and gain interesting insights from our Subject Advisors and other leading figures from the world of English education.

ASSESSMENT

ACTIVE RESULTS

This is a free online A Level, GCSE and Cambridge Nationals results analysis service to help you review the performance of individual students or your whole school. Active Results provides access to detailed results data, enabling more comprehensive analysis of results to give you a more accurate measure of the achievements of your centre and students. **ocr.org.uk/activeresults**

ASSESSMENT MATERIALS

Sample question papers and sample candidate work.

PAST PAPERS

Previous examination papers for each subject with which you and your students can practise.

INITIAL ASSESSMENT (FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)

This free paper-based tool helps you profile your students' starting point. You can access it through **interchange.ocr.org.uk** – our secure website for centres, which offers a variety of useful services and valuable resources.

PRACTICE PAPERS

Create mock exams and help students get a clearer picture of the qualification requirements. We put all our practice papers through exactly the same long and detailed processes as the live papers to ensure that they match the style and rigour of the live assessments.

CANDIDATE EXEMPLARS

A selection of candidate style answers and work with associated examiner commentary.

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CPD TRAINING AND EVENTS

All our qualifications are supported with comprehensive training. Check out **cpdhub.ocr.org.uk** to find out what's available for face-to-face or online training courses.

TEACHER NETWORKS

These free informal twilight meetings are designed to encourage and develop local networking and support for English in your area. They're an opportunity to speak with like-minded colleagues and one of our Subject Advisors. Visit **cpdhub.ocr.org.uk** to find a meeting near you.



For more information visit
ocr.org.uk/english
or call our Customer Support Centre on
01223 553998

Alternatively, you can email us on
english@ocr.org.uk



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