## GCSE English Language - Specification at a glance



### GCSE English Language

#### **Unit 1: Understanding and Producing Non-fiction Texts**

External examination 40% of the total GCSE marks	2 hours	80 marks
Section A: Reading 20% of the total GCSE marks	1 hour	40 marks
Section B: Writing 20% of the total GCSE marks	1 hour	40 marks

**PLUS** 

#### **Unit 2: Speaking and Listening**

Controlled Assessment		
20% of the total GCSE marks		

45 marks

**PLUS** 

## **Unit 3: Understanding Spoken and Written Texts and Writing Creatively**

Controlled Assessment 40% of the total GCSE marks		80 marks
Part a: Extended Reading 15% of the total GCSE marks	3–4 hours	30 marks
Part b: Creative Writing 15% of the total GCSE marks	3–4 hours	30 marks
Part c: Spoken Language Study 10% of the total GCSE mark	2–3 hours	20 marks

**Note:** Times indicate the production of written outcomes.

# Summary of Assessment Structure of Units and Examination Papers

#### **Unit 1: Understanding and Producing Non-fiction Texts**

#### Section A: Reading

At Tier H candidates answer four compulsory questions based on non-fiction reading sources. At Tier F candidates answer five compulsory questions based on non-fiction reading sources.

#### Section B: Writing

At both Tiers candidates do two compulsory writing tasks — one shorter task worth 16 marks and one longer task worth 24 marks.

#### **Unit 2: Speaking and Listening**

#### Candidates must be assessed on three equally weighted activities:

- presenting;
- discussing and listening;
- role playing.

Each activity will be marked separately out of 15 and the marks added together to give a final mark out of 45.

#### **Unit 3: Understanding Spoken and Written Texts and Writing Creatively**

**Part a: Extended Reading** – candidates choose one task from the Controlled Assessment Bank of published titles for the year in which they are entering this unit. They must consider one extended text which may be a text that they are also using for GCSE English Literature.

**Part b: Creative Writing** – candidates choose two tasks from the Controlled Assessment Bank of published titles for the year in which they are entering this unit. The two tasks do not have to be equal in length as this will be determined by the type of creative writing they choose to do.

**Part c: Spoken Language Study** – candidates choose one task from the Controlled Assessment Bank of published titles for the year in which they are entering the unit.