

WJEC GCE English Literature

TEACHING FROM 2015

Frequently Asked Questions

Is my centre able to make entries for WJEC GCE English Literature?

If you are a centre in Wales, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands or an overseas centre in a British Territory or British Forces centres then you are able to make entries for this qualification. There will not, however, be any modification to assessments or procedures based on geographical location.

This qualification is not available to centres in England or overseas centres which are not British territories or British Forces centres.

What are the set texts and do we have to use specific versions?

A full list of set texts can be found [here](#). While the Collins Complete Shakespeare will be used for the extracts in Unit 4, centres can choose any published version of the full individual play for teaching.

Will the set texts change?

Yes, some of the set texts will be changed after the first three years of the specification. The board will alert centres to any changes.

Are there prescribed lists for the poetry collections in Unit 2 and Unit 3?

Some of the collections have prescribed lists in Unit 2 and these can be seen in the [set texts](#) list. For Unit 3, there are prescribed lists for the collections by Donne, Keats and Rossetti. These lists can be found in Appendix C on pages 23-24 of the [specification](#).

Is there any non-examination assessment [NEA] in the qualification?

Yes. Unit 5 is internally assessed and externally moderated. It requires learners to submit a 2500-3500 word assignment based on the reading of two prose texts by different authors, one published pre-2000 and the other published post-2000. Both texts must be nominated and submitted to WJEC for approval by the end of September in the year prior to submission.

Can any prose text be studied for the NEA?

No. Texts must be substantial and of sufficient literary merit for A level study. Both texts must be nominated and submitted to WJEC for approval by the end of September in the year prior to submission.

Please note:

- No texts which appear on the set text list for Unit 1 of this specification may be submitted for study.
- For the purposes of this unit, the term 'prose text' will be taken to include the novel, a collection of short stories, autobiography and memoir, travel writing and essays.

How do I nominate NEA texts for approval?

The nominations page appears on [Portal](#).

The deadline for submitting nominations is **31st October** to allow sufficient time for a response and re-nomination, if necessary, before **30th November**, after which date the online service will be removed from Portal.

Are centres required to have the NEA tasks formally approved by WJEC?

No. There is no requirement to submit tasks for approval. If you are uncertain about or need support with any non-exam assessment tasks, please email gceenglish@wjec.co.uk

What if a candidate has failed to keep within the word count for NEA?

There is no fixed penalty as the word count is advisory only. Candidates who offer work that is too short, however, are penalising themselves by not allowing appropriate coverage of the required assessment objectives. Candidates who

exceed the advisory word count are penalising themselves through a lack of precision and focus.

How do I administer the NEA?

It is important that non-exam assessment is rigorously monitored by centres to ensure that candidates' work is their own.

Centres should monitor in a number of ways, for example:

- careful record-keeping of the progress of learners' work, particularly the submission of drafts
- careful consideration of whether the work submitted is characteristic of the learner's ability/attainment
- keeping the work that students have submitted secure in a securely locked cabinet or cupboard.

A [cover sheet](#) must be completed for all candidates, regardless of whether or not they are included in the sample sent to the moderator. All candidates are required to sign a statement endorsing the originality of their assignment(s) and centres must countersign that they have taken all reasonable steps to validate this.

Centres can include this [checklist](#) to ensure that all the administrative elements have been completed.

Do candidates need to reference in their essay and include a bibliography?

Yes. This does not constitute part of the assessment but it is a requirement. References to particular critics' work or other sources must always be clearly acknowledged: by direct reference, if a quotation is used, and by an appended bibliography.

How many drafts are candidates allowed to complete?

Guidance may be given by teachers in the re-drafting of assignments but this must only consist of general observations. Once an assignment is finally submitted and marked the work may not be further revised. In no cases are fair copies of marked work acceptable. Drafts must be included for the external moderator where they are likely to be important for a fair assessment of the final version.

What if I find any evidence of plagiarism?

Centres are required to be vigilant and to refuse to award marks or submit for moderation any work which they consider to be not the candidate's own. Candidates

will be penalised for any attempt to plagiarise. General advice and guidance on how to proceed if plagiarism is suspected can be found on the [JCQ website](#).

What should I do if I need to request an extension to the NEA submission deadline?

Where a centre has been affected by circumstances beyond its control, it may, in exceptional cases, be possible to grant a short extension. Please contact the Subject Officer if an extension is required. A request for an extension of over a week must be in the form of a written form, completed by the Head of Centre.

How do I submit the marks for the NEA?

Marks are submitted to WJEC via the Internal Assessment Mark Input System (IAMIS). IAMIS will be open for centre use at least ten days ahead of the deadline for submission (4 May).

The first step in preparing to input marks is to request a portal log-in as a secondary account holder from your Exams Officer. Your candidates' names/ numbers are pre-populated on the system from the entries your centre has made. You can submit marks as soon as the submission window opens. The input and submission of marks **must** be completed by the submission deadlines

For further details, please refer to the guidance on the WJEC webpage: [Internal Assessment – Submission of Marks](#).

How do I choose the NEA sample?

Once the marks have been submitted on IAMIS, a sample of candidates will be identified automatically by the system. The automatic sample will be based on the overall rank order for the total entry.

If the sample contains a candidate whose work is incomplete, then subject teachers should indicate on the system the nearest candidate (either higher or lower) with complete work. The incomplete work should not be sent to the moderator.

An explanatory note to the moderator must accompany the folders in such cases where the sample sent by the centre differs from the sample chosen by the system.

How can I access exemplar that demonstrate the marking standards for this qualification?

We keep exemplar responses on our [Online Exam Review](#) site. From here, you will be able to download responses annotated by the Principal Examiner and clean versions of the responses to use in the classroom.

Do you offer training for centres?

Yes. Details of our [face-to-face training](#) can be found on the WJEC website and we offer a range of support material on the [subject page](#).

What resources are available to help me deliver this course?

There are a number of resources to support you. Some can be found on the '[Related Documents](#)' page for the subject while interactive resources are housed on the [WJEC Digital Resources site](#).

Are there any re-sit opportunities for WJEC GCE English Literature?

There are no re-sit opportunities outside the summer examination series but a qualification may be taken more than once. If any unit has been attempted twice and a candidate wishes to enter the unit for the third time, then the candidate will have to re-enter all units and the appropriate cash-in(s). This is referred to as a 'fresh start'. When retaking a qualification (fresh start), a candidate may have up to two attempts at each unit. However, no results from units taken prior to the fresh start can be used in aggregating the new grade(s). Marks for NEA units may be carried forward for the life of the specification.

How much of the qualification needs to be taken in the final year of study?

There are no restrictions on how many or how few units candidates sit in the final year of study.

Can a candidate enter for WJEC GCE English Literature and another WJEC GCE English qualification?

There are no restrictions on candidates entering either WJEC GCE English Language or WJEC GCE English Language and Literature with this specification.

Where can we find Sample Assessment Materials for the specification?

Sample Assessment Materials are available on the [subject page](#) of our WJEC website. Past papers will be available on the day the results are issued in August on [Portal](#).

What are the entry codes for this specification?

The entry codes appear below:

	Title	Entry codes
AS Unit 1	Prose and Drama	2720U1
AS Unit 2	Poetry Post-1900	2720U2
A2 Unit 3	Poetry Pre-1900 and Unseen Poetry	2720U3
A2 Unit 4	Shakespeare	2720U4
A2 Unit 5	Prose Study	2720U5
AS Qualification cash-in		2720QS
A level Qualification cash-in		1720QS

If I have any more questions who do I contact?

The GCE English Language team and the wider WJEC team will be happy to answer any queries you might have.

For administration queries please contact:

GCE Admin Section

029 2026 5336

gce@wjec.co.uk

For access arrangements please contact:

Special Requirements Section

029 2026 5155

Specialrequirements@wjec.co.uk

For all other subject queries please contact:

Rhodri Jones

Subject Officer

Mike Williams

Subject Support Officer

029 2240 4292

gceenglish@eduqas.co.uk