

Shoeburyness High School

Year 9 Subject Information

GCSE English



GCSE English

Subject Information.

Our exam board is **Edexcel**. There are **four** exams at the end of the two year course:

English Language-

- Paper 1 19th Century Fiction and imaginative writing.
- Paper 2 Non- Fiction and transactional writing.

English Literature-

- Paper 1 Shakespeare and a modern play.
- Paper 2 novel and poetry.



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English Language-

The questions centre around unseen texts, both fiction and non-fiction, and the main skills learnt are:

- Analysing language and structure and being able to apply the correct terminology to those parts of written text.
- Evaluating how well a writer gets their message across in a text.
- Comparing how two writers and their forms of writing tackle the same topic.
- Producing similar pieces of writing for particular audiences.



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English Language-

Students will also complete a short spoken task, that provides a certificate confirming a level of verbal communication skill to future educators or employers.



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English Literature–

Students will read :

A Christmas Carol.

Romeo and Juliet.

An Inspector Calls.

A collection of 15 poems from the Power and Conflict Anthology.

There is also an element of unseen poetry.

The questions are either character or theme essays, and some analysis of extracts taken from the Shakespeare play and the novel.

The poetry questions require comparison of two poems studied and two unseen poems.



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Career Progression

Possible careers following further English studies include:

- English teacher
- Journalist
- Writer
- Copy writer/ proof-reader
- Public relations officer
- Web content/ social media manager
- Private tutor
- English as a foreign language teacher
- Academic librarian
- Marketing and media executive
- Just about anything that demands excellent standards of literacy!



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University Progression

Some of our A Level students have recently gone on to study English Language or Literature at a variety of Universities.

It is worth noting that it is often a requirement of several subject degree courses to have a particular grade at GCSE English level, as so many courses have a demanding reading workload; for example, Psychology and Law- among others.

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Contact Information

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