



English Literature GCSE: What will each paper look like?

Know your assessment objectives (AOs):

AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:

- maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response
- use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

AO2: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

AO3: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

AO4: Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

Component One: Shakespeare and Poetry Anthology 40% 2 HOURS



Section A

Shakespeare

Find the play that we have studied which will have an extract and two questions to respond to.

Question a: 15 marks (AO1, AO2, AO4)

You should spend 20 minutes on this question. You will be given an extract and asked to respond to a question, referring closely to the extract within your answer. You should use short quotations and terminology to consider the effect upon the audience.

Question b: 25 marks (AO1, AO2, AO4)

You should spend 40 minutes on this question. You will be asked to respond to a question using the entire play to support your response. This will be a question focused on a particular character or theme within the play. 5 marks of this question are allocated for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Total marks: 40

KEY THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR SECTION A:

Question a here is similar to the poetry part a; you need to ensure that you have tracked the entire extract. Start by selecting your evidence by finding techniques used to then analyse and link to the question.

Question b will rely on your knowledge of the entire play. Again, you should track the character or theme using one paragraph from the start of the play, 3-4 moments in the middle, one from the end of the play. You do not receive a mark for context so focus on language analysis and change/development of characters.

KEY THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR SECTION B:

'MAGIC 3': spend revision time remembering 3 points on context (the time the poem was written relevant information about the poet), 3 themes in each poem and 3 important things of interest about the structure or imagery of the poem itself.

You will be provided with a list of poems for the comparison question; for revision, practice eliminating poems from a list when attempting practice questions. Write your reasons to justify why.

Section B

Poetry Anthology

You should spend one hour on this question. Ten minutes should be set aside for planning and proof reading.

Part a: 15 marks (AO1, AO2, AO4)

You should spend 20 minutes on this question. You will be asked to respond to a question in relation to one of the poems taken from the anthology. You will be given a copy of the poem to annotate and help plan your response.

Part b: 25 marks (AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4)

You should spend 40 minutes on this question. You will be asked to compare another poem from the anthology with the poem used in part a. You will need to recall this poem from memory in order to respond to the question.

Total marks: 40

For more detailed information on the exams and assessment objectives, click on the following link:
<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/english-literature/gcse/>

Or speak to your English teacher!