

# GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature

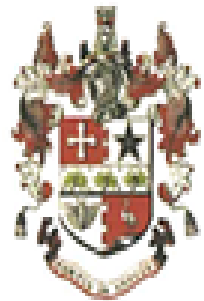
## English Language

Two exams (each 1hr 45 minutes long)



## English Literature

Two exams (both 2 hours long)



# A new grading system...

## Grading the New GCSEs in 2017

Ofqual  
.....

About 70% of students will achieve Grades 4-9.

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE																		
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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>4 = C</b> and above      and above</p> </div> <div style="font-size: 2em;">←</div> <div style="font-size: 2em;">→</div> </div>																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above.</li> <li>■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as achieve an A and above.</li> <li>■ The bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G.</li> </ul>																		
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">A*</td> <td style="width: 10%;">A</td> <td style="width: 10%;">B</td> <td style="width: 10%;">C</td> <td style="width: 10%;">D</td> <td style="width: 10%;">E</td> <td style="width: 10%;">F</td> <td style="width: 10%;">G</td> <td style="width: 10%;">U</td> </tr> </table>										A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U										
CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE																		

(A\*\*)

About 3% of students will achieve Grade 9.

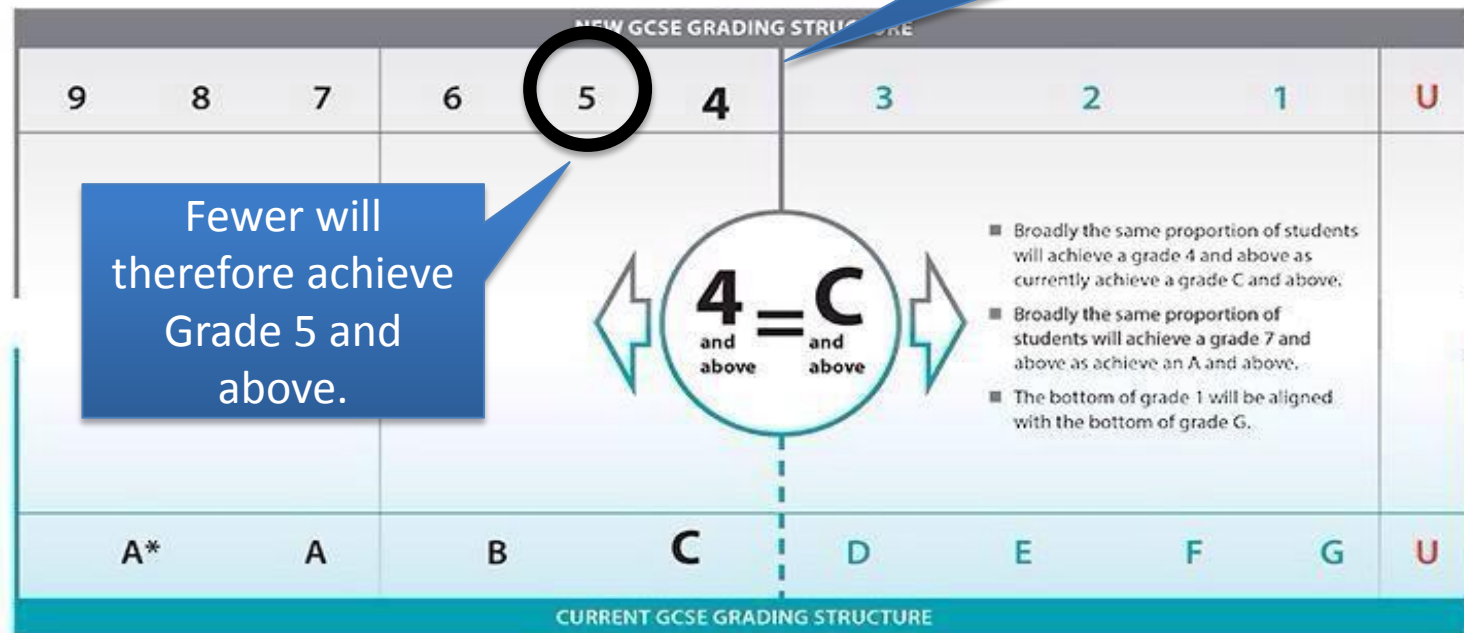
About 18% of students will achieve Grades 7-9.

# ... and a new threshold for a 'strong' pass.

## Grading the New GCSEs in 2017

Ofqual

About 70% of students will achieve Grades 4-9.



# English Language

Students have to respond and answer questions about fiction and non-fiction texts.

Each exam also contains an extended writing task that makes up 50% of the paper.

## Paper 1

Section A: An extract from a fiction text

Section B: Creative Writing (describe or narrate)



## Paper 2

Section A: Two non-fiction sources (one 19<sup>th</sup> century, the other 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century)

Section B: Non-fiction writing (writing to persuade, argue or advise)



# How can you help your child prepare for GCSE English Language?

- Encourage your child to read challenging texts as much as possible. This can include fiction/non-fiction books, newspapers and magazines.
- Encourage your child to develop their broader knowledge and understanding of culture and the world
- Practise the exam skills with your child as much as possible. The recommended revision guides are CGP AQA GCSE English Language Workbook. The English department will be taking orders of these in the near future.
- Correct any errors in the grammar of their speech or their colloquial expression.

# WAS

When we talk about **one** thing or **one** person  
**SINGULAR (ONE THING) = WAS**

Example: **I was** happy.

# WERE

When we talk about more than **one** thing or **one** person

**PLURAL (MORE THAN ONE) = WERE**

Example: **We were** happy.

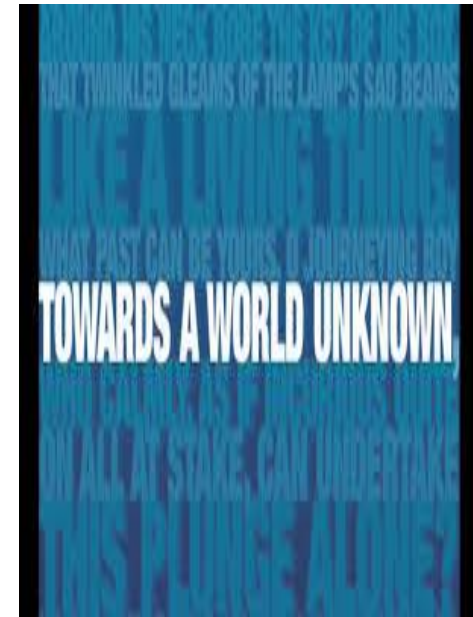
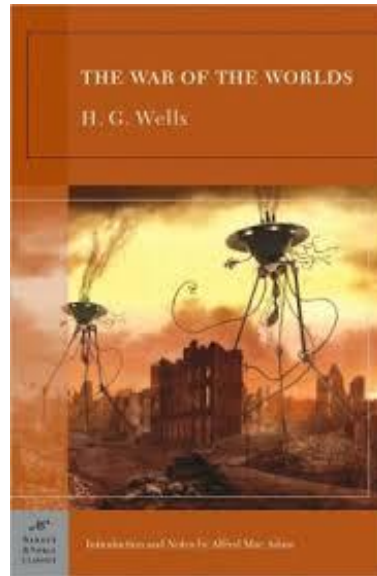
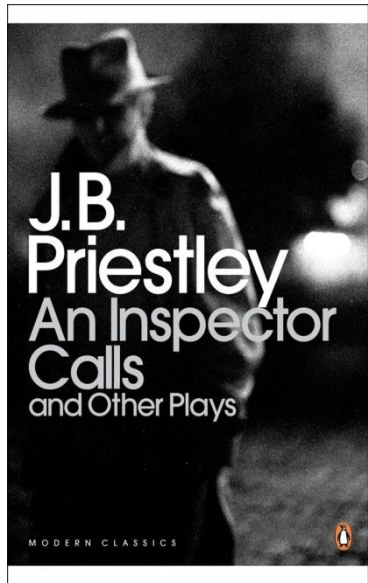
Exception to the rule:

When we talk about 'you' = were

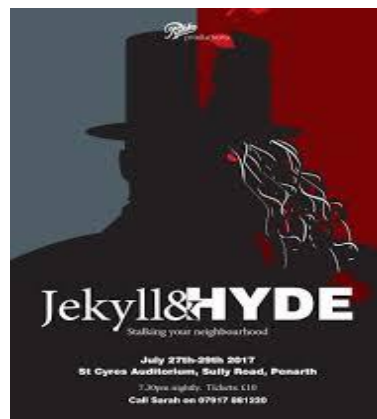
Example: **You were** angry.

# English Literature

Students study four 'texts' as part of the OCR GCSE English Literature course:



or



These are all **CLOSED BOOK** examinations. Therefore, to succeed a student must know the text extremely well!

# **How can you help your child prepare for GCSE English Literature?**

**-Ensure that that your son/daughter revises thoroughly. In particular, help them to learn the key quotes from each of the set texts (on the fridge, post-it notes around the house)**

**-Encourage your child to re-read the set texts nearer the exam to strengthen their understanding of the work**

**-Encourage your child to use the various online resources available for the study of these texts:**

- BBC Bitesize**
- Shmoop**
- Spark Notes**
- Show My Homework**
- Kahoot Quizzes**

**-Again, the recommended revision guides are from CGP. The English department will be taking orders of these in the near future.**



# Any further questions?

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