

GCSE English Literature

September 2024 Newsletter - EXCITING NEWS

Welcome back! We hope that this newsletter finds you and your students well and ready to start the new academic year. In this term's edition we hope to provide you with general and subject-specific updates and information that you may need as you start back. We also have some very exciting news to share with you! The English Language newsletter will be separate this time, but we will go back to a joint newsletter in January.

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1. Poetry Anthology – EXCITING NEWS!

We are very excited to announce that we will be producing a new anthology for the Eduqas GCSE English Literature specification for first teaching in September 2025 and first exam series in Summer 2027. The current anthology will be examined for the last time in summer 2026.

This information will be shared with centres via the newsletters, circulars, through our Professional Learning events and on our website. There will be an updated ordering process to ensure centres are ordering the correct anthology for their cohort of entry. The current anthology's front cover will be updated with the new end date and the new anthology will be a different colour.

There will be 15 poems in the new anthology. **A reduction of 3 from the current 18.** All 15 poems will be new. We recognise the workload of teachers and to support you we will be:

- releasing the list of new poems in September 2024 to give centres time to prepare
- ensuring that 6 of the 13 poets are poets featured in the current anthology
- producing a free set of surround resources – one for each new poem – by summer 2025 – ready for first teaching in September 2025
- producing the anthologies for first order in spring 2025

The poems in the new anthology are:

The Schoolboy	William Blake
I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud	William Wordsworth
Sonnet 29	E Barrett Browning
Cousin Kate	Christina Rossetti
Drummer Hodge	Thomas Hardy
I Shall Return	Claude McKay
Disabled	Wilfred Owen
Decomposition	Zulfikar Ghose
Catrin	Gillian Clarke
Kamikaze	Beatrice Garland
Blackberry Picking	Seamus Heaney
War Photographer	Carol Ann Duffy
Dusting the Phone	Jackie Kay
Remains	Simon Armitage
Origin Story	Eve L Ewing

2. Summer 2024 Results and Accessing Free Scripts

GCSE results in English Literature were published on August 22nd, 2024. The papers and mark schemes from the summer 2024 series are now available to view on our [Portal](#). If you do not have access, please contact your exams officer.

Remember that 26th September is the last date for receipt of enquiries about results. Please see our [website](#) for more details.

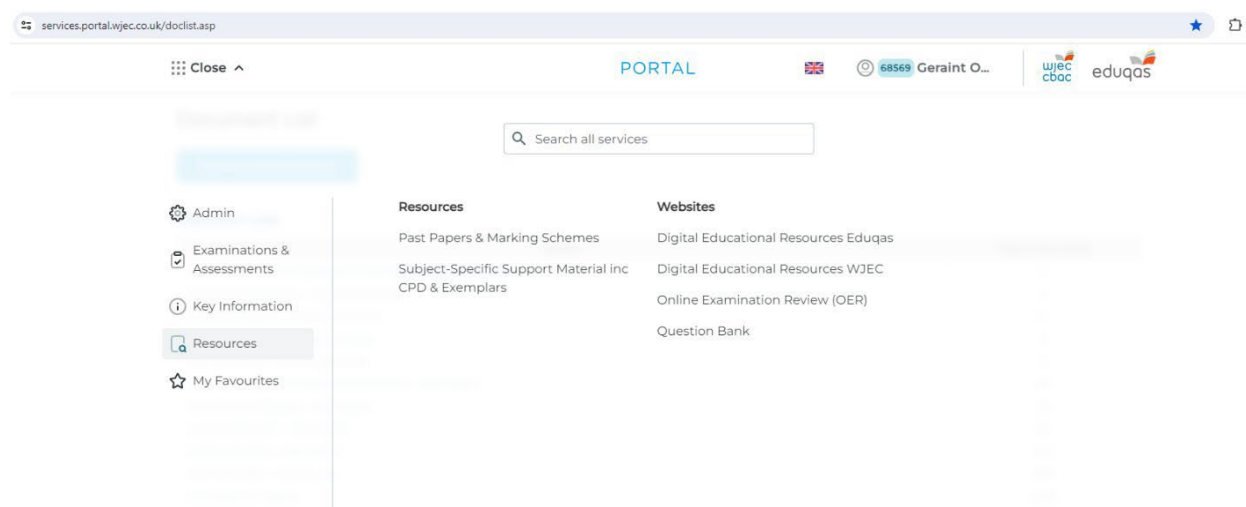
For the summer 2024 series, a free, unannotated scripts service is available for Eduqas GCSE English Literature (C720U10 and C720U20). Centres can download scripts on behalf of candidates via WJEC's [Portal](#) which also includes instructions on the process. Please note that a centre **must** obtain the candidate's permission prior to downloading scripts or applying for a review of marking.

3. Analysing Candidates' Results and Exemplar

WJEC Eduqas offers two services to help you understand your students' results and develop their exam skills: Exam Results Analysis and Online Exam Review.

[Exam Results Analysis](#) on allows you to compare your students' performance on each question with that of the candidature overall, letting you see where they have done well and where there might be room for improvement. To do this, on [Portal](#) under the 'Results' tab, click on 'View/Print Item Level Data' or 'View/Print Centre Performance' for comparable data.

The 2024 exemplar consists of a number of clean and marked exemplars of candidate responses to key questions. These allow students to mark others' work and discuss ways in which it may be improved, thus developing their own skills. Exemplars from past examinations are available now from [GCSE English Literature](#) under the Exemplar tab. Please note - all new exemplar - from 2024 onwards, will be housed on [Portal](#). To find the 2024 exemplar (**available from 1st October**) please follow this path - Login to [Portal](#) - Resources - Subject-Specific Support inc CPD & Exemplars.

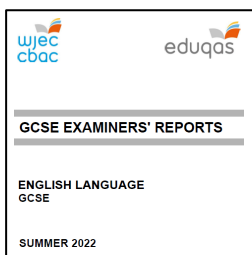


The screenshot shows the WJEC Eduqas Portal interface. At the top, there is a search bar labeled "Search all services". Below this, there are three main columns of navigation options:

- Admin:**
 - Admin
 - Examinations & Assessments
 - Key Information
 - Resources (highlighted)
 - My Favourites
- Resources:**
 - Past Papers & Marking Schemes
 - Subject-Specific Support Material inc CPD & Exemplars
- Websites:**
 - Digital Educational Resources Eduqas
 - Digital Educational Resources WJEC
 - Online Examination Review (OER)
 - Question Bank

A catalogue detailing the range of exemplar available across exam series is available for [GCSE English Literature](#).

4. Principal Examiners' Reports Summer 2024



There will be Interim Principal Examiner's reports for the first time in 2024. The Interim reports provide key points from the summer 2024 series and are available on the subject webpage now. The full reports will be published by 30th September. Both reports will be on the website subject pages for [GCSE English Literature](#). **Please read them carefully** as they provide essential observations and commentary on candidates' performance across the examined series that will help prepare learners for the next series. Each report has a handy bullet pointed list at the end of each section to summarise key points and areas of concern and success as well as links to useful resources in the Interim report.

5. Summer 2024 exams – word processed responses and rubric infringements.

The Principal Examiners for GCSE English Literature noted a high number of illegible responses this series. Centres are reminded that candidates can use a word processor if there is a need for it. This does not need to be applied for via the special considerations process on the secure website, but a coversheet needs to be filled in. The coversheet is available [here](#).

The Principal Examiner reports for GCSE English Literature noted that there were a high number of rubric infringements where candidates were working their way through the paper or treating each extract as 'unseen'. Centres are reminded of the importance of allowing candidates to see a whole paper prior to sitting the live papers to enable them to have the experience of navigating to the texts they have studied.

6. Texts examined for the first time in summer 2025

Centres are reminded that *'Boys Don't Cry'*, by Malorie Blackman, (which will replace *'Never Let Me Go'*, by Kazuo Ishiguro, from Post 1914 Prose) is examined for the first time in summer 2025. The **Knowledge Organiser and Blended Learning resource (with Sample Assessment Materials)** for this text is available on the [Educational Resources website](#).

Secondly, *'Leave Taking'*, by Winsome Pinnock, (which will replace *'A Taste of Honey'* by Shelagh Delaney) will be examined for the first time in summer 2025. The **Knowledge Organiser and Blended Learning resource (with Sample Assessment Materials)** for *Leave Taking* is available on the [Educational Resources website](#).

Finally, *Twelfth Night*, by William Shakespeare, will replace *Henry V* in the Shakespeare section in 2025. The **Knowledge Organiser and Blended Learning resource (with Sample Assessment Materials)** for *Twelfth Night* is available on the [Educational Resources website](#).

To support the teaching of *Twelfth Night*, we have been working with the RSC to look at the exciting possibility of collaborating for future Professional Learning opportunities. In the meantime, we are delighted to share their invitation to attend their Teacher Webinar on Twelfth Night which will take place on Wednesday 18 December 2024. More information about this Professional Learning opportunity can be found on the RSC website (www.rsc.org.uk/cpd). The RSC also offer **full day** workshops (around 6 hours) or **half day** workshops (around 3 hours) in schools anywhere around the country which focus on one specific Shakespeare play and can be tailored to meet a school's bespoke needs in order to support learning outcomes for a variety of classroom contexts.

7. Professional Learning (CPD) Provision 2024-25 – English Literature

GCSE English Literature Assessment > Classroom Practice – Face-to-Face Events

This full-day, face-to-face course is designed for practitioners teaching the **Eduqas GCSE English Literature specification**. The session will provide an in-depth review of the recent summer assessment series, exploring a wealth of marked candidates' assessments and it will consider how feedback on these assessments can inform, develop and improve teaching and learning.

The event is designed to enhance the teaching of Components 1 and 2 and will aim to provide strategies on how learners can produce successful examination responses in relation to the tested assessment objectives.

You will also be provided with a comprehensive **digital** pack of materials which you can share with colleagues.

The dates for these events are:

Date	Venue
4/11/2024	Manchester
19/11/2024	London
26/11/2024	Birmingham

Book places for these GCSE English Literature Professional Learning (CPD) events [here](#).

GCSE English Literature Feedback on summer assessments – Free Online Event 1/10/2024 16.00 – 18.00

This online course is designed for practitioners teaching the Eduqas GCSE English Literature specification. The session will highlight key points from the Principal Examiners' report, giving an overview of performance in the recent summer assessment series, exploring some examples of marked candidates' assessments, and focussing on areas for improvement.

Book places for this GCSE English Literature Professional Learning (CPD) event [here](#).

Materials from Previous CPD Events

Previous CPD materials for GCSE English Literature can be found [here](#).

For 2024/5 and going forward, all new Professional Learning materials will be housed on [Portal](#).

8. Educational Resources / Blended Learning Resources

Blended Learning Resources

Blended Learning Resources are designed to complement teaching with an online learning pack that allows students to work at their own pace. They can be used as revision by students, as part of catch up or for flipped learning. These resources should not be seen as a way to deliver the content in a classroom setting and should always be blended with conventional method.

English Literature

Our English literature Blended Learning Resources contain interactive self-study content covering key characters, themes and approaches. We have Blended Learning Resources for the following texts:

[Leave Taking*](#)

[KS 3-4 Bridging Unit based on A Christmas Carol Lord of the Flies](#)

[An Inspector Calls Blood](#)

[Brothers](#)

[A Christmas Carol](#)

[The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde Unseen](#)

[Poetry](#)

[Boys Don't Cry* Twelfth](#)

[Night*](#)

*new resource

New Centre Guide - GCSE English Literature



[This resource](#) provides useful information for centres teaching the Eduqas GCSE English Literature specification for the first time, along with NQTs and those wishing to refresh their knowledge of the specification.

Exam walk-throughs - GCSE English Literature

Exam walk-throughs are available for GCSE English Literature. These are student-friendly resources that offer practical hints and tips on how to effectively approach questions in the examination papers. Using questions from past exam papers, the PPT with audio help and audio script in the notes will walk students through a mock examination paper, helping them revise and practise useful exam techniques. They can complete the “mock” in a single sitting, tackle one or two questions at a time or revisit some parts of the presentation to reinforce their learning.



9. Knowledge Organisers

GCSE English Literature knowledge organisers

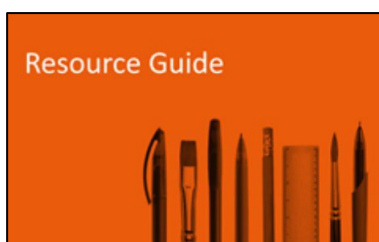


The resources site provides a number of knowledge organisers to support the learning of [GCSE English Literature](#). These could be used for revision or as a starting point for learners to create their own knowledge organisers.

For GCSE English Literature we have knowledge organisers for the following texts:

- [Macbeth](#)
- [Romeo and Juliet](#)
- [Twelfth Night \(new\)](#)
- [Blood Brothers](#)
- [Lord of the Flies](#)
- [Unseen Poetry](#)
- [Woman In Black](#)
- [Jekyll and Hyde](#)
- [A Christmas Carol](#)
- [An Inspector Calls](#)
- [War of the Worlds](#)
- [Leave Taking \(new\)](#)
- [Boys Don't Cry \(new\)](#)

10. Resource Guides



Our Resource Guides provide an overview of the support, guidance and resources available to those teaching the Eduqas GCSE English specifications across our suite of websites.

[GCSE English Literature Resource Guide](#)

11. Key Dates

Key dates for the coming year have been posted on the Eduqas website:

- [GCSE English Literature](#)

12. Regional Support Team

Did you know that we have a Regional Support Team who can offer you any support which you may need?

This includes:

- providing face-to-face and online advice to new and existing centres at a time which is convenient to the centre
- giving practical advice on the best resources for a subject including our digital resources and Online Exam Review
- supporting teachers who are new to a particular subject by going through assessment structure, exam papers, and where to find various resources needed for teaching the subject
- advising centres who are thinking of switching to us

The team is made up of former teachers who understand exactly what kind of support you need to get the most out of your classroom experience. And all the support which they offer is free of charge!

You can find out more, including the regional representative for your area, on our [Regional Support Team](#) page.

13. Order current anthology


The current poetry anthology can be ordered free of charge for centres taking GCSE English Literature with Eduqas. Please email poetryanthology@eduqas.co.uk stating **your centre name, centre number, the number of copies you require and a contact name.**

An electronic copy of the [poetry anthology](#) is available from the website. This can be downloaded as a pdf or as a word copy. The word copy can be used to support learners who need a larger text size as the font can be edited.

We have a range of teaching and learning resources to support the anthology including our [using contexts effectively](#) resources which look at each of the poems in the anthology. You can find lots more on our [Resources](#) website.

The poetry anthology can be ordered at any time during the year. Centres are politely reminded that May to June are busy times with the despatch of examinations to centres and there can be a delay in despatching anthologies if they are ordered within this time frame.

Audio recordings of all of the poems are available for free download from the Key Documents area of the [Eduqas GCSE English Literature webpage](#), under the heading *Resources for Teachers*.

 Eduqas GCSE English Literature Poetry Anthology DVD

14. Become an Examiner



As the entry for Eduqas GCSE English Literature continues to grow, we are keen to appoint new examiners. Examining is an excellent way of learning more about the requirements of the exam and thus supporting your students and developing your skills. It also provides a useful additional income. For further details, please see the [appointees section](#) of the website. The conferences this year will both be held in Cardiff. There will be a full day of face-to-face training. Your accommodation and travel costs will be paid for, and invites will start to go out in November/December. The Component 1 conference will be held on Wednesday 28th May and Component 2 will be on Saturday 31st May.

15. Next newsletter

The next issue will be sent out in January 2025. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please get in touch.

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