

English Language

Exam board: AQA

Link to specification: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-8700/specification>

2026-27 Y11 Mock Exams

Title and length of paper(s):

Paper 1: 5 questions, 1hr 45mins

Paper 2: 5 questions, 1 hr 45mins

Style(s) of question:

AQA Paper 1: four questions relating to one fiction text + one creative writing task

AQA Paper 2: four questions relating to two non-fiction texts + one persuasive/ writing to argue task

*From the last 2 weeks of September, students will be given a weekly programme to structure and focus their revision. They will be given specific techniques to use, along with a schedule of in-lesson activities to check their retention. **An English Literature mock will be taken in the Spring Term.***

Skills to be assessed	Revision resources
Paper 1: 1. Retrieval of information - multiple choice 2. Analysing how language is used for effect 3. Explaining how structure is used for a particular effect 4. Evaluating the writer's methods and how they communicate an idea(s) 5. Creative writing in response to an image or from a suggested story title/idea Paper 2: 1. Selecting four TRUE statements from a list of eight 2. Summarising similarities or differences between how an idea is presented in two texts 3. Analysing how language is used for effect in one text 4. Evaluating the similarities or differences between the two writers' attitudes/viewpoints/perspectives 5. Writing to persuade or argue in response to a suggested statement. Write within a genre and for a particular audience.	Exercise books will contain a lot of practice questions and teacher feedback. GCSEPod – use the English Language assignments Seneca (the free version) contains useful practice material. AQA past papers will get you familiar with the presentation and wording of questions (but be mindful of the changes to some of the questions that don't appear on the older exam papers).