

IGCSE English Language (A)

Understanding the changes to the new specifications

The table below outlines the changes from the current IGCSE specification (first examination June 2011) to the new IGCSE specification (first examination June 2012). The changes are very small and are highlighted in RED. If you have any questions or queries regarding the amended specifications, please read the FAQs on the website or contact the subject advisor team on 0844 372 2188 or at EnglishSubjectAdvisor@edexcelexperts.co.uk.

Current IGCSE English Language (A)	Amended IGCSE English Language (A)		
Specification	Specification		
Paper 1	Paper 1		
70% externally assessed paper	70% externally assessed paper		
2 hour and 15 minute paper	2 hour and 15 minute paper		
Single Tier of Entry	Single Tier of Entry		
60 marks	60 marks		
Section A: Reading	Section A: Reading		
unseen passage and section A of the	unseen passage and section A of the		
anthology	anthology		
Section B: Writing	Section B: Writing		
	New improved mark schemes		
	Digital text now included		
	in the Anthology (PDF of a webpage)		
Paper 2 (Optional)	Paper 2 (Optional)		
30% externally assessed paper	30% externally assessed paper		
1 hour and 30 minute paper	1 hour and 30 minute paper		
Single Tier of Entry	Single Tier of Entry		
30 marks	30 marks		
Section A: Reading - Section B of the	Section A: Reading - Section B of the		
anthology	anthology		
Section B: Writing	Section B: Writing		
	New improved mark schemes		
Paper 3 (Optional taken with paper 4)	Paper 3 (Optional taken with paper 4)		
20% internally assessed paper	20% internally assessed paper		
2 pieces of coursework covering reading and	2 pieces of coursework covering reading and		
writing	writing		
80 marks (40 for each assignment)	80 marks (40 for each assignment)		
Assignment 1: Reading - Section B of the	Assignment 1: Reading - Section B of the		
anthology	anthology		
Assignment 2: Writing	Assignment 2: Writing		
Paper 4 (Optional taken with paper 3)	Paper 4 (Optional taken with paper 3)		
Speaking and Listening	Speaking and Listening		
10% internally assessed paper	10% internally assessed paper		
2 assignments:	3 assignments:		
Individual	Individual		
Group work	Pair work		
80 marks (40 for each assignment)	Group work		
	120 marks (40 for each assignment)		