

# IGCSE English qualifications

delivered locally, recognised globally

**IGCSE**

## Contact us

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### About Edexcel

Edexcel, a Pearson company, is the UK's largest awarding body offering academic and vocational qualifications across 112 countries including the IGCSE, GCSE and O Levels, AS and A Levels, and the BTEC suite of vocational qualifications from entry level to the BTEC Higher National Diploma.

Further copies of this publication are available from Edexcel publications:  
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## Why choose London Examinations IGCSE English qualifications?

London Examinations IGCSE English qualifications are contemporary courses that have been designed to meet the abilities and ambitions of all your students – from those who want to develop their literacy skills to a first language level, to those who want to improve their competence in English.

### Courses available:

- IGCSE English Language
- IGCSE English Literature
- IGCSE English as a Second Language

### Recognition and progression

IGCSE English qualifications are recognised as equivalent, grade for grade, to a UK GCSE and have the same status in terms of university entry requirements. IGCSE senior examiners have experience in examining both GCSE and IGCSE, ensuring that standards are consistent. This qualification provides many progression opportunities. On successful completion, students can choose to further their studies by taking GCE AS and A level English courses, or other equivalent qualifications.

Our IGCSE in English as a Second Language at grade C or above is recognised in the UCAS International Qualifications booklet as evidence of competence in English for UK university admission.

### IGCSE English Language

#### Equal to UK standards

The qualification is modelled on the UK GCSE English, and incorporates the best features of the London Examinations O level English Language. It is marked to the same standard as GCSE English, and as a result can be regarded as a first-language qualification.

#### Straightforward teaching

Study is based on an anthology of fiction and non-fiction texts which is provided free of charge. The texts have been carefully chosen to illustrate the range of reading required at this level. Through studying these texts students will learn about the conventions of different forms and styles of writing, and can use these as models for their own writing. This approach has the added benefit of helping students prepare for their final exams, as they are assessed on both the anthology pieces they have studied, and their responses to unprepared reading material.

#### Choice of assessment

This qualification is assessed in the same way as a UK GCSE, with a Foundation tier (grades C to G) or Higher tier (grades A\* to D) available to suit students of different abilities.

Students can be entered for either coursework, or for the exam alternative. Those choosing the coursework option are additionally required to submit two assessments to demonstrate their competence at speaking and listening. These are assessed by the teacher, and a free video is provided to give teachers guidance on how to carry out these assessments.

All students must take two assessment components:

- Paper 1F (Foundation tier) or 2H (Higher tier)
- Paper 3 or coursework.

### IGCSE English Literature

#### Global content

A truly international course which introduces students to the in-depth study of prose, poetry and drama. There is a wide choice of titles from prescribed lists of prose and drama texts, and a free anthology of poems is provided for the poetry component of the course. The prescribed texts range from traditional English literature to texts in translation from around the world. With only three texts to study, the course is easily completed in a year, making it the ideal complement to IGCSE English Language.

#### Choice of assessment

There is a single tier of entry. Students take two assessment components:

- Paper 1 (drama and prose)
- Paper 2 (poetry) or coursework (poetry).

There is a choice of question on each text. Questions are carefully worded to encourage a personal response, supported by knowledge and understanding of the text. Paper 1 (drama and prose) is a 'closed text' exam while Paper 2 (poetry) is an 'open text' exam.

### IGCSE English as a Second Language

#### Higher Education recognition

Designed for students taking a range of IGCSEs and who would find a second language qualification more relevant than IGCSE English Language. It is benchmarked to Level B2 of the Common European Framework, which gives it currency for university entry at grade C and above.

#### Focused content

While IGCSE English Language assesses responses to a range of reading, including some literary texts, IGCSE English as a Second Language concentrates on non-fiction texts, and the answers required are generally shorter and less inferential. In the reading and listening exercises students are required to skim for overall meaning and to scan for detail. Students are given a clear purpose and audience in all writing tasks.

#### Choice of assessment

There is a single tier of entry. Students can take two or three assessment components:

- Paper 1 (reading and writing)
- Paper 2 (listening audiotape)
- Paper 3 (spoken test, optional, separately awarded).

The optional **speaking test** is based on task cards which are designed to lead the student from directed speech towards a more free-ranging extended discussion. All speaking tests are audio taped and sent to Edexcel for marking.

### Supporting you

#### Teaching resources

The following teaching resources are available:

- Exemplar exam papers and mark schemes
- Teacher's guides
- Student Study Guides for IGCSE English Language and IGCSE English Literature are available from Edexcel Publications, covering all aspects of the course, and full of suggestions for using the anthology. These are practical workbooks, with spaces for students to respond to questions.
- The National Extension College (NEC), with many years' experience of providing self-study support for UK qualifications, has published an Edexcel-endorsed pack for IGCSE English Language. This material is available as either tutor-supported distance learning courses or as classroom resource materials. To find out more visit [www.nec.ac.uk](http://www.nec.ac.uk)
- Similar support for IGCSE English as a Second Language will be available in 2006.

#### Training courses

A programme of face-to-face training courses is run annually to give guidance on how to teach IGCSE qualifications effectively. There is also an online training service 'INSET through the internet' available to those who prefer to do their training online.

#### Advice from subject experts

We offer a consultancy service for all of our IGCSE English qualifications. Senior examiners will answer queries from teachers, and advise on marking standards.

#### Website

For more details about our teacher resources, training and support, visit our website [www.edexcel.org.uk/international](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/international)

### Interested?

To find out more about our IGCSEs and to view our specifications online, visit our website [www.edexcel.org.uk/igcse](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/igcse)

Edexcel International has an extensive network of regional offices to help you become an Edexcel centre. If you would like to find your nearest regional office, please contact Customer Services on **+44 1 908 847750**.

