

Key Stage 4

AQA GCSE English Language 8700

Currently, students at Riverside are undertaking AQA GCSE English Language 8700, to fall in line with College entrance requirements. There is no Coursework element as such, although there is a non-examination Spoken Language Assessment which is nil weighted. This GCSE is assessed solely by terminal examinations. Students will draw upon a range of texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st Centuries as reading stimulus and engage with creative as well as real and relevant contexts. There will be two terminal examinations as follows:-

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (1 hour 45 minutes) 50% of GCSE

Section A: Reading – one literature fiction text.

Section B: Writing – descriptive or narrative writing



Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (1 hour 45 minutes) 50% of GCSE

Section A: Reading – one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text.

Section B: Writing – writing to present a viewpoint.

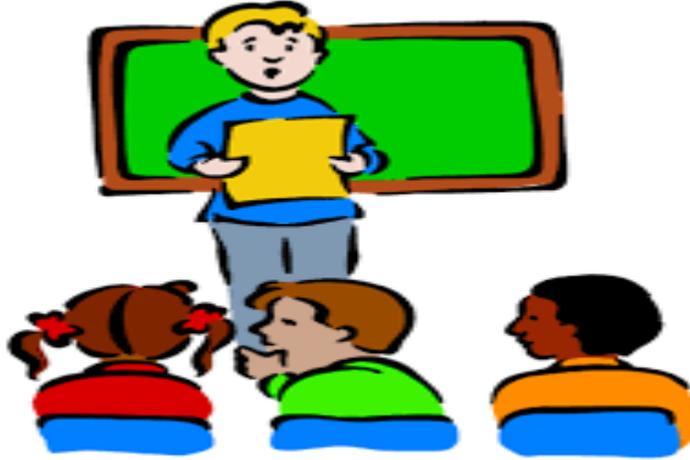
All texts in the examinations will be unseen.



Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language:

- presenting;
- responding to questions and feedback;
- use of Standard English.

This will be assessed by teacher and will receive a separate endorsement (0% weighting of GCSE).



Key Stage 3

At KS3, students will increase their proficiency in the three major areas of:

- Speaking & Listening;
- Reading;
- Writing.

This will provide them with the foundation for success at GCSE, so the aim is to develop the skills and technical accuracy needed.

Additionally, they will learn the communication skills necessary for future success in the society in which we live. As such, there is a great emphasis on the teaching of spellings, punctuation and grammar. They will have an opportunity to broaden their social and cultural awareness through carefully selected reading material.

Texts will include Literary Heritage and Multi-cultural Poetry, Modern Drama and Prose as well as the all-important Shakespeare. They will study a range of texts from a variety of different genres, both fiction and non-fiction. They will also learn core skills such as letter writing, setting out an argument and expressing a point of view.