

GCSE English Language past papers

AQA English Language (8700) question papers and source inserts, organised by year. Each link opens the paper on AQA's website.

[New-style sample papers](#) [2025](#) [2024](#) [2023](#) [2022](#) [2021](#) [2020](#)

How to use these: each paper comes with an insert containing the source texts — download both. Mark schemes are on AQA's website under the same subject page. Some extracts may be removed from older papers for copyright reasons.

New-style sample papers

Practice papers in the format students will sit from summer 2026 onwards.

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Question paper](#) PDF, 439.5 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 134.37 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Question paper](#) PDF, 335.14 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 322.93 KB

2025

June 2025

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Question paper](#) PDF, 689.2 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 141.01 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Question paper](#) PDF, 332.41 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 227.25 KB

2024

November 2024

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Question paper](#) PDF, 8.42 MB

[Insert](#) PDF, 142.13 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Question paper](#) PDF, 332.71 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 227.4 KB

June 2024

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Question paper](#) PDF, 706.06 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

Not currently listed by AQA

2023

June 2023

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Question paper](#) PDF, 994.78 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 156.01 KB

AQA lists this as "Sample set 1 June 2023"

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Question paper](#) PDF, 341.8 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 1.71 MB

Modified enlarged versions (5)

[Paper 1 question paper \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 579.59 KB

[Paper 1 insert \(A3 36pt\)](#)

PDF, 116.29 KB

[Paper 2 insert \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 974.07 KB

[Paper 1 insert \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 108.08 KB

[Paper 2 question paper \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 290.21 KB

2022

November 2022

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Question paper](#) PDF, 1.19 MB

[Insert](#) PDF, 189.38 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Question paper](#) PDF, 373.88 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 253.94 KB

June 2022

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Question paper](#) PDF, 978 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 154.17 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Question paper](#) PDF, 418.66 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 200.96 KB

Modified enlarged versions (4)

[Paper 1 question paper \(A3 36pt\)](#)

PDF, 1.14 MB

[Paper 1 insert \(A3 36pt\)](#)

PDF, 103.84 KB

[Paper 1 insert \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 97.72 KB

[Paper 2 insert \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 122.23 KB

2021

November 2021

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Question paper](#) PDF, 4.3 MB

[Insert](#) PDF, 203.81 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Question paper](#) PDF, 483.29 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 251.76 KB

Modified enlarged versions (3)

[Paper 1 question paper \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 1010.78 KB

[Paper 2 insert \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 120.37 KB

[Paper 1 insert \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 130.15 KB

2020

November 2020

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Question paper](#) PDF, 809.09 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 177.6 KB

Modified enlarged versions (5)

[Paper 1 question paper \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 1.28 MB

[Paper 1 insert \(A3 36pt\)](#)

PDF, 119.04 KB

[Paper 2 insert \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 360.28 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Question paper](#) PDF, 434.55 KB

[Insert](#) PDF, 1.72 MB

[Paper 1 insert \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 115.13 KB

[Paper 2 question paper \(A4 18pt\)](#)

PDF, 389.36 KB