

GCSE English Language mark schemes

AQA English Language (8700) mark schemes, organised by year. Each link opens the mark scheme on AQA's website.

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

How to use these: try the paper under timed conditions first, then mark it yourself. The mark schemes show the skills examiners reward at each level, with example points — use them to see how to move your answer up a level.

New-style sample papers

Mark schemes for the practice papers in the format students will sit from summer 2026 onwards.

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 350.11 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 329.24 KB

2025

June 2025

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 555.56 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 266.49 KB

2024

November 2024

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 1.15 MB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 257.42 KB

June 2024

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 425.65 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 267.64 KB

2023

November 2023

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 1.77 MB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 267.71 KB

June 2023

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 473.94 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 258.87 KB

2022

November 2022

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 295.77 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 295 KB

June 2022

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 397.13 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 295.98 KB

2021

November 2021

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 318.55 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 298.16 KB

2020

November 2020

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 420.23 KB

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 296.83 KB

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