

GCSE English Literature mark schemes

AQA English Literature (8702) mark schemes, organised by year. Each link opens the mark scheme on AQA's website.

[2025](#) [2024](#) [2023](#) [2022](#) [2021](#) [2020](#) [Sample papers](#)

How to use these: try the paper under timed conditions first, then mark it yourself. Each mark scheme covers every set text — go to the section for the texts you are studying to see the ideas examiners credit and what each level looks like.

2025

June 2025

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 273.56 KB

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 396.5 KB

2024

June 2024

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 335.64 KB

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 442.24 KB

2023

June 2023

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 303.94 KB

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 425.71 KB

2022

Adapted exam: in this series the papers were split differently from the exams you will sit. The mark schemes still show what examiners reward for each set text.

June 2022

Paper 1N: The 19th-century novel

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 282.16 KB

Paper 1M: Modern prose and drama

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 359.76 KB

Paper 1P: Poetry anthology

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 243.11 KB

Paper 2: Shakespeare and unseen poetry

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 319.34 KB

2021

Adapted exam: in this series the papers were split differently from the exams you will sit. The mark schemes still show what examiners reward for each set text.

November 2021

Paper 1N: The 19th-century novel

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 281.6 KB

Paper 1M: Modern prose and drama

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 356.94 KB

Paper 1P: Poetry anthology

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 254.86 KB

Paper 2: Shakespeare and unseen poetry

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 308.06 KB

2020

November 2020

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 303.28 KB

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 429.5 KB

Sample papers

Mark schemes for AQA's original sample papers, published in 2014 when this course began.

Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 353.77 KB

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

[Mark scheme](#) PDF, 489.29 KB

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