

Question Type	Red	Amber	Green
Word/phrase meaning			
How does the writer present/prove (Unit 2)			
How does the writer persuade (Unit 3)			
Explain			
Synthesis			
Summary (Unit 3)			
Comparison			
Thoughts and feelings			
Impressions			
Editing (Unit 2)			
Proof Reading (Unit 2)			
Narrative/Description (Unit 2)			
Exposition (Unit 2)			
Formal Letter			
Article			
Leaflet			
Speech/Talk			



Tips to help you gain the highest grades in English Language GCSE

In order to achieve the highest grades in English, you must ensure that you have plenty of ideas and opinions which you can draw on to use in your written responses. Keeping up to date with world events is a good way to do this; perhaps you can watch the news, or read articles online. This site is made for young people and will help you to develop opinions of your own.

[Homepage - The Day](#)

Without question, reading will help you to achieve the highest grades as different texts will expose you to a range of sentence structures, punctuation and will also help you to develop a more ambitious vocabulary, which is certainly an A\* success criteria.

If you are thinking of taking English for A Level, have a look at the WJEC set text list; perhaps you could challenge yourself to read one to develop your reading skills.

[wjec-gce-english-literature-set-texts-list.pdf](#)

Here is the link to some of the past papers and mark schemes. We will cover most of these in class, but are certainly a helpful resource to support revision.

[GCSE English Language \(wjec.co.uk\)](#)

### [WJEC Educational Resources Website](#)

Here is a link to some lessons compiled by the exam board, to test your knowledge and skills. Use them as part of your revision.

You will be taught **HOW** to answer the reading questions in your lessons, however there are many key words that appear on the A/A\* mark scheme.



Here are some top tips!

1. Make sure that you closely **consider evidence** to support your ideas; choose the most effective quote.
2. Ensure that your evidence is **accurate** and covers a **range** of the texts.
3. Where appropriate (HOW questions, for example) comment on **the writer's technique** using the **correct linguistic terminology** (verb, adverb, metaphor etc).
4. The highest band demands that you make **accurate** and **perceptive** comments in your reading responses. A perceptive comment will certainly drill down to **analyse** individual words and phrases. You will see something in language that others perhaps don't. Unfortunately, this is not something that can be taught, but the more you read outside of class, the more your vocabulary will improve and your ability to think perceptively will improve also.

### Communication and Organisation

- **Mature** and **perceptive** writing.
- **Sustained** and effective writing with **techniques** that fully engage the reader's interest.
- Appropriate register is confidently adapted to purpose/audience - **use the correct tone for the task and audience.**
- Ideas are convincingly developed with detail, **originality and creativity.** You need to think about including details that will make your writing stand out from the huge pile of exam scripts that examiners will have to mark.
- Secure and coherent structure; there is **sophistication** in the shape and structure of the writing. **Think about HOW you can organise your ideas to engage your audience.**

### Writing Accurately

- Use a **wide range of ambitious** and appropriate **vocabulary** confidently to create effect or convey precise meaning. Learn the vocabulary from your writing challenges.
- **Vary sentence structures, and sentence beginnings** Think about how sentence lengths can be used to create effect.
- **Proof read** to ensure work is **grammatically correct** (including **tenses** and **spelling**)
- Use a **range of punctuation** confidently and accurately

