

GCSE English - Key Stage 4

English teaching at The Observatory School aims to challenge, excite and promote curiosity in all our learners. It gives students the chance to experience the wide world around us and to hear voices very different to their own. There is a focus on creativity in English lessons but also an understanding that accurate usage of English in written and spoken interactions is a vital life skill and will give students the confidence they need to reach their academic and work-related goals.

In Key Stage 4 pupils have the option of studying for a GCSE in English Language, Functional Skills qualifications or even both.

The Eduqas English Language GCSE provides the opportunity for flexible teaching approaches, with a specification designed to be highly accessible, broad and interesting.

Carson Year 11	GCSE Q3: Viewpoint and attitude How can we tell what the writer's opinion is? What techniques might they use? Creative writing practice (stories) Spellzone	GCSE Q4: Intended audience Non-fiction writing (articles) Spellzone	GCSE Q5: Persuasive techniques How can you identify persuasive techniques? Non-fiction writing (speeches) Spellzone	GCSE Q6: Comparison of two texts Comparing styles, content and structure. Comparing writing from different centuries Non-fiction writing (letters and emails)	Revision of locating and retrieving and impressions questions Creative writing practice (descriptions)	Exams
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Storey Year 10	Great Expectations (abridged) Spellzone	Writing for a newspaper The hallmarks of journalism The importance and role of an introduction, main body and conclusion. The use of quotations and witness reports in journalism <i>(building on and developing skills in factual writing taught in Yr 7)</i> Spellzone	Practice of Functional Skills L1 and Entry Level (if appropriate) Spellzone	Practice of Functional Skills L1 and Entry Level (if appropriate) Spellzone	GCSE Questions 1: locating and retrieving information Reading a text for gist and drawing out pertinent information Spellzone	DNA by Dennis Kelly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussing events in the news • Arguing a point of view • Writing to influence and persuade • Finding a character's voice <p>Collective</p> <p>Spellzone</p>