

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
GCE ORDINARY LEVEL
(Syllabus 1127)

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AIMS

At the end of their secondary education, students will be able to communicate effectively in English. They will be able to:

- listen to, read and view with understanding, accuracy and critical appreciation, a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts from print, non-print and electronic sources.
- speak, write and make presentations in internationally acceptable English that is grammatical, fluent and appropriate for purpose, audience, context and culture. At higher levels of proficiency, students will speak and write for academic purposes and creative expression, using language that is inventive and imaginative.
- think through, interpret and evaluate fiction and non-fiction texts from print and electronic sources to analyse: how language is used to evoke responses and construct meaning; how information is presented; and how different modes of presentation create impact.
- interact effectively with people from their own or different cultures.

These aims form the basis of a course of study; they may not all be translated into Assessment Objectives for formal examination.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

Candidates should be able to:

IN PAPER 1

- (i) communicate clearly and effectively to suit purpose, audience, context and culture
- (ii) write in internationally acceptable English
- (iii) plan, organise and write coherently and cohesively
- (iv) write relevantly, showing development of ideas
- (v) write creatively on a given topic or situation
- (vi) use appropriate vocabulary with clarity and precision
- (vii) use correct grammar and punctuation, and spell accurately

IN PAPER 2

- (i) comprehend texts at the literal and inferential levels
- (ii) understand how the purpose of various texts is achieved through text organisation and the use of cohesive devices, grammar and vocabulary
- (iii) identify the main ideas and details in texts
- (iv) use contextual clues to understand the information present in a text
- (v) synthesise, summarise and organise information
- (vi) give reasons to support an opinion or a response

IN PAPER 3

Reading Aloud

- (i) *Pronunciation and Articulation*: read a passage with good pronunciation and clear articulation
- (ii) *Rhythm and Fluency*: read with appropriate rhythm and stress to achieve a well-paced, fluent rendering of a passage
- (iii) *Expressiveness*: read with appropriate variation of pitch and tone in order to convey the information, ideas and feelings in a passage

Picture Discussion

- (iv) *Interpretation and Explanation*: interpret and explain the situations in the picture with supporting details
- (v) *Language*: use a range of appropriate vocabulary and structures to complete the task
- (vi) *Coherence*: develop ideas in a clear and coherent manner

Conversation

- (vii) *Personal Response*: give a personal response to the theme of the picture and the passage
- (viii) *Clarity of Expression*: express himself/herself clearly and succinctly in a conversation using appropriate vocabulary and structures
- (ix) *Engagement in Conversation*: discuss issues that arise with the Examiner stemming from the picture and the passage

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT

There are three compulsory papers:

Paper	Description	Range of Marks	Weighting	Duration	
Paper 1 Composition	This paper is divided into two sections:	Candidates answer both Section 1 and Section 2.	Total marks: 60	40%	1 hr 45 mins
	Section 1 – Free Writing	Five topics are set. Candidates choose one topic and write 350–500 words on it.	30		
	Section 2 – Situational Writing	Candidates write 250–350 words on the question.	30		
Paper 2 Comprehension	This paper contains one or two comprehension passages of a total length of about 1200 words.	All questions are compulsory.	Total marks: 50	40%	1 hr 40 mins
		Comprehension questions.	20		
		Vocabulary questions.	5		
		Summary question (Candidates write a 150-word summary, not including the introductory words).	25		
Paper 3 Oral Communication	This paper consists of three parts:	All parts are compulsory.	Total marks: 40	20%	about 20 mins (including 10 mins preparation time)
	Part 1 – Reading Aloud	All three parts are thematically linked.	12		
	Part 2 – Picture Discussion		12		
Part 3 – Conversation	16				