

Cardinal Newman Catholic School

Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company

YEAR 10



Mock Examination Booklet

MADE FOR GREATNESS

Name:

“Knowledge through the light of faith”



CARDINAL
NEWMAN
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Mock Examination Letter

September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Mock Examinations

We hope that you and your family are well.

Historically, the English Department have entered all Year 10 students for their GCSE English Language qualification in the summer exam series at the end of the academic year. Students then complete their GCSE English Literature qualification at the end of Year 11.

For our current Year 10 cohort, we will continue with early entry for GCSE English Language which means that students will take their GCSE English Language examinations at the end of Year 10 in Summer 2025.

By opting to enter Year 10 for their English Language at the end of next year, we feel that this will provide students with the best chance of success, as splitting the examinations will allow for maximum focus on each qualification.

A breakdown of the qualifications can be found on the following page.

Students in Year 10 will be taking their first GCSE English Language mock examination on Tuesday 4th November 2025 (AM)

Mock examinations are an important part of Year 10 as they help to identify student progress and understanding, identifying gaps for future learning as well as providing students with further examination experience ahead of their summer examinations.

This booklet will support students in preparing for these mock exams and will outline the following:

- Topics covered in the assessments
- Which sections should be completed in the revision materials and workbooks
- How the books should be used
- What further revision can be completed

Please use this booklet and the revision materials provided on Class Charts and in lessons to prepare for these exams. Keep them safe as this is a valuable resource. It will also be sent electronically to all students.

We recognise that sometimes the assessment season can cause some students to feel anxious or stressed. We want this to be a positive experience that supports and develops the skills and resilience in preparation for future examinations. If you need any further support, guidance or information please do not hesitate in contacting us. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and a huge well done to all those students who have started so well in Year 10 and have continued to work hard and demonstrate that they are truly made for greatness.

Please do not hesitate to make contact if you have any further queries.

Yours faithfully

Mr J McLintock
Head of Year 10
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Ms E O'Connor
Headteacher
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English (WJEC Eduqas)

GCSE English Language (Summer 2026 – end of Year 10)

Paper 1 (1 hour, 45 minutes)

1. 20th Century Literature Reading
2. Creative Prose Writing

Paper 2 (2 hours)

1. 19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading
2. Transactional/Persuasive Writing

GCSE English Literature (Summer 2027 – end of Year 11)

Paper 1 (2 hours)

1. Shakespeare (Macbeth)
2. Poetry Anthology

Paper 2 (2 hours, 30 minutes)

1. Post 1914 Drama (An Inspector Calls)
2. 19th Century Prose (A Christmas Carol)
3. Unseen Poetry

Assessment Timetable

Subject	Date & AM/PM	Topics Covered	Equipment Needed	Venue & Seat Number

Key Reminders:

- You must be on school site for **8.15am**. You must then **sign-in outside the Sixth Form block** (opposite Student Reception)
- **Attendance is compulsory** to all examinations
- Check your **seating plans** (you should know your seat number/venue **before** arriving to the examination).
- You must **bring your equipment**: clear pencil case, water (label off), pens, pencils and subject specific equipment when necessary e.g. calculator, ruler etc.
- **Uniform**- same standards apply, no jewellery, blazer on.
- After an examination, you will **report immediately to the canteen** (unless you have extra time) where your teacher will collect you.

Exam Regulations

- You should **not attempt to communicate with any other students**. This includes turning around and look at other students once seated. Examination conditions remain until you had left the exam room.
- **All electronic devices** should be **switched off and placed in your bag** before you enter the room
- **Do not bring** any **pieces of paper** in your pockets.
- **Labels must be removed from water bottles** before entering the room.
- Any **watches** must be taken off and **are not allowed in the exam room**.
- You must be in **full school uniform**. Any student without the correct uniform will not be allowed into the examination hall.

Exam Season Timings

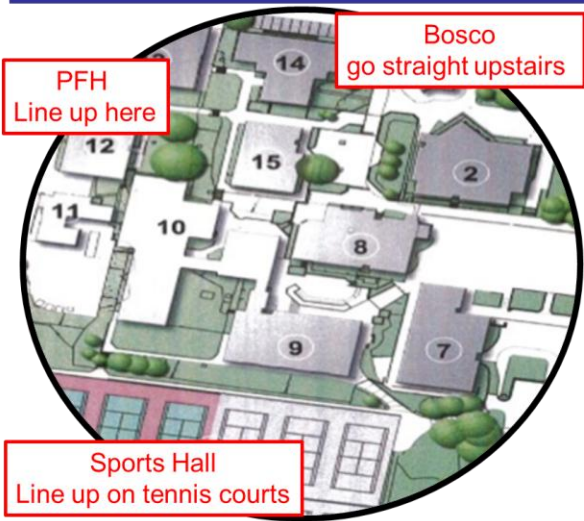
AM - Line Up 8.40am

Examinations

Where are the Exams?

Sports Hall	Most examinations take place in the Sports Hall
PFH	Students who receive extra time or need a smaller environment
Exam Access	Upstairs Bosco classrooms

Where do we line up?



Line up in the correct row in seat order (normally alphabetical)

Wait in silence so that you can hear instructions.

When instructed you will be guided into the assessment venue

There should be no talking once you have entered the venue.

Move to your seat when instructed and remain there for further instructions.

What do we do with our bags?



Please take your bag and coat and place in the entrance to the sports hall

Those in the PFH will put their bags into the sports cupboard

Bosco student will be instructed when they arrive.

Assessment Booklet

GCSE English Language

What am I being assessed on?

In your mock, you will complete a Component 1 mock exam which will test your AO1 – AO6 skills.

Section A: 20th Century Fiction Reading (1 hour)

Section B: Narrative Writing (45 minutes)

What revision material should I revise from?

You should revise:

- Word types (nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives)
- Sentence forms (simple, compound, complex)
- Sentence types (declarative, exclamative, interrogative, imperative)
- Figurative language (simile, metaphor, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia, pathetic fallacy)
- Features of fictional texts (plot, characters, themes, progression, tone, atmosphere, tension)

How can I revise?

- **Quizzing:** create a mini text or quiz on a topic (e.g. AOs/ terminology) with a friend and swap
- **Graphic organisers:** are a handy vehicle to get students reconstructing their revision topics, making meaningful links and connections
- **Example Questions:** test yourself on the skills by practicing example questions
- **Mindmaps:** A mind map is a diagram used to visually organize information. A mind map is hierarchical and shows relationships among pieces of the whole.
- **Flashcards:** to write keywords or notes on cards and test yourself on the meaning
- **Seneca:** recapping the skills needed for AO1 and AO2
- **Educake:** recapping the skills needed for AO1-6

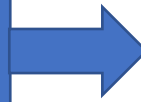
Assessment Booklet

GCSE English Language

Additional Revision Tasks & Resources

You will be given a
Component 1 Revision
Guide by your teacher.

They will assign tasks for
you to complete in the lead
up to your mock exam.



English Language Component 1

20th Century Literature *Reading and Narrative* *Writing* Revision Guide

Name.....

Class/Teacher.....

You can also use
Educake to
complete practice
questions.



Tips for Success:

- Read the text twice and highlight key quotations as you read the second time
- In Q1 you do not need to write in full sentences
- Try to include 10+ quotations or more in 10 mark questions
- Plan your narrative before you writing using the structure advised
- Check your SPAG once you've finished your story

Examinations



AI and Assessments

A quick guide for students



What is AI?

- AI stands for artificial intelligence and using it is like having a computer that thinks
- AI tools like ChatGPT or Snapchat My AI can write text, make art and create music by learning from data from the internet, but watch out – they can also make things up and be biased



How can AI be misused in assessments?

AI misuse is when you take something made using AI and say it's your own work.

THIS IS CHEATING!

How do I make sure I don't misuse AI?



1 Know the rules

- You're **not allowed** to use AI tools when you're in an exam
- Your teachers will tell you if you're allowed to use AI tools when doing your coursework – the rules will depend on your qualification
- Even if you're allowed to use AI tools, you can't get marks for content just produced by AI – your marks come from showing your own understanding and producing your own work

2 Reference reference reference!

If you're allowed to use AI tools, you must reference them clearly

- Name the AI tool you used
- Add the date you generated the content
- Explain how you used it
- Save a screenshot of the questions you asked and the answers you got

3 Declare it's all your own work

– When you hand in your assessment, you have to sign a declaration. Anything without a reference must be all your own work. If you've used an AI tool, don't sign the declaration until you're sure you've added all the references



What happens if I misuse AI?

If you've misused AI, you could lose your marks for the assessment – you could even be disqualified from the subject.

DON'T RISK IT!



REMEMBER
Misusing AI is cheating!

Know the rules
Talk to your teachers
Reference clearly