



# **New Edexcel GCSE English at Rivers ESC**

# English studies at Rivers ESC comprises of:

- GCSE English language
- GCSE Spoken language endorsement
- GCSE English literature
  
- Functional skills English – Level one and two

# Course specification

## Edexcel GCSE (9 -1) English language

- **English Language:**

Linear course - No coursework – **two exams**

- **Speaking and Listening:**

- No longer a percentage of the qualification for the GCSE Language, this is recorded and certified separately – **Pass, Merit or Distinction**

## Paper one

1 hour 45 minutes [40%]

### Section A: Reading

- Four graduating questions on an unseen 19th century fiction text

### Section B: Creative Writing

- Choice of two tasks linked to the theme of the 19th century fiction with an image as a stimulus

## Paper two

2 Hours [60%]

### Section A: Comparison of two unseen texts from the 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> century

- Seven questions on two non-fiction texts

### Section B: Transactional writing

- Choice of two tasks linked to the theme of the comparison texts.
- Writing Newspaper articles, letters etc.

## The new English GCSE will:

- teach students the skills of *inference and deduction* in order to explore a range of fiction texts (novels, plays, poetry); and non-fiction texts.
- help students use *wide-ranging and sophisticated vocabulary* alongside a variety of sentence structures and punctuation in order to engage the reader.
- teach students to *make the most of their voice*, giving them a platform to share their views and ideas both in informal discussion and more formal presentation activities.
- *Focus on ensuring that every student masters the* fundamental aspects of English *that is required for further education and future careers.*

# Course specification

## Edexcel GCSE (9 -1)

### English Literature

- **English Language:**  
Linear course - No coursework – **two exams**

## Paper 1 [50%]

1 Hour 45 mins

### Section A: Shakespeare

- Two part question – analysis of an extract and relation to a theme in *'Romeo & Juliet'*.

### Section B: Post 1914 British play or novel

- One extract based question on *'The Woman in Black'*

## Paper 2 [50%]

2 hours 15 mins

### Section B: 19<sup>th</sup> Century novel

Two part question – analysis of an extract and relation to a theme in *'A Christmas Carol'*

### Section B: Poetry since 1789

- A comparative response to a named poem in the anthology
- A comparison of two unseen poems

# Useful websites - free online resources for independent study:

[www.englishbiz.co.uk](http://www.englishbiz.co.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk) › Bitesize › GCSE

Sparknotes