

Year 11 GCSE Exam Support

2022-2023

As GCSE examinations are fast approaching for Year 11 it is important that you are aware of any additional key tips or techniques to support, you when answering key questions in your subject area. The information outlined below identifies the layout of the examination paper and gives some strategies to support you when revising.

Subject	How many papers?	Layout of examination questions/ Key tips/ Techniques
GCSE Business Studies	Two Papers Paper 1- Business activity, Marketing and People. (Theory 1) Paper 2- Operations, Finance and Influences on Business (Theory 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both papers are out of 80 Marks • Each paper starts with 15 multiple choice questions • Each paper is then split into 3 further sections and each section starts with a business scenario which you must read carefully and thoroughly. • Each section has a mix of 1,2- and 3-mark questions with one larger question at the end of each section either a 7 or a 9-mark question. • Make sure that if the question mentions the business name, then you MUST use something from the scenario text in your answer. Each paper has approximately 18 marks for simply linking your answer to the text you have been given. (Easy marks do not lose them)
Vocational Award in Construction	Two examinations (both online assessments) Unit 1: Safety and Security in Construction Unit 3: Planning Construction projects	<p>Unit 1 has questions about safety and security aspects in the construction industry. Most of the questions usually refer to a made-up construction company and scenario. The questions are usually a mix of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Short answer questions (2-4 marks). ✓ Extended answer questions (up to 6marks). ✓ The last question in the paper usually requires you to identify and explain and range of different hazards, risks and control measures for up to four situations (4 x 5marks per situation) <p>Unit 1 is worth 60 marks and 25% of your grade</p> <p>Unit 3 is all about planning construction projects. Most of the questions refer to a made-up company/scenario. They paper is broken down into different tasks;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Task one usually involves applying maths to construction problems (length, area, volumes, total costs) up to 15 marks ✓ Task two; identify and explain the roles and responsibilities of craft/trades persons. Up to 15 marks ✓ Task three, four, five; identifying construction sequences and factors that affect construction projects. Up to 30 marks

		Unit 3 is worth 60 marks and 25% of your grade (although total marks for each Task are high, they are broken down into smaller parts. Don't forget to show any working)
GCSE Design and Technology	One exam paper Component 1: Design and Technology in the 21 st Century (2 hours)	<p>The Examination is marked out of 100</p> <p>Section A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In section A you must answer all the questions. ✓ Section A contains questions about all aspects of design and technology theory. ✓ Section A contains a range of shorter answer questions as well as some longer answer responses. ✓ Section A will explore some scientific and mathematical principles. <p>Section B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Section B contains optional questions, you must choose only one topic to answer ✓ It is recommended that you choose a material topic that you are most familiar with (<i>Papers and Boards, Natural and manufactured timber or Textiles</i>) ✓ <i>Do not answer questions from different topics-it will not be marked</i> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ensure that you read all questions carefully before answering them</i></p>
GCSE English Literature	<p><u>Paper 1 (1 hour and 45 minutes): Shakespeare and the 19th-century Novel</u></p> <p><u>Paper 2 (2 hours and 15 minutes): Modern Texts and Poetry</u></p>	<p><u>Section A (1 hour and 45 minutes): 'Macbeth'</u></p> <p>Section A Shakespeare's 'Macbeth': You will be provided with an extract from the play but will also need to make use of textual references you can recall. You will be asked a question about a character, idea or theme. Use the PEAZE* paragraph structure in your response to explore the playwright's structural and language devices. The strongest responses will come from students who have revised plot, characters, themes, a collection of key quotes, writer's methods and contextual factors.</p> <p><u>Section B: 'A Christmas Carol:'</u></p> <p>You will be provided with an extract from the novella but will also need to make use of textual references you can recall. You will be asked a question about a character, idea or theme. Use the PEAZE paragraph structure in your response to explore the writer's structural and language devices. The strongest responses will come from students who have revised plot, characters, themes, a collection of key quotes, writer's methods and contextual factors.</p> <p><u>Section A: 'An Inspector Calls:'</u></p> <p>You will not be provided with an extract. Therefore, your response will be based on textual references you can recall. You will be asked a question about a character, idea or theme. Use the PEAZE paragraph structure in your response to explore the</p>

		<p>writer’s structural and language devices. The strongest responses will come from students who have revised plot, characters, themes, a collection of key quotes, writer’s methods and contextual factors.</p> <p><u>Section B: ‘Power and Conflict Poetry:’</u></p> <p>You will be provided with one poem from the cluster and will need to compare it with another poem from the same cluster from memory. Therefore, your response will be based on quotes you can recall. Use the PEAZE paragraph structure in your response to explore the poets’ structural and language devices. The strongest responses will come from students who have revised subject matter, themes, a collection of key quotes, poets' methods and contextual factors.</p> <p><u>Section C: ‘Unseen Poetry’:</u></p> <p>You will have two questions. The first will ask you to explore a poem on its own. Your response should use the PEAZE structure for each paragraph you write. The second question will ask you to compare the methods (ways) poets communicate their ideas. For this question you should use the SQI* structure.</p> <p>*PEAZE = Point: “Evidence.” Analyse. Zoom. Effect on reader.</p> <p>*SQI = Statement: “Quote.” Inference.</p>
GCSE English Language	<p><u>Paper 1 (1 hour and 45 minutes): Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing</u></p>	<p><u>Paper 1 (1 hour and 45 minutes):</u></p> <p>Question 1: List four things from this part of the text that we learn about... (4 marks = 5 minutes max)</p> <p><i>Extract four pieces of information from the text ensuring that they are written in full sentences and not just quotes.</i></p> <p>Question 2: How does the writer use language to present...? (8 marks = 10 minutes)</p> <p><i>Aim for 2 - 3 PEAZE* paragraphs. Remember to ensure that each quote has 3+ interpretations of why they are effective. It helps to use key terminology and to zoom in on key words.</i></p> <p>Question 3: How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader? (8 marks = 10 minutes)</p> <p><i>Aim for 4 SQI* paragraphs. Remember to ensure that each paragraph mentions a structural device and its effect on the reader.</i></p>

Paper 2 (1 hour and 45 minutes): Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

Question 4: A student, parent or teacher said this about the extract, "...". To what extent do you agree? (20 marks = 25 minutes)

Aim for 3+ PEAZE paragraphs. Remember to ensure that each quote has 3+ interpretations of why your quote shows why you agree. It helps to use key language and structure terminology and to zoom in on key words.

*PEAZE = Point: "Evidence." Analyse. Zoom. Effect on reader.

*SQI = Statement: "Quote." Inference.

Question 5: You will be given two questions but must answer only one: describe the following picture or describe/narrate a story linked to the theme of the extract you have just read.

Paper 2 (1 hour and 45 minutes):

Question 1: Read again Source A, lines 1 - ? You will be asked to identify four out of eight statements that you think are true. (4 marks)

Read the options carefully as there are some answers which might appear correct at first glance but in actual fact are not.

Question 2: Referring to sources A and B write a summary of the similarities / differences between...? (8 marks)

Aim for 4 SQI (statement, quote, inference) paragraphs. Remember to ensure that each paragraph focusses on a similarity or difference within the content of both texts.

Question 3: How effectively has the writer used language to...? (12)

Aim for 2+ PEAZE paragraphs. Remember to ensure that each quote has 3+ interpretations of why they are effective. It helps to use key terminology and to zoom in on key words.

Question 4: Compare how both writers use language and structure to explore their ideas or attitudes about... (16 marks)

Aim for 3+ PEAZE paragraphs. Remember to ensure that each quote has 3+ interpretations of what your quote tells you about the writers' ideas or attitudes. It helps to use key language and structure terminology and to zoom in on key words.

Question 5: You will be asked to write in a manner that expresses a viewpoint.

<p>GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition</p>	<p>One Exam paper 100 marks</p> <p>½ of the entire GCSE</p>	<p>Question 1 – multiple choice. There are 20 questions covering the 5 theory topics we have studied: Nutrition & Health, Food Science, Food Safety, Food Choice, Food Provenance</p> <p>Question 2 onward will cover the 5 units learnt throughout year 10. The questions will range from 2 to 8 marks. BUG the question – Box the command word, Underline the question content [what is the topic], Go over the question again – making sure you understand what you need to include in your answer.</p> <p>There will be an extended question on nutrition – usually 8 or 12 marks. Make sure you know WHO’s nutritional needs you are addressing <i>e.g child, older adult etc.</i> Analyse/annotate the nutritional information you have been given. <i>How much protein/fat/vitamin A etc</i></p> <p>Structure your answer one nutrient at a time:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the nutrient and where it comes from <i>e.g protein comes from the minced beef and cheese</i> 2. State the function of the nutrient <i>e.g An older person will need protein to help their immune system and to heal as the body gets fragile with age.</i> 3. Analyse the amount of the nutrient: <i>This dish includes 30% of the recommended daily amount of protein which is good for one meal.</i> 4. Effects of excess and deficiency: <i>Too little protein in the diet can..... Too much of xx can cause.....</i>
<p>GCSE French</p> <p>Four papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaking (done in school time) • Listening • Reading • Writing 	<p><u>3 Overarching themes for all exams</u></p> <p>Theme 1: Identity and culture Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest Theme 3: Current and future study and employment</p> <p><u>Paper 1: Listening</u> Assessment on all 3 themes Exam includes 5 minutes’ reading time of the question paper before the listening stimulus is played. Use this time to read through the questions and make notes on what you expect to hear. Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English Section B – questions in French, to be answered in French Mixture of multiple choice, gap fill, written single sentence style answers If you are unsure of an answer, write the key words you hear next to the question and then try to work out the logical answer.</p> <p><u>Paper 2: Speaking</u> Assessment on all 3 themes</p>	

	<p>12 minutes preparation time before the exam to prepare with the role play and the photo card stimulus The format is the same at Foundation Tier and Higher Tier, but with different stimulus questions for the Photo card and different stimulus materials for the Role-play. The timings are different too: Role-play – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 2 minutes at Higher Tier) Photo card – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 3 minutes at Higher Tier) General conversation – 30 marks (3–5 minutes at Foundation Tier; 5–7 minutes at Higher Tier) Students choose one theme to cover for half of the conversation time</p> <p>Paper 3: Reading Assessment on all 3 themes Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally Section B – questions in French, to be answered in French or non-verbally Section C – translation from French into English (a minimum of 35 words for Foundation Tier and 50 words for Higher Tier) Mixture of multiple choice, gap fill, written single sentence style answers You may highlight the texts and make notes around the paper, but answer in the boxes / space provided.</p> <p>Paper 4: Writing Written exam: 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier) Foundation Tier Question 1 – message (student produces four sentences in response to a photo) – 8 marks Question 2 – short passage (student writes a piece of continuous text in response to four brief bullet points, approximately 40 words in total) – 16 marks Question 3 – translation from English into French (minimum 35 words) – 10 marks Question 4 – structured writing task (student responds to four compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions (one from each theme) – 16 marks Higher Tier Question 1 – structured writing task (student responds to four compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions (one from each theme) – 16 marks Question 2 – open-ended writing task (student responds to two compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions (one from each theme) – 32 marks Question 3 – translation from English into French (minimum 50 words) – 12 marks</p>	
GCSE Geography	Three papers 1. Living with the physical environment	<p>Paper 1: Living with the physical environment This paper is out of 88 marks and is 1-hour 30 mins. Section A: The challenge of natural hazards, answer all questions. There will be a range of 1 –6 mark questions in this section. For some you may need to use TEA (Trend, Evidence, Anomaly). There will be a 9 mark + 3 SPAG which will be</p>

	<p>2. Challenges in the human environment</p> <p>3. Geographical applications</p>	<p>focused on natural/weather hazards or climate change. Make sure you use PEEL (Point, Evidence, Explain, Link back to the question)</p> <p>Section B: The living world, answer all questions. There will be a range of 1 –6 mark questions in this section. For some you may need to use TEA (Trend, Evidence, Anomaly). There will be a 9 mark + 3 SPAG which will be focused on cold/hot environments. You have studied HOT environments and should use the Thar desert.</p> <p>Section C: Physical landscapes of the UK. Answer two whole questions from this section, COASTS and RIVERS, (DO NOT answer glaciers- we have not studied this)</p> <p><u>Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment</u> This paper is out of 88 marks and is 1-hour 30mins.</p> <p>Section A: Urban issues and challenges, answer all questions in this section. Your case studies that you need to know here are Lagos, Nigeria and Manchester.</p> <p>Section B: The Changing Economic World, answer all questions in this section. Your case study that you need to know is Nigeria (NEE)</p> <p>Section C: The challenge of resource management answer question 3 (general resources questions) and question 5 (water resources)</p> <p><u>Paper 3: Geographical applications</u> This paper is out of 76 marks and is 1-Hour 15mins.</p> <p>Section A (37 marks): Issue evaluation answer all questions (This material will be studied in class; we currently do not know the topic until 24th March). There will be a 9-mark +3 SPAG which we be focused around making an informed decision that is based around the topic that the issue evaluation covers.</p> <p>Section B (39 marks): Fieldwork- Unseen and familiar fieldwork which is based around your visits to Formby and Salford Quays. You must answer all questions in this section of the exam. There will be a 9-mark +3 SPAG where you will be able to write about either of your fieldwork visits.</p>
<p>GCSE History</p>	<p>Four papers across 2 exams. Each paper is two hours long.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1: Germany 1890-1945 • Conflict and tension between East and West 1945-1972 (The Cold War) • Paper 2: Britain- health and the 	<p>The papers include a range of questions based on the assessment objectives: knowledge, explanation, sources, interpretations.</p> <p>Please refer to the ‘How to answer the questions’ checklist that your history teacher has given to you.</p> <p>In short:</p> <p>Paper 1: Germany- 3 interpretation questions, 1 knowledge-based question, 2 questions based on knowledge and explanation.</p> <p>Cold War- 2 source analysis questions, 2 questions based on knowledge and explanation.</p> <p>Paper 2: Medicine- 1 source analysis question, 3 questions based on knowledge and explanation.</p> <p>Elizabeth- 1 interpretation question, 3 questions based on knowledge and explanation. Please note: the last question is on Sheffield Manor Lodge, your historic environment site study. You can learn the answer to this question.</p>

	<p>People C1000 to present (Medicine)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabethan England 1568-1603 	
Cambridge National in Creative iMedia	One Paper	<p>The paper is split into two sections, but all the questions and tasks are based on a single scenario.</p> <p>Section A: This section asks questions that need to be answered from your knowledge of media documents and has mostly small mark questions but there is one 6-mark question.</p> <p>Section B: This section has the practical questions in it where you will be asked to produce something like a storyboard or mind map etc. It is really important that whatever you produce you must annotate around it to explain your decisions.</p> <p>At the end of the paper there is one 12-Mark question where you will be shown a pre-production document such as a Storyboard. The question can be answered following a standard formula:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain some good points about the document (4 Marks) Explain some bad points about the document (4 Marks) Explain how you would improve the document (4 Marks)
Cambridge National Certificate in Health and Social Care	One paper 60 marks	<p>The exam paper covers the unit R021 Essential Values of Care</p> <p>The questions range from 1 to 8 marks.</p> <p>1-3 mark questions usually require you to recall information/facts/or give an example.</p> <p>There will be a question/s with information shown that you will need to read and refer back to. Make sure you use this information to answer the questions that follow it.</p> <p>4-8 mark questions usually as you to EXPLAIN.</p> <p>Make sure you read the question topic to make sure you are writing about the correct thing, then use EXAMPLES in your answer to demonstrate your knowledge.</p>
GCSE Maths	<p>Three Papers</p> <p>Paper 1 Non-Calculator</p> <p>Paper 2 Calculator</p> <p>Paper 3 Calculator</p> <p>All papers marked out of 80</p>	<p>This academic year students will be given a formula sheet. You will be shown how to use it in lesson. Make sure you use it in the exam.</p> <p>Read the question carefully, go back and check you have answered what the question asked not what you thought it was.</p> <p>Ensure you check if answer, is reasonable, does it make sense. Is it too big or too small.</p> <p>If it is a calculator paper use a calculator, you can lose valuable time doing written methods when you don't need to. Don't spend more than five minutes on a tricky question, leave it and come back at the end.</p> <p>Clearly cross through any work you don't want marked. If you leave two answers just in case the examiner won't mark either.</p> <p>Wording is crucial, if it asks to measure, then measure, if it asks to work out, then DO NOT measure, but work out.</p>

		<p>Careful that most drawings are not drawn accurately and will say that if that is the case.</p> <p>All algebra equations allow you to check your answers by applying them to the original equations to test they work</p> <p>Spelling is not critical, as long as the examiner understands what you are trying to say, then spelling is not marked.</p> <p>If you are stuck think of the maths you might need for that question. You may get marks for just doing the first part of the question.</p> <p>Do NOT leave any questions unanswered. Each mark is a mark closer to the grade you want.</p> <p>Good luck.</p>
GCSE Music	<p>One paper 1 hour 15 minutes 96 marks</p>	<p>8 questions, each relating to music excerpts played from a CD. Each question is worth 12 marks.</p> <p>1. Set work: Badinerie 6. Extended essay answer: Film music 7. Set work: Africa</p> <p>Questions 2, 3, 4,5 & 8 will be taken from Romantic music, vocal ensembles, film music & pop.</p> <p>Questions will be a mixture of Multiple choice Short answer questions Extended answer questions</p> <p>The marks for each question are shown in the right-hand margin</p> <p>Music dictation will be pitch only. A good recall of the DR SMITH acronym is advised as these key words run through the whole paper.</p>
RSL Creative and Performing Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed in the form of a task-based controlled assessment. 10 hours preparation time – guided learning / independent work. Controlled Assessment period – 20 hours. (Limited level of control) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignments are designed so that learners on different areas can work collaboratively on the same project. The theme for the assignment brief in 2023 is power. Work should appropriately showcase dance or drama skills. Any style of dance or drama. Fits with the theme of POWER. Is between 2 – 6 minutes in duration for dance performances. Is between 4 – 10 minutes in duration for acting performances. Students can perform with others for the whole performance duration but must ensure that individual contributions meet the above requirements.

PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 papers in total. • Paper 1 – The human body and movement in physical activity and sport • Paper 2 – Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mixture of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Multiple choice (usually around 5-7 questions at the start of each paper). ✓ Short answer questions (2-5 marks). ✓ Extended answer questions (One 6-mark question and one 9-mark question). • Both papers are out of a maximum mark of 78.
GCSE Religious Studies	<p>2 papers in total</p> <p>Paper 1 – Jewish Beliefs, Jewish Practices, Christian Beliefs, Christian Practices</p> <p>Paper 2 – 4 Ethics Units (A,B,D,E)</p>	<p>Paper 1 – Complete in the booklet, Q1-5 X 4</p> <p>Paper 2 – Complete in a lined answer booklet. Pick the correct 4 ethics units from the 7 in the question booklet (A,B,D,E)</p> <p>Q1 – multiple choice</p> <p>Q2 – 2 bullet points</p> <p>Q3 – 4 marks, 4 sentences – P, D, P, D</p> <p>Q4 – 5 marks, 5 sentences – P, D, P, D, Q</p> <p>Q5 – Big Essay with 3 sections – Some Christians agree..., Some Christians disagree..., In conclusion I think...</p> <p>Use Bible quotes in Christian sections, link to question, add examples and argument. For top grades say why the arguments are strong or weak throughout and evaluate and argue.</p>
GCSE Science	6 – 2x Biology, 2x Chemistry, 2x Physics	All papers start with lower demand questions and end with higher demand questions. There will be at least one 6-mark question per paper, but this can be at any point within the paper. Papers will include a variety of different question types including multiple choice, gap fill, short answer, calculation and longer answer questions but do not follow any pattern. Information given within a question can be used at any point if you are still in the same number question – part questions may refer to a graph or table from earlier on and you may need to turn the page. Make sure that you read the questions fully and use the information that you are given in the question.
GCSE Separate Science	6 - 2x Biology, 2x Chemistry, 2x Physics	<p>All papers will ask about Scientific method, this includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing a method • Identifying apparatus • Identifying variables • Graph skills • Identifying anomalies • Calculating means