



A Star Equivalency English Equivalency Exam Breakdown

Benchmarked to [AQA 8700 GCSE English Language](#) (For teaching from September 2015 onwards for exams in May/June 2017 onwards) (Single tier 1-9)

Section A: Reading Questions 1-5

Time 1 hour and 25 minutes (60 marks)

- **Question 1: AO1 (4 marks) (Study Question 1 paper 2)**
 - Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas
 - select and synthesise evidence from different texts *(NB same skills are also tested in Q1 paper1).*

- **Question 2: AO1 (8 marks) (Study Question 2 paper 2)**
 - Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas
 - select and synthesise evidence from different texts *(NB same skills are also tested in Q1 paper1)*

- **Question 3: AO2 (12 marks) (Study Question 3 paper 2)**
 - Explain, comment on, and analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support your views. *(NB same skills are also tested in Q2 paper1)*

- **Question 4: AO3 (16 marks) (Study Question 4 paper 2)**
 - Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts

- **Question 5: AO4 (20 marks) (Study Question 4 paper 1)**
 - Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references *(NB similar skills involving structure overlap with Q3 paper1)*

Section B: Writing

Time 45 mins (40marks - 24 marks content and organisation /16 marks technical accuracy)

- **Question 6: (Study Question 5 on Papers 1 and/or 2)** Candidates have an option of either choosing to write the non-fiction transactional piece of writing (Paper 2 task) OR choosing to write the fictional piece of writing (Paper1 task) ensuring they:
 - **AO5** communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences. Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts
 - **AO6** use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.