



English Language A level: Edexcel

Exam dates:

Paper 1 (Language Variation) 6th June AM
Paper 2 (Child Language) 8th June PM
Paper 3 (Investigating Language) 11th June PM

Exam overview:

Paper 1 – Language Variation
Section A (Individual variation):
30 marks
1hr 7mins
Section B (Variation over time):
30marks
1hr 7mins
Paper 2 – Child Language
45marks
1 hour

Paper 3 – Investigating Language
Section A (unseen data):
15marks
40mins
Section B (Evaluative question)
30marks
65mins
Coursework
20% of qualification

Guide to Exam Papers:

Paper 1-Language Variation (2hrs 15mins)

Section A-Individual Variation (30 marks) AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4

- You should spend 1hr 7mins on this question in total
- 15mins to analyse data (2 pieces)
- **5mins to plan your answer**
- 47mins to write your response

Section B- Variation over time (30 marks) AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4

- You should spend 1hr 7mins on this question in total
- 15mins to analyse data (2 pieces)
- **5mins to plan your answer**
- 47mins to write your response

Handy Planning Hints:

- Introduction should always address **C**ontext, **R**egister, **A**udience, **P**urpose
- All other paragraphs should be focused on relevant frameworks (lexis, grammar, semantics, discourse, pragmatics, graphology, phonology, orthography)
- In the rest of your paragraph you should analyse language and link back to purpose and audience
- Ensure that you link to relevant theories and concepts

Paper 2-Child Language (1hr) (45 marks) AO1, AO2, AO3

- 10mins to analyse data
- **10mins to plan your response**
- 40mins to write your response

Handy Planning Hints

- In your first paragraph, you should refer to the stage of language development (holophrastic, two-word, telegraphic and post-telegraphic)
- You should analyse the language used by the child (apply relevant frameworks-don't forget PHONOLOGY!)
- Ensure that you link to relevant theories and concepts



- Discuss the way in which context may have affected the language used by the child (physical context- environment and CDS)

Paper 3- Investigating Language (1hr 45mins) AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4

Section A- Unseen Data (15 marks) AO1, AO2, AO3

- 10mins to analyse data
- **5mins to plan your response**
- 25mins to write your response

Section B- Evaluative Question (30 marks) AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4

- **15mins to plan your response**
- 50mins to write your response

Handy Planning Hints:

Section A:

- Your introduction should address Context, Register, Audience and purpose with a clear link to gender stereotyping.
- All subsequent paragraphs should be focused on an aspect of the analytical framework
- Ensure that you analyse language and discuss relevant theories and concepts
- Link to context!

Section B:

- Clear introduction, explaining opinion in relation to the statement provided
- Introduce your data (What have you looked at? Where is it from? When is it from?)
- Framework analysis of the texts that you have researched with a clear link to the task

Areas of Revision

- Power theory
- Gender theory
- Politeness theory
- CLA theory
- Grammar terminology
- Gender stereotyping
- Key language variation dates
- Terminology for all topics

Revision Tips

- Create theory revision flashcards/booklets
- Create your own Quizlet (app on the app store)
- Use number lines or other memory strategies to remember locations of key events in texts
- Flashcards for quotes and terminology
- Create auditory revision that you can listen to – especially for quotes
- Watch YouTube clips or read A2 study guides on your texts or context and make revision notes
- Find your own pieces of data and analyse them
- Practise planning essays in time allowed
- Practise essay writing