



Pearson

Summary of use of reader/scribe/word processor for 9-1 GCSE English Language and English Literature

This is a complicated area, with a number of different options available. For full details, please see JCQ's [access document](#). This extract (p. 54) explains the position on the use of scribes:

'5.7.7 In subjects where quality of written communication (QWC) is being assessed or where the candidate's spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) is specifically being assessed, a scribe will be allowed.

A scribe will be allowed in the written papers of the following GCSE subjects:

- GCSE English/GCSE English Language (including the Writing section);
- GCSE English Literature;
- GCSE Geography;
- GCSE History;
- and • GCSE Religious Studies.

However, where a scribe is used in an examination assessing quality of written communication or spelling, punctuation and grammar, marks can only be awarded if the candidate can demonstrate that he/she has carried out the particular skills being assessed.'

Where a scribe is used, the scribe completing the [scribe cover sheet](#) specifies what the student has and has not done:

In order for the examiner to apply the mark scheme correctly please place an 'X' in the appropriate box which accurately reflects how the approved application for a scribe was used.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. The candidate used a scribe/speech recognition technology but did not dictate spellings (letter by letter) and punctuation. | ☐ |
| 2. The candidate used a scribe/speech recognition technology and dictated punctuation. | ☐ |
| 3. The candidate used a scribe/speech recognition technology and dictated spellings letter by letter. | ☐ |
| 4. The candidate used a scribe/speech recognition technology and dictated punctuation and spellings letter by letter. | ☐ |
| 5. The candidate used a word processor with the spell check enabled (switched on). | ☐ |
| 6. The candidate used a word processor with the spell check and grammar check enabled (switched on). | ☐ |

Centres **must** ensure that the scribe cover sheet is fully filled in and that it is attached to the script, so that the examiner is aware of the conditions under which the paper was completed.

Students using a scribe must be made aware of the different options and how these affect their access to marks. In most cases, students will dictate punctuation but not spelling. A student wishing to be rewarded for their punctuation and the structuring of their text must be instructed to dictate punctuation and paragraphing to their scribe.

Mark schemes are applied using the 'best fit approach'. Where a student has used a scribe, the examiner will apply the 'best fit approach' and then make an adjustment according to the information given on the scribe front sheet. **Students are rewarded for the elements of AO6 that they have demonstrated. There is no deduction of a discrete number of marks as a result of the use of a scribe.**

Use of a word processor

The use of a word processor (permitted where it is the student's usual way of working) with the spell check and grammar check disabled has no impact on marks for AO6. The same approach applies as with a scribe: a student is rewarded for the AO6 elements they have demonstrated (all elements [spell and grammar check disabled]/all elements except spelling [spell check enabled]/vocabulary range but not spelling or grammar [spell and grammar check enabled]).

1EN0 GCSE English Language

Unit	Section	Reader allowed?	Scribe allowed?	Marks allocated to areas affected by the use of a scribe/speech recognition technology or word processor	Comments
1EN0/01	Section A: Reading	No	Yes	NA	Readers may read the instructions on the front cover of the paper and then nothing else until the candidate reaches the start of Section B – Imaginative Writing. Candidates are advised to spend an hour on Section A, so a reader is not needed until an hour into Paper 1. Section B: the reader may read the question paper instructions and the choice of 2 writing tasks.
	Section B: Imaginative Writing	Yes	Yes	16 marks are allocated to AO6: 'Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation'.	
1EN0/02	Section A: Reading	No	Yes	NA	Readers may read the instructions on the front cover of the paper and then nothing else until the candidate reaches the start of Section B – Transactional Writing. Candidates are advised to spend an hour and 15 minutes on Section A, so a reader is not needed until an hour and 15 minutes into Paper 2. Section B: the reader may read the question paper instructions and the choice of 2 writing tasks.
	Section B: Transactional Writing	Yes	Yes	16 marks are allocated to AO6: 'Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation'.	

1EN2 GCSE English Language

Unit	Section	Reader allowed?	Scribe allowed?	Marks allocated to areas affected by the use of a scribe/speech recognition technology or word processor	Comments
1EN2/01	Section A: Reading	No	Yes	NA	Readers may read the instructions on the front cover of the paper and then nothing else until the candidate reaches the start of Section B – Writing. Candidates are advised to spend an hour and 10 minutes on Section A, so a reader is not needed until an hour and 10 minutes into Paper 1. Section B: the reader may read the question paper instructions and the choice of 2 writing tasks.
	Section B: Writing	Yes	Yes	16 marks are allocated to AO6: 'Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation'.	
1EN2/02	Section A: Reading	No	Yes	NA	Readers may read the instructions on the front cover of the paper and then nothing else until the candidate reaches the start of Section B – Writing. Candidates are advised to spend an hour and 10 minutes on Section A, so a reader is not needed until an hour and 10 minutes into Paper 2. Section B: the reader may read the question paper instructions and the choice of 2 writing tasks.
	Section B: Writing	Yes	Yes	16 marks are allocated to AO6: 'Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation'.	

1ET0 GCSE English Literature

Unit	Section	Reader allowed?	Scribe allowed?	Marks allocated to areas affected by the use of a scribe/speech recognition technology or word processor	Comments
1ET0/01	Section A: Shakespeare	Yes	Yes	NA	AO4 is assessed on Paper 1, through the British Play or British Novel section.
	Section B: Post 1914 British play or novel	Yes	Yes	8 marks are allocated to AO4: 'Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation'.	
1ET0/02	Section A: 19 th century novel	Yes	Yes	NA	
	Section B: Poetry since 1789	Yes	Yes	NA	