

# Let's talk English

## Secondary teachers on GCSE English



### Does the current subject content for GCSE English give schools and students what they need?

Over 800 secondary English teachers told us their honest thoughts. Their answers suggest that it's time for **urgent reform in GCSE English**.

#### Let's talk teaching



### Only a fifth

of all secondary English teachers say their current GCSE English specification is **enjoyable to teach**.

- **More than half** (53%) say it focuses on the wrong things.
- Just **1 in 10** say it includes enough **diverse texts and authors**.
- **54%** say it is **not accessible or inclusive**.

#### Let's talk skills



### 68%

of secondary English teachers say current English GCSE assessments **don't capture students' skills**.

- Just **1 in 20** say it **fosters creativity**.
- Only **7%** say it builds **confidence in speaking and listening**.

#### Let's talk students' futures



### Over half

(53%) of all secondary English teachers say GCSE English **doesn't prepare students for post-16 study**.

- **45%** say their specification **doesn't provide skills for work...**
  - ... a figure that rises to **55%** in the **most disadvantaged** schools.
- **0%** say it prepares students for a **digital future**.

Teachers have spoken. Their words point to a clear **need to revive GCSE English** to make it the **engaging, innovative and inclusive subject it truly can be**.

**Together**, we can turn around the fortunes of the subject we all love.

**Together**, we can create an English subject that works in every classroom for every student.

So let's come together – young people, teachers, leaders, families, English enthusiasts and communities – to be part of this urgent and groundbreaking conversation.

**Let's talk English.**

Join the conversation at

[go.pearson.com/letstalkenglish](https://go.pearson.com/letstalkenglish)

