

New Junior Cycle Gaelge Exam (to be examined for the first time in 2021)

Higher Level Students are expected to study:

- 5 poems
- 2 short stories
- 1 novel
- 1 drama

Higher Level Examination paper layout (as per sample from SEC)

Question number	Type of Questions	Marks
1-4	Listening Comprehension	30 marks
5	Reading Comprehension	60 marks
6	Novel Question	50 marks
7	Grammar Question	10 marks
8	Poetry Question	30 marks
9	Write a feature article for a magazine on a topical subject (technology, sport, education etc)	40 marks
10	Drama Question - (this may be substituted for short story question)	30 marks
11	Write the text for a job advertisement - (other forms of written expression may be examined here)	20 marks
		270 marks

Points to note:

- Students only have two hours to complete the exam including the listening section. There is a lot of writing involved and this will be difficult for many students.
- Listening and reading comprehensions make up 90/270 marks (33%) of the paper.
- **Literature based questions make up 11/270 marks (41%) of the paper.**
- Written questions are allocated 60/270 marks (22%) of the paper.
- Grammar question is worth 10/270 marks (approx. 4%)
- There is no oral exam. This was 40% of the old exam and meant it was easier for weaker students to pass HL exam.
- Although we are asked to use the literature as a stimulus at both levels there is no literature examined at Ordinary Level.

Ordinary Level Exam Paper Layout (as per SEC sample)

Question Number	Type of Question	Marks
1-4	Listening Comprehension	45 marks
5	Reading Comprehension	20 marks
6	Write an email- pictures given as a stimulus	30 marks
7	Reading Comprehension	30 marks
8	Reading Comprehension	20 marks
9	Matching Comprehension- matching sentences to correct picture	25 marks
10	Reading a text, answering questions and writing a blog	65 marks (25 comprehension/40 blog)*
11	Write a paragraph about a holiday (or something similar) pictures and vocabulary given to help	35 marks
		270 marks

*assumption as marks not divided

Points to note:

- At ordinary level 165/270 (61%) marks are given to listening and reading comprehension
- 105/270 (39%) marks are given to written expression. Vocabulary/ pictures are given as an aid to students to help them with their written questions.
- Literature is not examined at ordinary level.
- The written questions are on topics familiar to students- going to a concert/ writing about a holiday/ a competition that you took part in.