A-level Polish
Preparing to teach
Kasia Kowalczyk
Summer 2018
This meeting will be recorded

Exam boards have an Ofqual requirement to record event audio.

Recordings are kept for one year and not shared as an accompaniment to session resources.

The recording will begin now.
Welcome
Agenda

- 4.00 pm  Welcome
- 4.05 pm  Overview of specification content and structure
- 4.30 pm  Paper 1 Reading and Writing
- 5.00 pm  Paper 2 Writing
- 5.30 pm  Paper 3 Listening and Writing
- 6.00 pm  Close
Structure of specification

- Two-year linear course with all assessment at the end of Year 2.
- Same grading system as current qualifications: A*– E.
- Same grammar list as legacy A-level specification – see specification for details.
- No dictionaries are permitted during the assessments.
# Assessment objectives and weightings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AO</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AO1</td>
<td>Understand and respond in writing to spoken language drawn from a variety of sources.</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>AO2</td>
<td>Understand and respond in writing to written language drawn from a variety of sources.</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>AO3</td>
<td>Manipulate the language accurately, in written form, using a range of lexis and structure</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>AO4</td>
<td>Show knowledge and understanding of, and respond critically and analytically to, different aspects of the culture and society of countries/communities where the language is spoken.</td>
<td>20%</td>
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## Specification at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper 1: Reading and Writing</th>
<th>Paper 2: Writing</th>
<th>Paper 3: Listening, Reading and Writing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes</td>
<td>• Written exam: 2 hours</td>
<td>• Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Reading, translation into English, research project</td>
<td>• 2 essays on set texts/films</td>
<td>• Listening, translation into Polish, multi-skill task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 85 marks</td>
<td>• 80 marks</td>
<td>• 75 marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 42.5% of A-level</td>
<td>• 20% of A-level</td>
<td>• 37.5% of A-level</td>
</tr>
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Subject content – themes

Area of interest: social issues and trends
• Aspects of Polish-speaking society: past and current trends.
• Aspects of Polish-speaking society: past and current issues.

Area of interest: political and artistic culture
• Artistic culture in the Polish-speaking world past and present.
• Aspects of political life in Poland past and present.
Theme one and sub-themes

Aspects of Polish-speaking society: past and current trends
Sub-themes:
• The Polish family:
  • changing roles within the family
  • the generation gap
  • traditional and modern values.
• The evolution of the digital world in Poland:
  • the internet in daily life
  • social media – benefits and dangers
  • the digitalisation of Polish society.
Theme two and sub-themes

Aspects of Polish-speaking society: past and current issues

Sub-themes:

- Social diversity and mobility in Poland:
  - education and career choices
  - people on the margins of society
  - tolerance and respect
- Impact of emigration on Polish society:
  - reasons for emigration
  - advantages and disadvantages for Polish society
  - attitudes within Poland to migration.
Theme three and sub-themes

Artistic culture in the Polish-speaking world past and present

Sub-themes:

• Festivals and traditions:
  • roots and origins
  • social and economic importance
  • regional and local heritage.

• Polish cultural life:
  • cinema
  • art
  • Music.
Theme four and sub-themes

Aspects of political life in Poland past and present
Sub-themes:

• Poland and the European Union:
  • the role of Poland in Europe
  • the benefits of membership of the EU for Poland
  • the challenges of membership of the EU for Poland.

• Polish politics and young people:
  • young people and their engagement with politics
  • priorities for youth politics in Poland
  • values and ideals.
A-level Polish research topics

**Theme one Research topic**
Poland during the communist era:
- impact on daily life
- influence of the Catholic Church
- the Solidarity movement.

**Theme two Research topic**
Racism in Poland:
- origins of racism
- victims of racism
- the fight against racism.
A-level Polish research topics

Theme three Research topic
Tourism in Poland:
• the development of a tourist infrastructure
• popular tourist sites/places of interest
• regional gastronomy.

Theme four Research topic
The resistance movement in Poland during WWII:
• resistance organisations
• forms of resistance
• actions and operations.
Set texts and set films

Students must study one book and one film or two books from the following list in the specification. The list remains valid for the lifetime of the specification.

Texts:

• Sławomir Mrożek: *Tango*
• Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz: *Panny z Wilka and Brzezina*
• Andrzejewski: *Popiół i diament.*
Set texts and set films

Films:


No access to books or films during the exam.
Paper 1

What's assessed:

• Aspects of Polish-speaking society: past and current trends.
• Aspects of Polish-speaking society: past and current issues.
• Artistic culture in the Polish-speaking world, past and present.
• Aspects of political life in Poland; past and present.
• Grammar.
• Individual research project (one of four sub-themes).
Paper 1

How it's assessed:

• Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes
• 85 marks in total
• 42.5% of A-level
Questions

• Reading and responding to a variety of authentic texts written for different purposes. All questions are in Polish answered with non-verbal responses or in Polish, including summary (35 marks).

• Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks).
Individual research project

- Students are required to choose from the specification one of the four research topics to study during their course.
- In the exam, they will respond in writing to an unseen question, using information from the Polish written source provided in the question paper as well as the knowledge gained from their individual research.
- No access to research materials or dictionaries is permitted during the exam.
- Students are advised to write a response of approximately 300 words (40 marks).
Guidance for summary tasks (Paper 1 and Paper 3)

• In summary questions in both Reading and Listening, content marks (AO1/AO2) can be gained by lifting text from the original.

• To gain language marks (AO3), manipulation of structures is required but individual words and short phrases from the original can be used.

• It is possible to gain 5 marks for AO3 even if information relating to one bullet point is missing.

• Examiners stop marking at the first natural break (end of clause or sentence) between 90 and 100 words.

• Sample mark schemes exemplify the award of AO3 marks (available on the Assess tab on website).
Students must carry out their own individual research, even if more than one student in the class has chosen the same research topic.

The research sources for the project can be visual, audio or written but must include online sources.
Teachers may:

• suggest sources of reference, including but not limited to websites, books and magazines

• provide support/guidance on research techniques, including how best to manage the storing and assimilation of knowledge and information that has been researched

• provide guidance on planning and timescales, including deadlines or milestones according to which research outcomes can be monitored and checked.
Teachers must not:

• provide the student with material that they have designed specifically for the research project
• download and give the student specific source materials or copied and pasted extracts
• give feedback orally or in writing on any written notes or preparatory work produced by the student.
Paper 1: example materials

• Summary task

• Translation into English task

• Individual research project
Paper 2

What's assessed
• one book and one film or two books from the list set in the specification
• Grammar.

How it's assessed
• written exam: 2 hours
• 80 marks in total
• 20% of A-level.
Paper 2

Questions

- Respond in Polish to one question on a set text and one question on a set film or to two questions on two different set texts.
- All questions will require a critical appreciation.
- Choice of two questions on each text/film.
- No access to texts or films during the exam.
- Students write approximately 300 words per essay.
Paper 2

- The mark schemes require students accessing top bands to consistently use appropriate evidence from the book/film to support their conclusions, develop their arguments, justify their opinions.
- Quotations may be used as evidence but are not required. Students can instead use close reference to the text to justify and support their points.
- The possible content in the mark schemes is neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.
Paper 2: example materials

- Essay on set text
- Essay on set film
What's assessed

• Aspects of Polish-speaking society: past and current trends.
• Aspects of Polish-speaking society: past and current issues.
• Artistic culture in the Polish-speaking world, past and present.
• Aspects of political life in Poland, past and present.
• Grammar.
Paper 3

How it's assessed

• Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes
• 75 marks in total
• 37.5% of A-level
Questions

• Listening and responding to a variety of spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources, including a summary task. All questions in Polish answered with non-verbal responses or in Polish (35 marks).

• Students have individual control of the recording.

• Translation into Polish; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks).
Paper 3

- Multi skill task: listening, reading and responding in writing to an unseen question on a listening passage and a written source based on one of the themes. The written response will require reference to the information in both the listening and written sources. (40 marks).

- Students are advised to write approximately 200 words in Polish for the multi-skill task essay.
Paper 3: example materials

- Summary task
- Translation into Polish
- Multi skill task
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You should have been emailed the evaluation form. Please check your inbox (possibly your junk mail folder). If you haven’t received it please give your trainer your name, centre name/number and email address so that we can look into it for you.

Thank you.
Thank you