# ALL London Webinar. Helen Myers. Thoughts on the new GCSE.

Contents

[ALL London Webinar. Helen Myers. Thoughts on the new GCSE. 1](#_Toc442630636)

[Recording Information 1](#_Toc442630637)

[Link to pdf download of talk: 2](#_Toc442630638)

[Chat Transcript Q/A 2](#_Toc442630639)

## Recording Information

**Title:** ALL London Webinar - Helen Myers - Thoughts on new GCSE

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**Summary:**

Helen Myers prepared a presentation for the ISMLA conference which took place on Saturday 30th January 2016. She expected to be in a position to be able to do a thorough objective comparison of four approved examination boards specifications. However, only one has so far been approved. She therefore concentrated on outlining the following three areas:

1) The context for the change

2) The subject content, subject conditions and subject guidance as laid down by Ofqual and the DfE

3) The possible 'variables' which may influence school choice of exam board once approved. There is a pdf version of the presentation here which you can download.

Once all specifications have been approved Helen will update a very detailed grid which she has already produced and share it. It is not a debate / discussion, but an objective description of facts.

Importantly, the webinar will be recorded and available later for reference and sharing with colleagues and managers if helpful Please follow this link to find out more about how to join the webinar. Please ensure that you have read our etiquette before joining. All are welcome!

**Biography**

Helen Myers Chair of ALL London Branch Committee, former President of ALL and a Patron of ISMLA, Helen is Assistant Head of The Ashcombe School in Dorking. She has worked closely with Nick Mair (ISMLA) and David Blow (ASCL) on identifying and then publicising incidences of severe grading in MFL public examinations. Helen has always taken a key interest in the national picture of Curriculum and Assessment, and produced a widely-used document which compared GCSE boards for the 2008 specifications. She is currently working on a similar document for the 2016 specifications and will publish this via her blog when all boards have been approved.

**Recording Date:** 7th February 2016

## Link to pdf download of talk:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-def6IfYAg5eEVKRlBLRFpORm8/view

## Chat Transcript Q/A

Helen Myers:Hi Heather! nice to see you! I'm in a skype conversatioon atm!

Helen Myers:Hi everyone! I'll be with you soon!

Victoria Harrison-Law:loud and clear!

Jo Patisso:I can hear you!

Silvia Ruiz:Yes, noproblems at all.

Annalise Adam:I can hear you even though my room is full of people. :-)

Annalise Adam:My baby niece and nephew!

Heather McGuinness:Hi All, sorry i was making a cup of tea !

Catherine Pietralski:Hi all!

Heather McGuinness:no...

Jo Patisso:Sorry -I have only watched presentations!

Jo:of course it will be

Caroline Saunders:Hi everyone!

Wendy Adeniji:Hi there

Annalise Adam:Hi everyone. :-)

Lonisha:Hi everyone , I am a trainee teacher from Liverpool :)

Jo Patisso:I teach Spanish and French at a High School in Lancashire.

Sophie Martin:Hi, I teach French, Spanish and German at a Catholic school in Staffordshire ðŸ˜€

Caroline Saunders:I am Head of MFL in Bristol. I teach German and French.

Wendy Adeniji:Hi I'm a DHT with responsibility for T&L and I line manage and teach MFL

Jane Hegedus:Hi I'm Jane Hegedus MFL Consultant in Lancashire

Victoria Harrison-Law:Hi everyone. Spanish & French teacher KS3-5 now working in West Yorkshire.

Catherine Pietralski:Hi everyone. I'm a French and Spanish teacher with responsibility for Spanish. I work in Manchester.

Annalise Adam:Hi, I'm Lead Teacher MFL at a school in Hampshire, we do French and German and I'm responsible for our schemes of work.

Dom:Hi everyone. French, German & Spanish teacher in the North East :)

Heather McGuinness:gosh

Victoria Harrison-Law:Doesn't really fill us with confidence...

Heather McGuinness:Q - why is only highest level described ?

Heather McGuinness:aspirational !

Inma:Hello! I am a PGCE trainee teacher. This presentation is great! Is it going to be available online?

Nikk Pugh:I couldn't find Marion's from last week. It only gave me registration details :(

Nikk Pugh:Great thank you!

Inma:Thanks!

Jo:Hopefullybthough they will be simple one word anwers or short phrases - not full gramatically correct sentences in the reading and listening etc

felixCastrillon:do you think this is going to affect teachers who are teaching a language they don't master but we're asked to teach?

Jo:sorry i was talking about the reading and listening from before

Heather McGuinness:they cannot use words from prompts in role play

Judith Rifeser:I disagree highly with that as well.

Heather McGuinness:90 words is quite a nice length text - 5 sentences

Dom:We have to use the same exam board as our partner academies. So it looks like it's AQA.

Judith Rifeser:That's a fantastic idea to give it to Y10 and Y11 because that shows you how the specifications link to the material/resources you have and have been teaching

Annalise Adam:We are moving from Edexcel to AQA on grounds that it is the only board so far to be accredited.

Dom:Helen's office is looking particularly tidy today...

Judith Rifeser:Thank you, Helen. That sounds really useful

Heather McGuinness:edexcel is waiting for accreditation, news must be soon

Victoria Harrison-Law:Could these significant difference not be ironed out during accrediation process?

Tom Hockaday:Thanks Helen - really helpful session

Judith Rifeser:Thank you, Helen, for the very informative session. It was really helpful

Heather McGuinness:TY Helen

Jane Hegedus:Thank you Helen. EXcellent and really clear

Caroline Saunders:Thank you.

felixCastrillon:gracias

Annalise Adam:Thank you very much, Helen. That has been really helpful. :-)

inma:Thanks

Dom:Thanks, Helen. Very helpful, as always :)

Victoria Harrison-Law:Thanks Helen. Very informative!

Jo Patisso:Thank you Helen. Lots to think about!

Silvia Ruiz:Thank you Helen

Annalise Adam:Yes

Annalise Adam:Merlin enjoyed it. I'll tweet a photo.

Lonisha:merci Helen

Catherine Pietralski:Thank you Helen. Lots of useful information.

Annalise Adam:Facebook

Tom Hockaday:Facebook group

Jane Hegedus:For me it was through Twitter

Victoria Harrison-Law:FB Secondary MFL Matters

Jo:facebook

Lonisha:facebook group

Nikk Pugh:Facebook and Twitter

Jo Patisso:Facebook -Secondary MFL matters.

Caroline Saunders:twitter

Catherine Pietralski:Twitter

Victoria Harrison-Law:The power of social media...

Jo:that's us the shy linguists!

Jo:thank you again and see you again soon in a little box on my screen no doubt!

Dom:Thanks again, Helen.

Dom:bye

Silvia Ruiz:Bye