

Centre: SAMPLE ONLY

Candidate: SAMPLE ONLY

OCR GCSE English Literature (J352/02) error

Statement: Summary of actions taken

We are very sorry for the error on our exam paper and for the confusion and distress this caused.

Here is a summary of how we have minimised the impact of that error to deliver the result you deserve. This applies if you answered either of the Romeo and Juliet questions (questions 4 and 5) on the J352/02 exam paper.

Our actions:

1. We adjusted the mark scheme so our examiners gave marks to students for a variety of approaches to answering the question with the error (question 4).
2. As marking took place, we put an additional check in place to ensure examiners were marking in line with the adjusted mark scheme.
3. To assess the overall impact of the error, we then compared the marks achieved by students who answered either of the Romeo and Juliet questions with the marks achieved by students who had answered questions on the other Shakespeare plays in section B of our exam paper. We found that on average, students who answered questions on the other plays did better by 1 or 2 marks (out of 40).
4. We therefore developed an approach to give students like you who answered a Romeo and Juliet question the marks that we believe are closest to the marks you would have got if there hadn't been an error as follows:
 - a) We calculated a mark statistically for your Romeo and Juliet question on the basis of your performance on Paper 1 (J352/01) and on Section A (poetry) of Paper 2 (J352/02)
 - b) We compared this mark to the actual mark given by the examiner for either of the Romeo and Juliet questions.
 - c) We gave you whichever mark was the highest (the statistically calculated mark or the actual mark) for your answer to a Romeo and Juliet question on Paper 2.

In your case, the option that gave you the highest mark was to [*Insert one of the following:*] **to use the actual mark that you had been given by the examiner [or] to apply a statistically calculated mark for your answer.**

To help you to better understand your result, we have produced a short FAQ document which explains more about the solution we applied to marking and the further information that is available. Copies of your marked J352/01 and J352/02 exam papers will be available free of charge. Please speak to your exams officer or teacher about these. If you are still not happy with your result, there is also the option to request a free review of the marking of both GCSE English Literature exam papers.

Once again, we apologise for the error. While this was unacceptable, we have done all we can to make sure you have not lost out. We have worked closely with the regulator Ofqual on the steps we have taken. We hope this statement reassures you that we have given you a fair result based on your performance in our GCSE English Literature exams.