

ENGLISH

Language



Examination Board: AQA
Subject Leader(s): Miss E Robinson



Course Structure

Unit	Topics/Unit Title	Assessment	A Level(%)
1	Meanings and Representations	Three analytical essays based on two texts (one contemporary and one older text) which are linked by topic or theme.	40
2	Language Diversity and Change	An evaluative essay on either language change or diversity AND comment on how texts use language to present ideas and attitudes.	40
2	Directed/ Creative writing	A directed writing task linked to ideas/ topics present in the exam text.studied.	
Coursework	Original Writing	A piece of original writing and commentary (1,500)	20
Coursework	Language Investigation	An investigation into an area of language study (2,000)	

What does the course involve?

The course is very different from the English you have done so far. The course will firstly cover the foundations of linguistics- this involves familiarising yourselves with a large range of complex terminology. It also encompasses analysing how meaning and representations are communicated in a wide variety of spoken and written texts. Before long you will completely change the way you look at the texts around you! Paper 2 of your A level will allow you to explore the diversity of our language and, in particular, how social factors can affect language use (such as gender, class, occupation and regional variation).

You will also experiment with different styles of writing; planning and drafting for a range of audiences and purposes to support the creative element to your coursework folder.

In the second year of study you will delve into the world of child language acquisition and explore how language has changed over hundreds of years and is still changing as we speak! As well as this, you will be given free rein to explore an avenue of linguistics that most interests you and produce an accomplished language investigation to complete your coursework folder.

Further Study/Employment Prospects

- Further study of English language or linguistics at university.
- A great foundation for joint study in the arts or humanities subjects at university.
- English graduates enjoy high employability as they hone a range of practical skills supporting a very wide range of other courses and careers.
- Job prospects include: journalism, proofreading, editing, marketing, advertising, broadcasting, teaching, digital copywriter, web content manager, lexicographer, public relations, speech and language therapy, consultancy and many more

Entry Requirements

- An interest in reading anything and everything.
- An interest in how words work and the determination to do your best.
- To be able to use initiative, work independently and seek help where necessary especially regarding coursework tasks.