

English Language and Literature

Qualification Level: A Level

Qualification Duration: 2 years

Exam Board: AQA (7707)

Intro:

A-level English Language and Literature is a subject which emphasises the intersectionality of language and literature, allowing students to engage in creative production as well as to analyse, synthesise and contextualise concepts. A level English Language and Literature offers a clear progression from GCSE, building on prior knowledge and skills.

It widens your understanding of the differences between fiction, which has been the focus of most of your Literature study so far, and non-fiction, as well as non-literary material (blogs, forums, advertisement, etc.). We focus on speech and conventions, as well as the limitations of different media and how contexts (time period, race, social class, gender) impact narratives. We explore concepts such as face-threatening acts, the conventions of a dialogue and how authors convey meaning through more than just their words. We study a broad variety of texts which include: extracts from non-fiction resources from the 19th and 20th century, contemporary novels, 20th and 21st century poetry. Your study will involve: research based on social and historical contexts; classroom discussion; essay planning and writing, and analysis of linguistic and literary features. Students are taught in small groups and, when drafting coursework, in one to one tutorials.

Course overview:

Course structure:

| Year 1 Content Paper 1: Telling stories | Year 2 Content Paper 2: Exploring conflict | Non-exam assessment: Independent critical study: Making connections. |
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| <p>What's assessed:</p> <p><u>Section A</u> Remembered places: Paris anthology (the representation of place)</p> <p><u>Section B</u> Imagined worlds: The Handmaid's Tale (looking at point of view and genre)</p> <p><u>Section C</u> Poetic voices: Carol Ann Duffy (forms and functions of poetic voices)</p> <p>Assessed Written exam: 3 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open book in Section C only • 100 marks • 40% of A-level | <p>What's assessed:</p> <p><u>Section A</u> Writing about society: The Great Gatsby (recreative writing and commentary)</p> <p><u>Section B</u> Dramatic Encounters: A Streetcar Named Desire (conflict in drama)</p> <p>Assessed Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • open book • 100 marks • 40% of A-level | <p>What's assessed:</p> <p>Comparative critical study of two texts, one of them literary and one non-literary. One extended essay (2,500-3,000 words) and a bibliography</p> <p>Assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 marks • 20% of A-level • assessed by teachers • moderated by AQA |

Trips and other costs:

Students will be required to purchase their own copies of the set texts so they can be annotated and used for revision.

We will be studying: *The Great Gatsby* (F. Scott Fitzgerald), *The Handmaid's Tale* (Margaret Atwood), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Tennessee Williams).

We are keen to organise trips to the theatre to watch productions of the texts studied.

Career and further study:

The analytical, discursive and creative skills which are developed are useful in many careers such as: journalism, broadcasting, advertising, law, social services, teaching and government.