

English Language A Level (Edexcel Exam Board)

Overview of the course.

This course is designed to foster students' independence as they explore English language in a variety of contexts. It provides learners with opportunities to develop a wide and deep knowledge of the systems of the English language and of issues relating to language and its uses. Throughout this course learners are presented with opportunities to develop their own creativity, both in the ways they think about language and in the ways they develop expertise in using language to communicate in different ways.

Students will develop and apply their understanding of the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis and study of language, including the below tasks:

- explore data and examples of language in use
- engage creatively and critically with a varied programme for the study of English
- develop their skills as producers and interpreters of language
- independently investigate language in use.

What do you need to join us?

You will need to have attained at least a level 6 in either your English Language or English Literature GCSE.

Aside from that, you must also be interested in the English language as a commodity and be curious about its use, how we come to acquire language, why we use it in nuanced ways for specific reasons. It is a challenging course and requires a knowledge of terminology, analysis is a major part of the course and you will be challenged to deconstruct a variety of texts. *Are you interested in why certain people speak like they do? Have you ever noticed how men and women speak differently? Do you know what makes a good communicator? Are you sure you know your nouns from your verbs?* English Language is interesting, stimulating and allows you a chance to actively engage with everyday language and understand how it works. If these are elements you are interested in and wish to investigate, you will thrive on this course.

What will the course involve?

Component 1: Language Variation – over time, context and personal identity. This will involve the individual use of language but also the way language changes over time.

Component 2: Child Language – The acquisition of language spoken and written in children 0-8 years.

Component 3: Investigating Language – students must research ahead of the exam different topics that are the basis of language investigation. This includes the following areas: Global English, Language and Gender Identity, Language and Journalism, Language and Power, Regional Language Variation.

Component 4: Crafting Language – non-exam assessment where students research a specific genre and write two pieces of creative writing in their chosen genre. This will be accompanied by a commentary to explain their language choices.

How am I assessed?

AO1 Apply appropriate methods of language analysis, using associated terminology and coherent written expression

AO2 Demonstrate critical understanding of concepts and issues relevant to language use

AO3 Analyse and evaluate how contextual factors and language features are associated with the construction of meaning

AO4 Explore connections across texts, informed by linguistic concepts and methods

AO5 Demonstrate expertise and creativity in the use of English to communicate in different ways



