

English Language & Literature

English Language and Literature is an exciting and intellectually rich A Level that integrates the study of a wide range of English components. It encourages students to explore how writers use language to create meaning in both literary and non-literary texts.

Combining the analytical skills of literary study with the investigative approach of language analysis, the course fosters a deep understanding of how English works in real-world and imaginative contexts. Students also develop their own voice through original writing, producing creative pieces inspired by their study



COURSE CONTENT

Voices in Speech and Writing

- Study of an Edexcel anthology of 20 fiction and non-fiction texts across a variety of genres including blogs, articles, film scripts and interviews.
- Exploration of voice, persona, audience, and purpose
- Study of *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams
- Analysis of how cultural and social context affects meaning

Varieties in Language and Literature

- Study of *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- Study of *Othello* by William Shakespeare
- Thematic focus: society and the individual
- Independent research into non-fiction texts on the theme

Non-Exam Assessment (Original Writing)

- Independent selection of one fiction and one non-fiction source text
- Production of one original fiction and one original non-fiction text
- Reflective commentary analysing creative choices and influences
- Focus on writing for specific audiences and purposes

SKILLS REQUIRED

GCSE grade 6 and above in both Language and Literature. This course is suitable for students who have an interest in all aspects of English, including both literary and linguistic analysis and creative writing.

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Voices in Speech and Writing

Written exam. 2 hours 30 minutes. 40% of final marks.

- Section A: Comparative essay on two anthology texts
- Section B: Essay response to an extract from *A Streetcar Named Desire*

Paper 2: Varieties in Language and Literature

Written exam. 2 hours 30 minutes. 40% of final marks.

- Section A: comparative essay on *The Great Gatsby* and *Othello*
- Section B: A response to an unseen non-fiction prose extract

Non-Examined Assessment: Original Writing

Coursework. 20% of final marks. Assessed by teachers, moderated by AQA.

- Two original writing pieces (one fiction, one non-fiction) with a reflective commentary. 2,500–3,000 words total (including commentary)

ENRICHMENT

The department offers plenty of trips and co-curricular activities such as Shakespeare and Classical Literature Club, public Speaking and Debating and Creative Writing clubs.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

This course builds highly transferable skills in analysis, interpretation, independent research, and creative expression. It provides an excellent foundation for further study in English, creative writing, media, journalism, law, education, politics and a wide range of careers where communication and critical thinking are essential.



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