

English

A-Level English Language



Subject English Language

Exam Board WJEC Eduqas

Specification Numbers A700U

Teacher Responsible Miss Martin

Introduction English Language is very different to the course studied at GCSE: this is where we investigate what language is; why it is used; how it is used, and what contextual factors influence how we use it.

This two year course involves:

- Analysing spoken language - how do people talk? Why do they talk in the way that they do? What features differentiate spoken English from written English and why? How do speakers show their attitudes and viewpoints through the language they use? - all of these questions are explored in investigating Spoken Language.
- Exploring Language Issues: Standard and Non-standard English; language and power; language and situation; language and acquisition; language change over time; English in the 21st Century and its evolving nature due to technological and cultural change.
- Language is a concept to be discussed. Language can be, and is manipulated and we need to explore why. Language changes and often it is young people who change it - we explore why in this course and also look at how advancements in technology have shaped language in the 21st Century.
- Creative and critical use of language – students produce two pieces of original writing and comment on their choice of language and its effect.
- In NEA, pupils will construct a 2500- 3000 word investigation, closely exploring language and identity. Pupils will examine data they have collated focusing on a specific aspect of how speakers and or writers forge identities through their language use.

Aims of the Course Students will learn how to:

- Develop and apply understanding of concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis and study of language;
- Explore data and examples of language in use;
- Engage creatively and critically with a varied range of texts and resources and explore links between texts;
- Develop skills as producers and interpreters of language;
- Independently investigate language in use in a variety of different contexts and scenarios.

How You Are Assessed Three exams will take place at the end of the two year course: two worth 30% of the overall A-Level grade and the other worth 20% of the overall grade. Students will also complete a personal investigation (the NEA), worth 20% of the overall grade exploring language and identity.

Links to Future Careers English Language students are introduced to the concepts and disciplines of English Language/Linguistics in relation to a wide range of spoken and written forms, providing the opportunity to hone their skills of interrogating data, interpretation, analysis, evaluation, synthesis and reflection, and their own creative writing. These skills are invaluable for a vast range of career paths such as: Journalism, Law, Investigations in the Police/the Military, Advertising, PR, HR, Teaching and Politics.

Entry Requirement

Grade 6 and Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and English Literature
(in either order)