

English Language

audience purpose semantics acquisition morphology graphology power telegraphic holophrase gender change context communication neologism syntax proto-words technology

Our students say...

"I didn't realise how complex and interesting language is. It's amazing what you can do with it!"

Jonathan Tweedale, Year 13

Samuel Johnson said...

"Language is only the instrument of science, and words are but the signs of ideas."

Entry Requirements:

- B Grade in English GCSE

Skills developed during the course

- Explore and understand the spoken and written language in use.
- Use linguistic methods to analyse and investigate a variety of texts and develop an understanding of the ways in which particular groups in our society are represented through language.
- Devise and research your own language investigation.

Possible careers and Higher Education options:

English Language is an excellent companion to most A level subjects, especially Arts based subjects. Students who have studied English A level often go on to study English, Law, Journalism or Media at degree level.

Course content—AS

Paper 1— Language and the Individual: 1hr 30 mins. written examination/ 70marks. 50% of AS)

- Introduction to the methods of exploring and understanding spoken and written language in use.
- Use of linguistic methods to analyse and investigate a variety of texts taken from everyday sources.
- Study how spoken and written texts reproduce ideas about cultural values and assumptions.

Paper 2— Language varieties: 1hr 30 mins. 70 marks (50% of AS)

To understand how different groups use language

- Study how language varies because of personal, social and geographical contexts
- why language varies, developing critical knowledge and understanding of different views and explanations
- how identity is constructed
- how language is used to enact relationships
- Understanding how to write creatively for an audience and purpose

Course content—A2

Paper 1— Language the Individual and society. 2hr, 30 mins. written examination/ 100 marks.

Develop the skills and knowledge from AS studies, with an additional focus on two new topics:

- the acquisition of language by children
- the development of and changes in English over time.

Paper 2—Language Diversity and Change- 2hr, 30 mins. written examination/ 100 marks.

Develop the skills and knowledge from AS studies, with an additional focus on two new topics:

- the development of and changes in English over time.

Non-Exam assessment: Language in Action

Coursework- internally assessed and externally moderated by AQA – 100 marks 20% of A-Level