

A Level English Language

The subject is assessed via two exam papers, each of two and a half hours. Two distinctly different pieces of coursework also account for 20% of the qualification.

There are a wide variety of careers that this course can lead into: Education, Media, Marketing, Public Relations, Teaching, Journalism, Publishing, Human Resources and Public Sector Management to name but a few.

Exam board:
AQA

The course often combines well with English Literature and psychology but it underpins all areas of academic study.



Summary of subject

The study of English Language provides learners with an opportunity to study the technical structure, history and impact of the English Language across Britain and the world. Studying texts of varied eras and genres enables students to analyse and contrast them using a variety of active reading strategies. The exam papers cover such varied elements as 'Language Change', 'Child Language Development' and 'Language Diversity', exploring how language is used to present gender, ethnicity, age and other aspects of our identity. 'Language Change' explores the impact of technology on language and the development of English as a lingua franca. English Language is popular at A Level, encouraging socio-linguistic debates, drawing upon a myriad of theorists in order to develop meaning, encouraging students to debate and challenge the interpretations of theorists and researchers as they develop their own informed personal responses. Coursework focuses on two distinct areas; creative writing (with an associated critique) and an investigation into the use of language in political contexts. Thus it develops a number of valuable and transferable skills including independent critical analysis, research and communication skills. As well as careers within areas of Media and Journalism, English Language qualifications open doors to careers in disciplines such as: Marketing and PR, Management, Education and Public Sector Management.

