



A Level English Language and Literature

Why study English Language and Literature?

“Just think what you're dealing with. The majesty and grandeur of the English language; it's the greatest possession we have.”

George Bernard Shaw (playwright)

A level English Language and Literature allows progression for those that enjoyed analysing texts and writing creatively at Key Stages 3 and 4. In the Language component, students will hone their ability to express themselves in a range of written styles for a range of audiences: a skill that can be applied to the breadth of writing tasks encountered in the professional world of work or academia. For Literature, through studying a number of genres and forms, students will develop their expertise in deconstructing the intricate nuances within a writer's craft, analysing the power of structure and language. Indeed, to study Language and Literature is to study our everyday communication and interactions.

What is the course structure?

A Level (4 units of study)	
Unit details (Exam)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Exploring non-fiction written and spoken texts2. The language of poetry and plays3. Reading as a writer, writing as a reader
What you study (Exam)	<p>Language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-fiction spoken and written texts (from an anthology)• Narrative creative writing (writing own fiction) <p>Literature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prose: F Scott Fitzgerald – <i>The Great Gatsby</i>• Poetry: Carol Ann Duffy – <i>Rapture</i>• Drama: Tennessee Williams – <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>
Unit details (Coursework)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Non-examined assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Independent study: analysing and producing texts
What you study (Coursework)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparative essay of two texts from a prescribed list (one must be post-2000)• An original piece of non-fiction writing.

Who is the examining body?

OCR English Language and Literature (EMC)

Specification and other information can be found at:

Which activities will I be engaged in during the course?

Students will journey through the development of the English language from Samuel Pepys to Dizzee Rascal, analysing the written and spoken word and its evolution. Poetry, drama and fiction join the voyage, giving students a truly all-encompassing spectrum of the English language and its rich heritage of classic literature. As the course develops, there is a greater emphasis on independent study with students specialising in their own choice of non-fiction texts.

Activities might include:

- researching contexts
- deconstructing language and its purpose
- critical reasoning and analysis
- a range of writing styles
- clarity of thought and expression
- the ability to work as part of a team
- editing for precision
- communication, debating and discussion skills
- creative problem solving
- the ability to give and receive feedback.

How can I prepare for the course?

It is essential that all necessary reading is carried out. Be prepared to engage beyond the examined texts and to carry out independent research linked to the contexts and the writers we study.

In order to be fully prepared for the start of your AS English Language and Literature course in September, you should:

- Purchase and read the novel *'The Great Gatsby'* by F Scott Fitzgerald
- Purchase and read a copy of *'Rapture'* by Carol Ann Duffy

Further information: Preeti Parkash (Head of English)