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SPRINGBOARD



A-Level English Language

OUR COURSE DETAILS

The English Language course delivered by the English team is the WJEC Eduqas A level. This course develops the students' understanding of a wide range of spoken and written texts, which is designed for students who are interested in analysing language in all its forms and enjoy analysing and producing texts. Students will develop their own creativity: in how they think about language and develop expertise in using language in different ways. Students will be closely guided in their study as the new concepts and skills are introduced, after which they will explore language independently, in a variety of contexts. It provides learners with opportunities to develop a wide and deep knowledge of the systems of the English language – linguistic study - and of issues relating to language and its uses. The course prepares students for any literate university study or employment. Our students progress to a range of degree study choices, including English, linguistics; law; veterinary studies; business and journalism. Our students have forged careers in teaching, playwriting, journalism, copywriting and a variety of other related employments.



PREPARING FOR STUDY

Top tips – what would be useful to revise from GCSE

- Terminology/language labels.
- Concise and relevant quotations.
- Features of non-fiction texts.
- Features of fiction texts.
- Read texts from different centuries.
- Creative writing - fiction and non-fiction.
- Summarising extended texts.
- Extend your English vocabulary.



OUR TOP READS

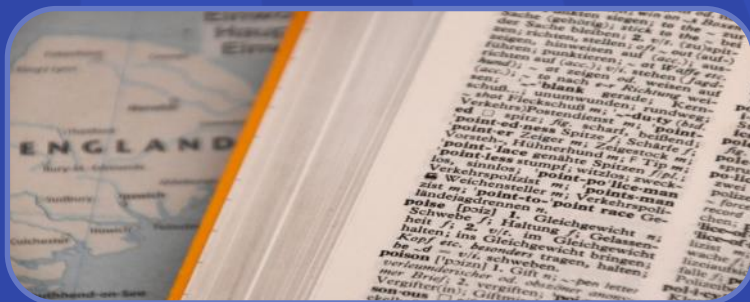
These books will introduce you to linguistics ideas in an accessible way: *The Little Book of Language* – David Crystal; *How Language Works* – David Crystal; *The Mother Tongue* – Bill Bryson

Read as much fiction and non-fiction as you can.

Read different genres and styles to get a wide reading experience.

Observe these features as you read fiction - Genre features.; Plot; Character; Setting; Use of dialogue; Socio-historical context

And in Non-fiction: Genre features; Newspapers; Audience and audience engagement; Political/social/ideological agenda;



EMPLOYABILITY

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree>

UNIVERSITY COURSES

Top universities for English Language (based on rankings):

<https://www.whatuni.com/degree-courses/search?subject=english-language&sort=crh>

Top universities for English Language (based on employability)

<https://www.whatuni.com/degree-courses/search?subject=english-language&sort=empd>

What can you do with an English Language degree:

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/student/subjects/what-can-you-do-english-language-degree>



LANGUAGE IN THE MEDIA

- Arrivals (2016)
- The Professor and the Madman (2019)

Documentaries:

Stephen Fry's Planet Word (Available on Youtube and Dailymotion)

We look at different accents and dialects across the UK in the first term. We also use a lot of comedy sketches to show how accents and dialects can be used to create humour. You could look at these shows and see what different vocabulary, accents and identities are created in these shows.

BBC iPlayer:

- Gavin and Stacey
- Mrs Brown's Boys
- King Gary
- Goodness Gracious Me

4OD:

- Derry Girls
- The Windsors
- Raised by Wolves



PEOPLE TO RESEARCH

We will look at how language has changed and the influence of **Samuel Johnson** who wrote the first widely read dictionary in 1775.

We also explore lots of different theories about the English language and the way we communicate. Here are some of the key theorists that we look at:

- Paul Grice
- Deborah Tannen
- Norman Fairclough
- Noam Chomsky
- Paul Grice
- Deborah Tannen
- Norman Fairclough
- Noam Chomsky



USEFUL ONLINE LINKS

BBC Sounds:

- Word of Mouth (Radio 4)
- Fry's English Delight (Radio 4)

Memrise: Follow this link and join the group. This will help you with your terminology.

<https://www.memrise.com/login/?next=/group/402313/>

Quizlet: You could also make your own flashcards with the terminology using Quizlet.

Podcasts:

- Lexicon Valley by John McWhorter



LINKS TO THE SPECIFICATIONS

https://www.educas.co.uk/ed/qualifications/english-language-as-a-level/#tab_overview

