

Men and women speak differently. It's always been that way, and it always will be...

Regional accents are inferior forms of English. If you want to succeed in life, you need to speak properly.

A Level English Language *Is it for you?*

The internet is killing English.
We must protect our language!

English is the most widely spoken language because it's clearly better than all others.



A Level English Language

- An academic course on which you will study language itself – how it works, how it's learned and used, and how it helps shape our identities
- Analytically focused and quite scientific – there's a good deal of overlap with subjects like sociology and psychology
- Has some creative writing
- Non-fiction focused – similar to GCSE in this regard



Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society

What's assessed

- Textual variations and representations
- Children's language development (0-11 years)
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 100 marks
- 40% of A-level

Questions

Section A - Textual Variations and Representations

Two texts (one contemporary and one older text) linked by topic or theme.

- A question requiring analysis of one text (25 marks)
- A question requiring analysis of a second text (25 marks)
- A question requiring comparison of the two texts (20 marks)

Section B - Children's Language Development

A discursive essay on children's language development, with a choice of two questions where the data provided will focus on spoken, written or multimodal language (30 marks)



Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change

What's assessed

- Language diversity and change
- Language discourses
- Writing skills
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 100 marks
- 40% of A-level

Questions

Section A - Diversity and Change

One question from a choice of two:

Either: an evaluative essay on language diversity (30 marks)

Or: an evaluative essay on language change (30 marks)

Section B - Language Discourses

Two texts about a topic linked to the study of diversity and change.

- A question requiring analysis of how the texts use language to present ideas, attitudes and opinions (40 marks)
- A directed writing task linked to the same topic and the ideas in the texts (30 marks)



Non-exam assessment: Language in Action

What's assessed

- Language Investigation
- Original Writing
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

Assessed

- Word count: 3,500
- 100 marks
- 20% of A-level
- Assessed by teachers
- Moderated by AQA

Tasks

Students produce:

- a language investigation (2,000 words excluding data)
- a piece of original writing and commentary (1,500 words total)



Why do our current students like the course?

We get to explore why our language developed the way it did and how we represent our language on paper and in speech.

I like looking deeper into communication and learning skills in language that I didn't know existed. I really like developing knowledge I didn't know was significant at the time of starting the course.

It's like putting together pieces of a puzzle to find out the meanings of texts. It feels like you're looking inside the mind of the writer. It's especially interesting when you pick up unconscious English Language choices we make and how it affects texts and speech.

Why do our current students think you should choose it?

If you love English and want to discover the ins and outs of it (as well as sounding smarter than your peers) this is the course for you!

Because the world around us is based on language and communication. Without language, you can't communicate. Language is more than just words. It is how those words are said or laid out that give different meanings.

If you find yourself asking, "Why?" about things often I'd really recommend this course. You'll feel like you understand not just texts better but day to day life. English plays such a key part in our day to day lives and English language helps us to understand that better.



Final Points

- You'll need a 6 in an English subject (Language or Literature) to do this course
- You can't do both English Language and Literature at A Level – it's one or the other
- If you have any questions, email me and I'll be more than happy to help you out:

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