

Course Level

A Level

Awarding Body

AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English Language

Assessment

Continuous assessment will be undertaken through tasks designed to test and develop skills for the exam units and in preparation for the coursework folder. The exam units are worth 80% of the total A Level and the coursework is worth 20%.

Course Description

A2 Unit 1: Language, the Individual and Society

The aim of this unit is to introduce students to language study, exploring textual variety and children's language development. It explores how children learn language and how they are able to understand and express themselves. It also enables students to learn new methods of language analysis to explore concepts of audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. The unit culminates in an exam worth 40% of the A Level.

A2 Unit 2: Language Diversity and Change

The second unit allows students to explore language diversity and change over time, studying texts from 1600 to the present day. Students will explore language in its wider social, geographical and temporal contexts across the key concepts of audience, purpose, genre and mode. Students are also required to study social attitudes to the diversity of language and how it has developed. This unit encourages students to develop their writing skills, writing discursively about language issues. The unit culminates in an exam worth 40% of the A Level.

A2 Unit 3: Language in Action

The aim of this unit is to enable students to explore and analyse language data independently and develop and reflect upon their own writing expertise. It is coursework based and it requires students to conduct their own language investigation (2,000 words) and a piece of original writing and commentary (750 words each). The coursework allows them to explore their own writing as well as produce a rigorous data analysis. This coursework unit is worth 20% of the A Level.

Career Progression Opportunities

English Language is a flexible and adaptable subject that opens up a wide range of career choices. Those students with qualifications in English possess skills in written and spoken communication, working independently and thinking critically, which are highly valued by employers. It can form part of entry into General Management, Research and Consultancy, Public Services, Publishing, Law and Accountancy. It is also a subject which naturally overlaps with many others in both the sciences and the arts.

Link to Syllabus

www.aqa.org.uk