

# English Language ‘A’ Level

WJEC – AS (Advanced Subsidiary / ‘A’ Level (Advanced)  
Head of Department: Mr. Rob Stanley

You should do this course if.....

You really enjoy reading and with curiosity; you are willing to read a diverse range of *non-literary* texts; you are enthusiastic to join in discussing and analysing texts; you want to discover much more about the origins and evolution of English; you enjoy writing for different audiences; you care about the quality of your writing.

It is assumed that all students who choose this course read diversely outside the syllabus. ‘Reading’ will include fiction and non-fiction, newspapers, TV and (talk) Radio.

Skills you will develop on this course

You will enhance your ability to read, comprehend and analyse texts; you will learn more sophisticated ways of writing, both analytically and creatively.

You will become able to write in a variety of formats for specific audiences.

Topics studied

## **UNIT 1 - (AS) Examination 2.5hrs. Introduction To The Language Of Texts.**

Section A: The Language of Texts – Two texts for analysis linked by a common theme.

Section B: Language Focus – study of one particular text drawn from a wide range of genres.

## **UNIT 2 - (AS) Coursework. Original Writing & Exploring Spoken Language.**

Folder of 3,000 words/ 3 pieces of work.

Section A: Original writing in a literary genre + commentary.

Section B: Exploring Spoken Language – an analysis of one particular type of spoken language including a transcription.

## **UNIT 3 – (A2) Coursework Language Investigation & Writing for Specific Purposes.**

Folder of 3,000 words

Section A: An investigation into a specified area of written/spoken language.

Section B: Writing For A Specific Purpose – sustained piece of original writing in a *non-literary* genre + analysis.

## **UNIT 4 – (A2) Examination 2.5hrs Analysing & Evaluating Language.**

Section A: Analytical comparison of Spoken Language – Unseen spoken transcript.

Section B: Analysis of Written Language Over Time – Unseen texts linked by genre including texts from the past

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## How will you learn?

Analysis of texts in class, audience research, handouts, audio/dvd as appropriate, conference visits, student led seminars.  
Extended reading.

You will be expected to read a wide range of newspapers, magazines and other non-literary texts.

## Where does the course lead?

English is a very flexible subject and fits with many other AS/A Levels. It follows that there are many careers – direct and indirect – which may follow from the study of English. University, Journalism, Linguistics, Publishing, Advertising, Politics, Research, Teaching, Public Relations, Law and Business are just a few possibilities.

## Assessment and Exams

During the course, your work will be marked using the criteria from the syllabus. There will be homework most weeks. Coursework will be completed as home and class work. Emphasis will be placed on developing strong coursework and other skills. There will be regular timed tests to help you focus on examination technique and to assess your strengths.

The exam/coursework details are outlined above and will be given appropriate emphasis during the course.

## Entry Requirements

5C's at GCSE including English Language.

You must be prepared to learn to analyse and write clearly and accurately, but most importantly you must have the motivation and commitment which the subject requires.