

Is this subject right for you?

- Do you enjoy reading literary texts but are also interested in how language works in everyday speech?
- Are you open-minded and willing to explore a broad range of different types of writing from different perspectives?
- Do you like writing analytically and creatively, and prepared to undertake extensive independent research, reading and thought?

Why study English Language and Literature?

English Language and Literature is a popular and well-established subject in which you will study a variety of literary and non-fiction writing, including novels, plays, journalism and transcripts of speech. There is a strong emphasis on independent research and reading, as well as the opportunity to develop your own creative writing skills in both the first and second year.

You will read and explore a diverse range of texts in your both your first and second year. As well as reading a novel for the exam in the first year, you will prepare to analyse written and spoken texts. This means that as well as analysing literary techniques, you will also explore aspects such as grammar, accent and everyday speech. Students cover a wide range of texts in preparation for the exam, including written texts as well as extracts from radio, tv, film and everyday conversations.

Students are also given the opportunity to hone their own creative writing skills. AS Level students produce two pieces of coursework – a dramatic monologue and a short story. Students also learn how to analyse and evaluate their own writing, applying a range of language skills and conventions. Many English Language and Literature students also contribute to the college online newspaper 'The Buzz' and go on to study careers in Journalism.

A level English Language and Literature students are highly prized by both Universities and employers, as fluent and original writers who are able to discuss and debate issues with a sharp eye for detail in whatever they read and hear. English Language and Literature students often go on to study English at University and then to careers in journalism, the creative industries and law. Many students choose this A level because it combines the best of what they have enjoyed at GCSE: close analytical study of texts, debate and discussion, as well as opportunities for creative writing. Whatever your reasons for choosing English Language and Literature, we aim to provide you with a challenging and interesting experience.

How is the course assessed?

In both the first and second year, you will be assessed through coursework and examination. Throughout your studies, your teachers will provide you with a range of assessment modes, providing careful feedback related to assessment objectives and with clear strategies for improvement.

What are the entry requirements?

A minimum of grade C in either English Language or English Literature

Other Information

We also aim to offer a wide range of Enrichment activities throughout the year, including journalism, creative writing, reading groups and trips.

What is the course content?

Year One – AS Level

Unit One	Exploring Voices in Speech and Writing	Analyse of unseen texts as well as a novel you have studied in class.	60% Exam
Unit Two	Creating Texts	Writing a short story and a dramatic monologue.	40% Coursework

Year Two – AS Level

Unit Three	Varieties in Language and Literature	Critical analysis of unseen texts as well as two plays studied in class.	60% Exam
Unit Four	Presenting the World (Outsiders)	A piece of travel writing and a journalistic article on the theme of Outsiders.	40% Coursework

English Language and Literature AS/A Level