

English Language & Literature

AQA

A Level English Language & Literature will appeal to students with an equal interest in both literary and non-literary texts. You will study a blend of fiction and non-fiction to engage with texts contextually, analytically, and creatively. This is a highly regarded subject that allows you to explore both language and literary concepts across a range of texts, from journalistic pieces and speech transcripts to more traditional works of literature.

Course Structure

With a focus on an integrated approach to language and literature, the course comprises two core units:

1. 'Telling Stories' which includes the sub-units 'Remembered Places'; 'Imaginative worlds'; and 'Poetic Voices'

2. 'Exploring Conflict' which includes sub-units 'Writing about Society' and 'Dramatic Encounters'

The course also includes a NEA unit (coursework) that offers you the opportunity to explore, analyse and compare a literary and non-literary text of your own choosing.

Skills & Knowledge

The course offers clear skills progression from GCSE, and allows you to build on the skills and knowledge already gained and prepare for your next steps. A variety of assessment styles are used, such as re-creative writing, commentary writing, discursive essays and research-based investigative writing, to allow you to develop a wide range of skills. These include the ability to read critically, analyse, evaluate and undertake independent research, which are invaluable for both further study and future employment.

Assessment

You are assessed through two exam papers each worth 40% of your final grade. The remaining 20% is assessed through NEA.

Opportunities & Enrichment

Students of English Language & Literature will be offered the opportunity to participate in a number of external events including academic conferences by leading scholars; theatre trips; museum trips; British Library visits; workshops with contemporary authors; writing competitions, and film-screenings of text adaptations.

Future Careers & Pathways

As a core subject, English Language & Literature is highly regarded by the vast majority of employers, industries, and higher education institutions. English Language & Literature opens a variety of career pathways including journalism, teaching, creative writing, advertising, publishing, law, and business.