



AS/A2 English Language and Literature Course Outline

Overview

The Language and literature course will comprise both linguistic and literary analysis. It will expect students to study speech and become aware of stylistic and thematic issues. Students will study a range of literature and non-fiction texts and be asked both to respond to and be creative in response to these. They will be expected to engage in written and spoken tasks designed to improve their ability to respond in a structured, logical and thoughtful manner.

Course Structure and Content

Students will study two units for AS Level and a further two units for A2

AS Level (First Year)

Unit 1: Integrated Analysis and Text Production

In this unit students will concentrate on two aspects. The first focuses on how language and style help to develop and explore issues within a text. The second addresses central issues within a text, such as theme, attitude, language and idiom.

Unit 1 will be assessed by a **written, open-book examination** of **1 hour and 30 minutes**. In the examination they will be asked to answer an analytical question and to produce a piece which adopts a different style or voice. Texts will be chosen from an approved list which comprises modern and classic texts.

Unit 2: Analysing Speech and its Representation

In this unit students will examine the features of Spoken English, by examining transcribed examples of speech from literary and non-literary contexts. These will be compared to discuss how form and content help to shape meaning. Also, within the context of a set text, analysis will focus on speech, style and linguistic issues.

Unit 2 will be assessed by a **written, closed book examination** of **1 hour and 30 minutes**. The examination will require them to complete analysis of an unseen text focussing on features of spoken English, as well as answering a question on the set text which focuses on speech representation and stylistic and linguistic issues. A short passage from the text will be given to provide a basis for this answer.

A2 Level (Second Year)

At A2, students will be expected to complete coursework as a means of developing integrated literary and linguistic analysis, and be able to use appropriate terminology when analysing set texts. The course will also cover some poetry.

Unit 3: Comparative Analysis and Text Adaptation

This unit will extend students knowledge of the principles of integrated literary and linguistic analysis, and, explore challenging comparative issues on two set texts selected from poetry and a

range including prose and drama. They will also consider the drafting processes in preparation for the coursework tasks.

Unit 3 will be assessed through a **written paper of 2 hours and 30 minutes**. One question will be on unseen material comprising three different genres, modes and historical periods. A second question will be on the set text, and require candidates to undertake a re-casting task accompanied by an introductory explanation of textual intention and audience.

Unit 4: Comparative Analysis thorough Independent Study

Students will examine further literature and non-fiction texts and then focus on two texts, one of which will be poetry, from a set list ratified by the examination board. This will lead to Coursework which consolidates comparative and analytical study. It will also extend their ability to produce accurate, fluent coherent writing.

Unit 4 will be assessed through **one coursework task** on the two texts studied.

Assessment Objectives

Having followed the English Language & Literature course students should be able to demonstrate:

- an ability to respond in a personal and considered way to both literary and non-fiction texts
- an ability to recognise literary, stylistic and linguistic features of written and spoken material
- an ability to express themselves with clarity, coherence , conciseness and precision
- a command of the language appropriate for literary and linguistic analysis
- some familiarity with aspects of literary heritage
- knowledge of individual works studied and, where appropriate, relationships between them
- an ability to comment on the language, content, structure, meaning and significance of written and spoken material studied
- awareness of the affects of technique and style employed by writers and speakers
- an ability to structure analyses and arguments in a sustained and logical way, and to support them with precise and relevant examples.

Entry Qualifications

A grade C or above in English / English Literature at GCSE is required.

Career Prospects

Students who complete the courses will be well prepared for further study on linguistic or literature based courses at university, or, diverse courses or careers in many fields, for example, journalism, media, business, education, law and so on.