

English Language & Literature

Examination Board: AQA

Staff Lead

R Cohen, BA (Hons), PGCE

Why Study English Language & Literature?

Do you enjoy reading a variety of texts – both fiction and non-fiction? Are you interested in the ways writers create meanings in texts through a range of techniques? Do you like stories – both reading and writing them? If you have answered ‘yes’ to these questions, then English Language and Literature could be the A level for you.

Clearly to study English at A level, you can expect to undertake a fair amount of reading so an enjoyment of this is essential. An interest in analysing the way language shapes the world we live in is also important. You will build on skills from GCSE and study the way language functions in both literary and non-literary texts, including spoken conversations. You will read, discuss, evaluate, analyse a range of Literature from novels to poetry to drama and the NEA component is a great opportunity to extend your knowledge and understanding in an area of your choice. Unlike the English Literature A level, you will also be able to develop original/creative writing skills as part of the Paper 2

exam unit.

Career Paths & Degree Courses

English Language and Literature A level provides a useful foundation for degree courses in a wide variety of subjects. The ability to communicate effectively is important for all careers, with this course.

Requirements

A minimum of one grade 6 and one grade 5 coming from the study of GCSE English Language and English Literature. At least five 9-4 grades at GCSE, with a minimum average grade score of 4.5 or higher.

Recommended: Grade 6 or higher in both GCSE English Language and English Literature

Year 12 Study	Year 13 Study
<p>Telling Stories (3 hour exam at the end of Year 13)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Remembered Places - the representation of place. Set texts include: AQA Anthology ‘Paris’Imagined Worlds - point of view and genre in prose. Set Texts include: Frankenstein, Dracula, The Handmaid’s Tale.Poetic Voices - the forms and functions of poetic voice. Set Texts include the following poets: Donne, Browning, Duffy, Heaney. <p>Making Connections (Coursework) - begin at the end of Year 12 but continue in Year 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Investigation on a chosen theme and texts - personal investigation that explores a specific technique or theme in both literary and non-literary discourse (2500-3000 words).	<p>Making Connections (Coursework)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Investigation on a chosen theme and texts - personal investigation that explores a specific technique or theme in both literary and non-literary discourse (2500-3000 words). <p>Exploring Conflict (2 hour 30 minute exam at the end of Year 13)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Writing about Society - the role of the Individual in society: re-creative writing with critical commentary.Set Texts include: The Great Gatsby, The Kite Runner, Into the Wild.Dramatic Encounters - conflict in drama textsSet texts include: Othello, A Streetcar Named Desire, All My Sons.