



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE (LINGUISTICS)

Exam Board: AQA

Specification: [Click here for more information](#)



## COURSE SUMMARY

A Level English Language (Linguistics) encourages and expands students' enjoyment, appreciation and understanding of the English language in all its shapes and forms. Students will analyse a range of texts, spoken and written, fiction and nonfiction, drawn from a range of different historical periods and genres. Students of English Language (Linguistics) gain expertise in detailed linguistic analysis of many different kinds of texts and create some of their own.

*"I've always wanted to be a writer, and the A Level English Language course has helped me sharpen my skills and given me more confidence in my own abilities". Charlotte*

## WHY STUDY ENGLISH LANGUAGE (LINGUISTICS)?

The English language plays an integral role in the culture and identity. It shapes how we express ourselves to the world and how others perceive us therefore making it a fascinating and valuable subject. Here students will explore language, gender, technology and occupations as well as accents and dialects. The course is well respected by leading universities and one which works well alongside many other A Level subjects. It is rigorous in its approach to linguistic analysis and thus equips students with vital skills, easily transferable to other courses of study. Debate and discussion are important elements and students will gain confidence and build stamina in putting forward their own ideas in this way. This course develops a wide range of writing skills as well as the ability to tackle more challenging materials across a huge variety of texts from all sorts of mediums and time periods.

## WHAT HAPPENS IN LESSONS?

Strong emphasis is placed on discussing extracts from texts, analysing them in detail and considering the different concepts and theories that underpin them. The contexts that a particular text inhabits are also addressed to see how these impact on our understanding. Students are encouraged to read around the key language topics and bring their ideas from this to classroom debate. Independent study is vital for success as it enables students to gain a wider understanding around the subject and practise the essential skill of analysing texts.

## COURSE ASSESSMENT

This is a linear course. This means that students opting for an A Level in this subject will be committing to a two year course with one non-exam assessment unit (coursework) and two examinations at the end of Year 13.

## MIGHT LEAD TO...

English Language (Linguistics) A Level opens up pathways to many careers or courses for further and higher level study, given the significant skills with which it equips students. Recent students pursuing this course at A Level have studied Linguistics, English Language (Linguistics), sometimes with a modern foreign language, social sciences, teaching, media and the law. English Language (Linguistics) and English Literature can be taken as two separate subjects at A Level and work very effectively together both in the Sixth Form and at university. Communication skills and cultural knowledge gained in this subject effectively support many different disciplines.

## ADVICE ON ENTRY

Grade 5 or higher in GCSE English Language (Linguistics) is preferred.

## READING AROUND THE SUBJECT

- [British Library – Learning](#)
- [EngLang Blog](#)
- [englishbiz](#)
- [Oxford English Dictionary](#)
- [David Crystal's blog](#)
- [Andrew Moore's Teachit](#)

