



AS / A2 English Language & Literature

WHY TAKE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE?

If you think you may enjoy the challenge of a course which involves the study of both literary and non-literary texts as well as the opportunity to write creatively, then this may be the English course for you. You will study your own and others' language usage as well as develop your knowledge about literature. In addition, you will develop a wide variety of skills that are well regarded by both employers and universities. English Language and Literature prepares you for careers which require good communication skills, such as, journalism, public relations, marketing, management, the legal profession, teaching and many others.

WHAT ARE THE KEY AREAS OF STUDY?

At AS, you will study different varieties of language, speech and writing, grammar, and learn how to write in a variety of literary genres. You will study a poetry anthology and analyse poems from the Early Modern English period to 1900. In the examination, the poem will be linked to an unseen text. The prose study is based on a detailed study of Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood*, which is linked to Peter Carey's *True History of the Kelly Gang*. The coursework consists of two pieces of original writing: one literary piece and one non-literary piece with a commentary on both pieces. At A2, you will study Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* and undertake a comparative textual analysis for examination purposes. Your coursework folder will consist of two pieces of performance texts and a comparison of Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* and Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi*.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I NEED AND DEVELOP?

To get the most out of your English Language and Literature course you should be willing to learn about English grammar and how to analyse language usage in both fiction and non-fiction texts. You should be interested in learning how to write for different audiences and must enjoy reading and literature in general. The course encourages independent research, which can be undertaken using the internet, Virtual Learning Environment and Learning Resource Centre. You should also be keen to share with, and justify your views to, your fellow students and to develop your writing skills so you can express your ideas clearly and logically. You will develop analytical skills, in addition to written communication skills, through coursework, timed examination practice and essays.

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS I NEED?

You must have at least a grade C in GCSE English Language and English Literature.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

40% Coursework, 60% Examination.
This is for both the AS and the A2 courses.

PRIESTLEY EXTRA

To develop your understanding of English you will be able to attend theatre performances, and conferences, hear visiting speakers and attend English enrichments such as creative writing. You will also have the opportunity to join us on one of our overseas residential visits.