

SUBJECT: GCE A Level English Language and Literature

YEAR: 12

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: Mrs H Duncan

GROUPING POLICY: Students are taught in mixed ability sets. However, all students have met the entry criteria for the course, achieving at least a Grade 6 at GCSE English Language and English Literature

COURSE CONTENT:

Examination Board: AQA

Specification:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-language-and-literature-7706-7707>

What will my child learn?

Over the two years of the course, students will focus on:

- Constructing focused, coherent discussions of texts
- Exploring themes in a range of texts
- Analysing texts through both literary and linguistic approaches
- Understanding language change
- How texts can convey the attitudes and values of writers

Component 1: Telling Stories

Students study:

- Remembered places – the representation of place
- Imagined worlds – point of view and genre in prose
- Poetic voices – the forms and functions of poetic voice
- AQA Anthology: Paris

Component 2: Exploring Conflict

Students study:

- Writing about society – the role of the individual in society and re-creative writing based on set texts
- Critical commentary – evaluating own writing
- Dramatic encounters – conflict in drama

Component 3: Coursework

Students study:

- A free choice of topic and texts

What will homework look like?

- Homework may often be note taking, preparing presentations, drafting coursework, writing essay responses;
- Students will be expected to read widely, outside of the texts set by the exam board.

What enrichment opportunities are available?

- Students will be encouraged to read widely and to discuss their increasing knowledge and love of literature;
- Students will also be encouraged to read widely about literature, exploring critics' opinions, for example reading the *The English Review*;
- There are various opportunities for students to support the department and to promote reading within the school.

ASSESSMENT

How will my child's work be assessed?

Details of the specific examinations are above.

When drafting coursework, students will have several opportunities to receive feedback on their work and to make improvements, before the final essays are submitted. There will be informal and formal assessment opportunities in the run up to the examination at the end of each stage of the course.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

How can I support my child in this subject?

Although the school is able to provide copies of core texts, students find it most useful to be able to annotate their own copies of texts in order to benefit most fully from class discussions.

Encourage your child's interest in literature by encouraging discussions about reading and literature at home and encouraging them to talk to you about the texts they are studying in school.

Students also often find visiting theatre productions inspiring and can aid understanding of texts in performance

How can I support my child with exams?

Your son/daughter will need to be organised from the very beginning of the course, keeping records of their notes and their wider reading. Support with thorough preparation will help them to succeed in the course.

It is important students are able to write succinctly, but with full explanations, to achieve the best marks. Supporting them by proofreading their work for accuracy and timing them in their practice responses is always extremely useful.