

English Language: A-level (Awarding Body EDEXCEL)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6 in both English Language and English Literature are minimum requirements to start this course; students with Grade 5 may be considered, with the support of their English teacher.

CONTENT

Component 1: Language Variation

You will explore:

- how language varies depending on mode, field, function and audience
- how language choices can create personal identities
- language variation in English from c1550 to the present day

Component 2: Child Language

You will explore:

- spoken language acquisition and how children learn to write from birth to eight years old
- the relationship between spoken language acquisition and literacy skills that children are taught, including the beginnings of reading
- appropriate theories of children's language development

Component 3: Investigating Language

You will:

- select a research focus from one of five topic areas
- develop your research and investigation skills
- develop your personal language specialism

Coursework Component

You will:

- write two pieces of original writing from the same genre, differentiated by function and/or audience
- demonstrate your skills as writers, crafting texts for different audiences and/or purposes
- reflect on your research and writing in an accompanying commentary

GENERAL COMMENTS

In this course you are encouraged to enjoy and investigate language. We expect students to have an interest in current developments in language. We analyse in depth the structures and functions of English, examining its variety and charting its development over time. We also seek to develop your writing skills, and you will be encouraged to write with growing sophistication for different audiences and purposes. We aim to instil in our students a life-long curiosity about the power of language.



Professor David Crystal



I chose English Language A-level as, looking at the content of the course, there were some topics that appeared really interesting. They were completely different to areas that we had looked at for GCSE.

I have found child language acquisition, exploring accents and dialect, and how language can be used to exert power and influence over others particularly engaging.



REX TOPPING

PROGRESSION

Students may progress to a number of careers, including Advertising, Media, Journalism, Publishing, Teaching and Management.