

AQA A Level English Language

English Language at A Level is a challenging academic course that has a much broader scope than the subject that you experience at GCSE. It invites us to ask such questions as...

How do humans learn to speak?

To what extent does gender influence language use?

How has the English language changed over the last 1,000 years?

How do we use language to construct our identities?

Do these issues interest you?

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What will you study?

Throughout the course, you will use the study of non-fiction texts in order to develop your linguistic analysis skills. You will also explore the following areas of language theory and research:

Language Change: exploring the history and development of the English language over time and space.

Language and Social Contexts: exploring how language use is affected by age, class, gender, occupation and social group

Attitudes towards language: including attitudes towards accent, dialect and notions of 'correctness'.

Language Acquisition: investigating theory and research into how humans learn to speak, read and write.

Language in Action: Students choose an area of language that interests them and carry out their own linguistic research, developing skills in experimental design and research methods along the way. You will also choose a creative writing piece to craft. These two components make up the NEA folder, which is worth 20% of the final A Level grade.