

ADVANCED GCE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

EXAMINING BOARD: AQA

Minimum Entry Requirements: GCSE English Language Grade 5

KEY FEATURES OF THE COURSE:

Students will:

- Study a range of texts, both fiction and non-fiction
- Look at how children learn and use language
- Look at individual use of language, and factors that affect it
- Analyse texts using a range of linguistic frameworks
- Develop an understanding of the importance of context
- Look at how concepts and ideas are represented in different discourses
- Look at how meaning is created in a variety of texts
- Study how language changes over time
- Look at different varieties of English

MODULES/UNITS COVERED

Language, the Individual and Society (Exam, 40%)

- Children's language development
- How different subjects and ideas are represented differently
- Methods of language analysis, such as semantics, grammar, discourse, lexical choices and phonology

Language Diversity and Change (Exam, 40%)

- How and why language changes
- Why there are so many varieties of English
- Attitudes to different types of English
- Language change over time and the origins of English

Language in Action (Coursework, 20%)

Students complete two tasks to show their understanding of the different uses of English. Firstly, students complete a 2,000 word investigation into an area of language that interests them. Previous studies have included:

- Representations of different individuals, social groups or nationalities
- Regional dialect
- Gendered talk
- The language of new communication technologies
- Children's language use
- Norms and variations in usages of different kinds
- The language of the media
- Code switching and mixing between English and other languages
- The language of different occupations or pastimes
- Historical changes in English over time.

Students will then produce one piece of original writing based on one of the following three areas:

- The power of persuasion
- The power of storytelling
- The power of information

And one accompanying commentary.