

Course:	<b>English Language</b>
Specification and code:	AQA: A-level (7702)
Exam Board website:	<a href="http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/englishlanguage">http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/englishlanguage</a>
Course outline:	<p><b>A Level:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Component 1: Exam – Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society</li> <li>✓ Component 2: Exam – Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change</li> <li>✓ Component 3: Non Examined Assessment – original writing plus language investigation</li> </ul>
Essential reading, watching and researching:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. David Crystal, The English Language – a guided tour of the language</li> <li>2. Twitter: @EngLangBlog</li> <li>3. Ted Talks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/claire_bowern_where_did_english_come_from">https://www.ted.com/talks/claire_bowern_where_did_english_come_from</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/anne_curzan_what_makes_a_word_real">https://www.ted.com/talks/anne_curzan_what_makes_a_word_real</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/steven_pinker_what_our_language_habits_reveal">https://www.ted.com/talks/steven_pinker_what_our_language_habits_reveal</a></li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Background reading:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Recommended text book: A/AS Level English Language for AQA Student Book, ISBN: 978-1107465626</li> <li>✓ Any of David Crystal's language books – Crystal's 'Encyclopaedia of the English Language' is excellent and could become an essential reference book for you over the course.</li> <li>✓ 'Planet Word' by J.P. Davidson which accompanies the BBC series - with a forward by Stephen Fry.</li> <li>✓ Any collection of <b>short stories</b> e.g. 'The Oxford Book of English Short Stories' edited by A.S. Byatt.</li> <li>✓</li> </ul>
<p><b>Summer Tasks:</b></p> <p><b>Complete</b> at least 1 task from each section.</p> <p><b>Keep</b> all of your work in a scrapbook or a folder.</p> <p><b>Bring</b> this with you to your first lesson in September.</p>	<p><b>Choose 1 Task to complete from this section (Paper 1):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>The power of storytelling:</b> What was your favourite book as a child? Put an extract into your scrapbook with an explanation as to why. Annotate for linguistic features.</li> <li>✓ <b>The power of persuasion:</b> collect two different speeches by people of influence. Compare the speeches for their similarities and differences-what techniques can you spot? Annotate for linguistic features.</li> <li>✓ <b>The power of information:</b> find two newspaper articles on a topic that interests you. Compare them for their similarities and differences-what techniques can you spot? Annotate for linguistic features.</li> </ul> <p><b>Choose 1 Task to complete from this section (Paper 2):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Language and gender:</b> is there a gender imbalance in children's books? Explore character construction and representation, use of description, use of dialogue...</li> <li>✓ <b>Language and technology:</b> capture images of memes that circulate within different social communities. Screen shot them and create a folder of examples. Explore the language and graphology (images) and how they reflect and determine social identities.</li> <li>✓ Explore an online resource such as a social media page or blog. Explore how language is used to represent individuals and different social groups.</li> <li>✓ <b>Language and power:</b> Explore, research, read and write: does <b>accent</b> betray class? Make notes from your reading, plan your response, write your essay.</li> </ul>