

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