

Course:	English Language
Specification and code:	AQA: A-level (7702)
Exam Board website:	A-level English 7702 Specification AQA AS Level English 7701 Specification AQA (for foundation pathway only)
Course outline:	A Level: <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. EngLangBlog: https://englishlangsfx.blogspot.com/ 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 that create an effective narrative for that audience. ✓ 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. Explore their impact on the audience. ✓ 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 and explore impact. <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? Who is the hero? Who is the victim? Who is the bossy one... the social one... the powerful one... the weak one? 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. ✓ Language and power: Explore, research, read and write: does accent betray class? What assumptions are made about regional variations? Can a lawyer have a broad West Country accent? Does accent give you power or remove your power in different contexts? Make notes from your reading, plan your response, write your essay.