



Wakefield Girls' High School
Queen Elizabeth Grammar School
Wakefield

Technical Information

A-level

A-level Course Title	Unit Code	Awarding Body
English Language	7702	AQA

A-level Examinations:

Name	Method of Assessment
Component 1	Examination
Component 2	Examination
Component 3	Coursework 20%

WGHS Senior School

(Girls 11-18 years)
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QEGS Senior School

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Course Guide

A-level English Language

English Language

Background Knowledge and Qualifications

All students taking English Language at A-level will already have both English and English Literature at GCSE, preferably at grade 6 or above. Having a genuine interest in reading and writing about what you have encountered in your use of and your study of others' use of the English Language is also expected.

- Think about English and study ideas about how the language works, how it has evolved, how it links to society and how it is affected by contextual issues
- Enjoy developing your skills in analysing different kinds of spoken and written texts
- Enjoy developing your own writing skills so that you become confident in producing texts adapted to different purposes and audiences

Course Description

This A-level is a reformed A-level. For your A-level you will be studying the following areas:

Component 1

The first component deals with Language, the Individual and Society. The aim of this part of the subject content is to introduce students to language study, exploring textual variety and children's language development.

This area of study introduces students to methods of language analysis (grammar) to explore concepts of audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. It also introduces students to the study of children's language development, exploring how children learn language and how they are able to understand and express themselves through language. The examination will involve an analysis and comparison of two unseen texts; followed by an exploratory essay on child language development, accompanied by some relevant data.

Component 2

The second component deals with Language Diversity and Change over time. Students will study the key concepts of audience, purpose, genre and mode and will explore language in its wider social, geographical and temporal contexts. They will explore processes of language change. This part of the subject content also requires students to study social attitudes to, and debates about, language diversity and change, for instance how men and women use language differently, how different social groups use language differently and how language is changing. The examination consists of one essay question about language diversity; and a second essay involving an analysis of an unseen passage in terms of language change. Finally you will be asked to produce a written creative piece addressing an issue about language diversity.

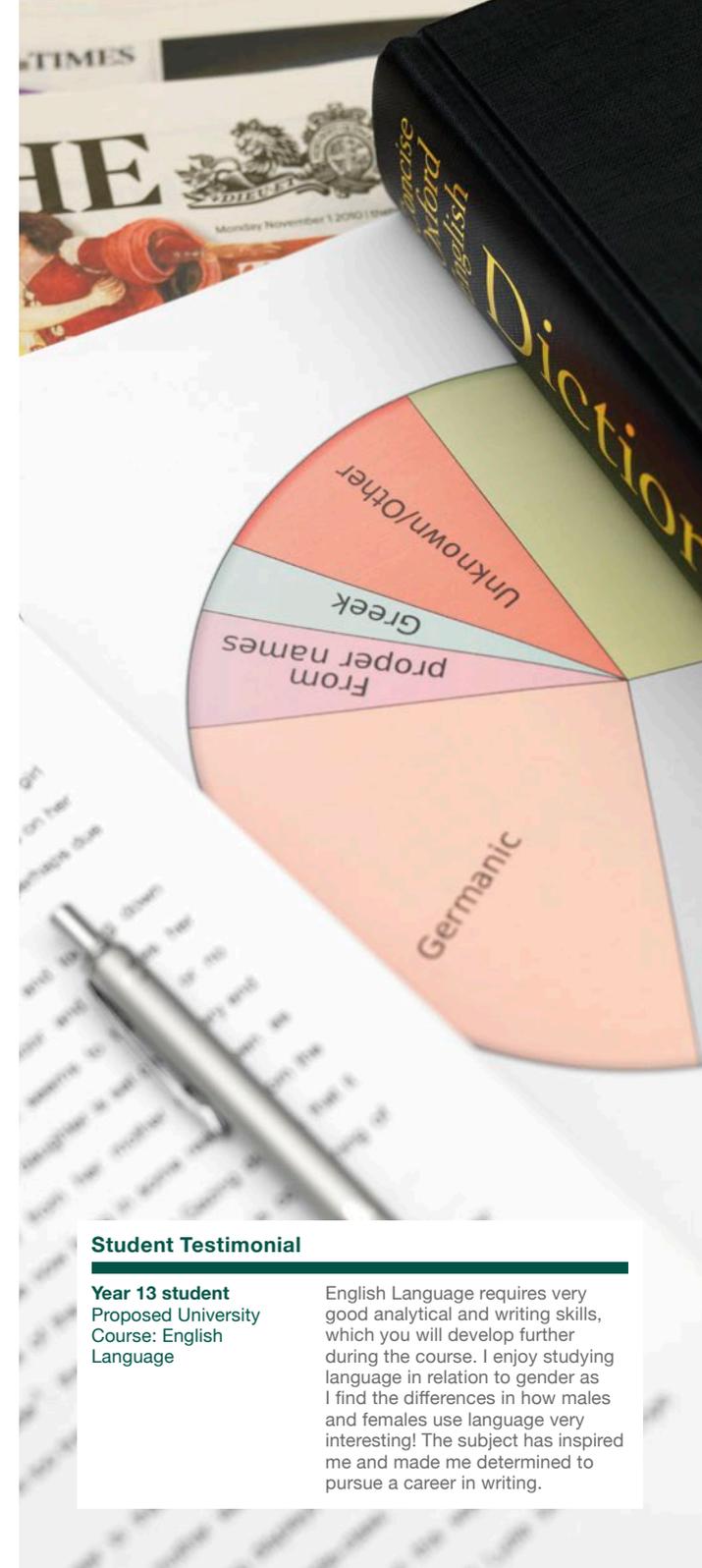
Component 3

This component is coursework. Two pieces are required. One piece will be an investigation into a language issue of interest to the student (2000 words). For instance: language and the media, code switching, regional dialect or how different social groups express themselves. For the second piece (1500 words), students will have to produce a piece of original writing that is either persuasive, narrative or informative. This is a great opportunity for developing your own creativity!

Use of Course and Qualifications

Broadly speaking English Language combines with any other A-level subjects. Many English students have gone on to study English Language or Linguistics at university, or related subjects in the areas of media, drama and film studies. English is also a very good support for other arts subjects, such as History and Languages, and is regarded as a welcome change for students of subjects such as Medicine who wish to broaden their experience. English students also pursue non-school subjects, such as Law and Philosophy.

Employers regard the communication skills indicated by a good A-level in English Language as a valuable asset.



Student Testimonial

Year 13 student
Proposed University
Course: English
Language

English Language requires very good analytical and writing skills, which you will develop further during the course. I enjoy studying language in relation to gender as I find the differences in how males and females use language very interesting! The subject has inspired me and made me determined to pursue a career in writing.