

## Year 12 Topics

In **Year 12 English Language** we teach the following topics over the course of the year. Each topic draws on prior learning from previous years and builds on understanding from the KS3/KS4 programmes of study. Each topic develops and deepens the core knowledge that will underpin all areas of the curriculum at KS5 and onward into undergraduate courses.

Teacher A

Teacher B

Topic	Rationale	Knowledge acquisition	Key vocabulary	Skills and enrichment
<b>Language Varieties</b>  <b>TEACHER A</b>  <i>Autumn HT1 and HT2; Spring HT3</i>	Students will understand that language is an essential component of identity and that we belong to a variety of social groups that can influence our use of language.	<b><i>Geographical varieties of English</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional dialects, origins, variations in lexis/grammar/phonology</li> <li>Case studies e.g. cockney rhyming slang, Geordie</li> <li>Reasons for changes in accent/dialect over time</li> <li>Attitudes to geographical varieties and theories (e.g. Giles, Neuliep and Speten Hansen etc)</li> <li>Linguistic examples</li> </ul>	identity, standard English, slang, dialect, taboo, neologisms, register, receive pronunciation (RP), accent, idiomatic phrases, social mobility, multiple negation, plural marking, unmarked plurality, syntax, dialect levelling. idiolect, sociolect, unmarked by person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluative skills in relation to the theories and viewpoints covered (AO1)</li> <li>Analytical skills when examining examples of language use in case studies and data (AO1)</li> <li>Planning and structural skills when responding to an exam question (AO1)</li> <li>Developing a coherent line of argument to 'guide the reader' when responding to exam questions (AO1)</li> <li>Developing an ability to compare and contrast theoretical knowledge for evaluative purposes (AO1/AO2)</li> <li>Developing the skills required to analyse language at word, sentence and whole-text level whilst applying the language levels (AO1)</li> </ul>
		<b><i>Language and age</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different types of linguistic age (chronological/biological/social)</li> <li>Appropriate theories related to age and language (e.g. Eckert, Bigham et al)</li> <li>Language of children and slang</li> <li>'Teenspeak' and attitudes towards it</li> </ul>	tags, linguistic maturation, multiple negation, informality, formality, convergence and divergence	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Influence of technology on language and age</li> <li>• Linguistic examples</li> </ul>		
		<p><b><i>Language and gender</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theories related to language and gender (e.g. deficit, difference and dominance etc) with detailed understanding of the circumstances of the studies for evaluative purposes</li> <li>• Secure knowledge of theorists (e.g. Lakoff, Tannen, Cheshire et al)</li> <li>• Examples of gendered language – links to case studies and specific quotations for illustrative purposes</li> <li>• Understanding of attitudes towards language and gender (and gendered language in particular)</li> </ul>	<p>representation, stereotype, hedges, super polite forms, empty adjectives, tag questions, mitigated imperatives</p>	
		<p><b><i>Language and occupation</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theories related to language and occupation (e.g. Giles' Accommodation Theory) with detailed understanding of the circumstances of the studies for evaluative purposes</li> <li>• Knowledge of linguistic examples of codes, convergence/divergence, occupational register, acronyms</li> </ul>	<p>codes, restricted lexis, convergence and divergence, occupational register, acronyms, jargon, politeness markers, imperatives and mitigated imperatives, modal verbs, standard English, pronouns</p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding of attitudes towards language and occupation e.g. jargon, office-speak etc</li> </ul>		
		<p><b>Language and sexuality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding how language can be used to suggest gender (e.g. terms of address)</li> <li>Understand the case study of Polari with examples for illustrative purposes</li> <li>Understanding of attitudes towards language reflecting sexuality</li> </ul>	Polari, gender-neutral, pronoun, term of address, Lavender Languages	
		<p><b>Language and ethnicity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding how language can be used to represent ethnicity</li> <li>Case studies and examples of language used to suggest ethnic identity (e.g. Gary Ives in Bradford)</li> <li>Understanding of attitudes towards language and ethnicity</li> <li>Illustrative examples of features of language and ethnicity (e.g. 'Jafaican')</li> </ul>	code-switching, code-mixing, resistance identity, Multicultural London English (MLE), Creole, super-standard forms, patois, British Black English (BBE), Multicultural Urban British English (MUBE), linguistic appropriacy, ethnolects, ethnocentricity	

<p><b>Meanings and representations</b></p> <p><b>TEACHER B</b></p> <p><i>Autumn HT1 and 2</i></p>	<p>Students will develop the ability to respond to unseen non-literary texts, commenting on features of language and context. This unit is placed at the start of the long-term plan so that we can ensure that basic concepts and terms are embedded as foundational knowledge.</p>	<p><b><i>Text producers and receivers</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding of the ways that aspects of purpose, audience and genre can be linked to linguistic choices</li> </ul>	<p>discourse event, text producer, text receiver, primary and secondary purpose, implied reader, actual reader, discourse community, modes, oppositional view, blended-mode texts, genre, intertextuality, register, situation of use, representation, pragmatics, graphology, multimodal texts, deixis, politeness strategies, negative and positive face, discourse structure, narrative structure, alliteration, assonance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluative skills in relation to the language studied (AO1)</li> <li>Analytical skills related to the application of language levels (AO1)</li> <li>Analytical writing skills utilising and incorporating accurate linguistic terminology (AO1)</li> <li>Analytical skills related to the evaluation of contextual factors and the ways that they influence meanings (AO3)</li> <li>Analytical skills related to the evaluation of meanings created (AO1/AO3)</li> <li>Comparative reading/analytical skills related to the linguistic features and contextual factors related to the unseen texts (AO1/AO3/AO4)</li> </ul>
		<p><b><i>Lexical, semantic, grammatical analysis</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding of the ways that lexis and semantic language levels can be applied to a variety of unseen texts</li> </ul>	<p>word classes, lexis, noun, verb, adjective, adverb, pronoun, determiners, conjunctions, lexical/semantic field, collocation, antonyms, synonyms, dysphemism, hyponyms, metaphors, grammar, morphology, syntax, prefix, suffix, noun and verb phrases, modifiers, qualifiers, auxiliary verbs, clauses, active and passive voice, subordinate clauses, embedded clause, declarative, imperative, exclamation, orthographic sentence</p>	
		<p><b><i>Phonetics, phonology and prosodics</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding of the basic components of the sound system and how they can be used to create meanings in unseen texts</li> </ul>	<p>phonology, phonetics, prosodics, International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), heterophones, homophones, consonants, vowels, articulators, diphthongs, sound iconicity,</p>	

			sibilance, alliteration, assonance, lexical/non-lexical onomatopoeia	
		<p><b>Graphological analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding how multimodal texts use presentational aspects to create meanings in unseen texts</li> </ul>	layout, iconography, symbol, multimodal texts	
		<p><b>Pragmatics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding the importance of contextual factors to the creation of meaning</li> <li>Understanding of the pragmatic principles of cooperation, politeness and deixis</li> </ul>	embodied knowledge, schema, co-text, cooperative principle, conversational maxims, implicature, positive and negative face needs (Goffman), face-threatening acts, deixis (personal, spatial, temporal, proximal, distal)	
		<p><b>Discourse and structural analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding of the ways that structural features can be used to create meanings in unseen texts</li> </ul>	Labov's narrative categories, internal and external evaluation, Goodwin's story structure, turn-taking, adjacency pair, preferred and dispreferred response, insertion sequence, filler, false start, repair, skip-connector, ellipsis, speaker support	
		<p><b>Textual variations and representations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding the ways in which texts can vary according to purpose, audience, genre, mode, tone, context and register</li> <li>Understanding the representation of individuals and groups through</li> </ul>	audience, purpose, genre, mode, formality, register, subtext, metaphor, implied meaning, audience positioning, synthetic personalisation, grammatical patterning, discourse marker, tag question, representation,	

		<p>the use of language in unseen texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding point of comparison and contrast in unseen texts</li> </ul>	<p>stereotypes, ideology, linguistic relativity, reappropriation, stigmatising</p>	
Topic	Rationale	Knowledge acquisition	Key vocabulary	Skills and enrichment
<p><b>NEA/coursework preparation</b></p> <p><b>Teacher A (Language investigation)</b></p> <p><i>Spring HT3/4</i></p>	<p>Students will develop the skills and knowledge related to the <i>independent</i> study of spoken or written language forms</p>	<p><b>Language investigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding how to design a language investigation, paying attention to minimising variables.</li> <li>Understanding how to collect and process data analytically.</li> <li>Understanding how to evaluate data and arrive at tentative conclusions.</li> <li>Understanding how to present a language investigation in a suitably academic and formal style.</li> <li>Understanding how to apply relevant theoretical knowledge.</li> </ul>	<p>data, variables, introduction, methodology, analysis, evaluation, lexis, semantics, pragmatics, graphology, discourse structure, grammar, phonology, context</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organisational and planning skills – strategic thinking to design the coursework</li> <li>Formal writing skills to write academically about the data analysed (AO1)</li> <li>Analytical skills, utilising and integrating suitable language levels (AO1)</li> <li>Independent learning skills to carry out wider reading and research (AO1)</li> <li>Analytical skills related to the application of suitable theoretical knowledge (AO2).</li> <li>Analytical and evaluative skills related to the consideration of contextual factors (AO3).</li> </ul>

<p><b>NEA/coursework preparation</b></p> <p><b>Teacher B (Original writing and commentary)</b></p> <p><i>Spring HT3/4</i></p>	<p>Students will develop the skills and knowledge related to the <i>independent</i> study of a range of text types, developing their ability to apply their knowledge of generic and stylistic conventions whilst reflecting on the linguistic decisions that they have made.</p>	<p><b>Original writing and commentary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the generic and stylistic conventions found in a range of texts (storytelling, persuasion, information).</li> <li>• Understanding how to analyse these generic styles and conventions with reference to appropriate language levels.</li> <li>• Understanding how to reflect analytically on the language choices made when creating a piece of original writing that is related to the style model chosen.</li> </ul>	<p>conventions, register, style model, commentary, lexis, semantics, pragmatics, discourse structure, phonology, graphology, grammar, syntax, purpose, audience, genre, context</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisational skills related to the drafting of a piece of original writing (AO1, AO5)</li> <li>• Analytical skills related to the analysis of style models (AO1, AO3, AO5).</li> <li>• Creative writing skills related to the drafting of original writing and commentaries (AO1, AO3, AO4, AO5).</li> <li>• Written accuracy (AO1).</li> <li>• Evaluative skills related to the redrafting of work independently and to the consideration of effects created (AO1, AO3, AO4, AO5).</li> <li>• Comparative/analytical skills when considering the success of the original writing in terms of its reproduction of the features of the style model (AO4)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Language discourses</b></p> <p><b>Teacher A</b></p> <p><i>Spring HT4/Summer HT5</i></p>	<p>Students will develop their knowledge of the ways in which language can be used to debate and discuss linguistic topics. This will draw upon theoretical knowledge as well as their</p>	<p><b>Language discourses (reading)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the generic and stylistic conventions found in a range of opinion pieces (e.g. speeches, articles, web pages, blogs).</li> <li>• Understanding of methods of representation.</li> <li>• Understanding of the ways that language and contextual factors contribute to the creation of meanings</li> </ul>	<p>audience, purpose, genre, mode, formality, register, subtext, metaphor, implied meaning, audience positioning, synthetic personalisation, grammatical patterning, discourse marker, tag question, representation, stereotypes, ideology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analytical skills related to the application of the knowledge of language levels and relevant terminology (AO1)</li> <li>• Analytical skills related to the application of contextual knowledge and consideration of meanings (AO3)</li> <li>• Comparative/analytical skills (AO4)</li> <li>• Creative writing skills (AO5)</li> <li>• Writing skills related to presenting theoretical content for a non-specialist audience (AO2/AO5)</li> </ul>

	understanding of stylistic features and conventions in a range of opinion pieces.	<p><b>Language discourses (writing)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding of the generic and stylistic conventions found in a range of opinion pieces (e.g. speeches, articles, web pages, blogs).</li> <li>• Understanding of methods of representation.</li> <li>• Understanding of the ways that language and contextual factors can contribute to the creation of meanings.</li> </ul>		
Topic	Rationale	Knowledge acquisition	Key vocabulary	Skills and enrichment
<p><b>Language Change</b></p> <p><b>Teacher B*</b></p> <p><i>*This content will lead into the autumn term of Year 13</i></p> <p><i>Summer HT5 and HT6</i></p>	Students will develop their understanding of the ways that language changes over time as well as the reasons for these changes.	<p><b>Language change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the ways that the English language has changed over time.</li> <li>• Understanding the reasons why language changes.</li> <li>• Understanding the debates about language change.</li> </ul>	prescriptivism, descriptivism, synchronic change, lexical change, neologisms, loan words, coinage, compounding, clipping, blending, acronym, initialism, affixation, conversion/functional shift, eponym, back formation, endangered words, lexical loss, Inkhorn Controversy, inkhorn terms, change from above/below, semantic change, neosemy, generalisation/broadening, specialising/narrowing, amelioration, pejoration, weakening/bleaching, metaphor, euphemism, polysemy, external/internal factors, orthography, spelling reform, grammatical change, grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analytical and evaluative skills in relation to the exploration of theories and linguistic exemplification (AO1/AO2)</li> <li>• Analytical skills in applying a range of appropriate and relevant language levels (AO1).</li> <li>• Analytical and evaluative skills in applying linguistic knowledge to exemplification.</li> <li>• Wider reading re: causes and factors related to language change (AO2)</li> </ul>



			pedants, stative verb, standardisation, 'damp spoon syndrome', 'crumbling castle', 'infectious disease', assimilation, omission, neatening/regularisation, random fluctuation/cultural transmission, diffusion and S-curve, substratum v borrowing	
<p><b>Child Language Acquisition</b></p> <p><b>Teacher A*</b></p> <p><i>*This content will lead into the autumn term of Year 13</i></p> <p><i>Summer HT5 and HT6</i></p>	<p>Students will develop their understanding of the ways that children acquire language. This will encompass aspects of spoken and written language (literacy).</p>	<p><b>Child Language Acquisition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the ways in which children learn to talk and the related theories surrounding language acquisition.</li> <li>• Understanding environmental factors influencing language development (speech, reading, writing).</li> <li>• Understanding the importance of early reading to literacy development/how children learn to read.</li> <li>• Understanding the stages of writing development in relation to handwriting, spelling, lexis, grammar.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Spoken language</b></p> <p>communicative competence, proto words, pre-verbal, holophrastic, two-word stage, telegraphic/post-telegraphic, cooing, babbling, paralinguistics, reduplicated words, diminutives, addition, substitution, assimilation, deletion, consonant cluster reductions, content words, grammatical words, nativist, behaviourist, operant conditioning, positive/negative reinforcement, LAD (Language Acquisition Device), tabula rasa, universal grammar, virtuous errors, critical period, cognitive development, LASS (Language Acquisition Support System), scaffolding, egocentricity, object permanence, MKO (More Knowledgeable Other), zone of proximal development, usage based linguistics, CDS (Child</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analytical skills related to the application of language levels and appropriate linguistic/grammatical knowledge when exploring spoken/written data (AO1).</li> <li>• Analytical and evaluative skills when applying knowledge of a range of theories and concepts related to child acquisition of language (AO1/AO2).</li> </ul>

			<p>Directed Speech), expansion, recast, mitigated imperatives, politeness features, IRF (Initiation, Response, Feedback), over and underextension, hyponym, hypernym, Wug test, free and bound morphemes, MLU (Mean length of utterance), copula verb, negative acquisition</p> <p><b><i>Reading and written language</i></b></p> <p>grapheme, phoneme, look and say approach, phonic approach, synthetic/analytic phonics, onset/rime, reading scheme, oracy, literacy, tripod grip, gross and fine motor skills, directionality, emergent writing, spelling stages, creative v rule based models or writing skill acquisition, genre, audience, purpose, genre-based literacy, expressive/poetic/transactional writing, cursive, print, casual cursive script, homonyms, homophones, undergeneralisation, overgeneralisation, omission, substitution, transposition, insertion, digraphs</p>	
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