



Sandwell Academy

Advanced General Certificate of Education

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

WHY ENGLISH LANGUAGE?

The opportunities for students of English Language are wide ranging. AGCE Courses in English Language complement a number of other Sixth Form courses and are designed to encourage the ability to communicate, read widely, and develop advanced, detailed research skills within a wide field of language studies.

Qualifications in English Language allow entry in to a large and varied range of careers. These may include:

Business Administration
Law
Health and Social Care

Marketing
Education
Leisure

Journalism/Media
Performing Arts
Tourism

All courses offered at Sandwell Academy are designed to provide academic and vocational experiences. They will prepare students for their choice of career in both the world of work and Higher Education.

SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Grade 6 in GCSE English. (Preferably a Grade 6 in both English Language and English Literature).

COURSE DETAILS

OCR Syllabus: H470

Year 1

You will study two components as follows:

COMPONENT 01

Exploring Language

Understanding Language Features in Context

Comparing and Contrasting Texts

The introduction to Component 01 focuses this section on the effect of writers' linguistic features in a range of short written texts. Students will cover a range of genres and explore how language use has been embedded across a range of contexts.

Learners will study a range of texts and genres, and they will be able to explore how and why particular features have been used in the construction of the text. The focus of this section is on exploring linguistic connections and comparisons between different modes of communication, e.g. in spoken and written texts or spontaneous and crafted speech. At least one spoken text will always be included in the paper.

COMPONENT 02

Exploring Contexts

Writing about a topical language issue

Writing about a topical language issue

The introduction to the Exploring Context Component section focuses on issues or concepts related to language in use and gives learners the opportunity to explore their own ideas and attitudes in a piece of original writing.

Students will engage with a range of topical language issues in the course of their studies, particularly in relation to the issues associated with language and gender, and language and power. Students will critically explore such issues, evaluating and responding to the underlying attitudes towards language and language users.

Students will also explore and respond to an unseen text in relation to gender theories and issues, or they will explore and respond to a different unseen text in relation to power theories and issues.

Year 2 LANGUAGE: H470

You will study three components as follows:

COMPONENT 1

Coursework Unit (40%)

Exploring Language

Language Under the Microscope

Writing about a topical language issue

Comparing and Contrasting texts

Students will be able to identify significant features or patterns in a text and to explore their effects. Students will also analyse language features in a range of contexts, exploring the possible effects of contextual factors on the way language is produced in the text and is received and understood by its audience. Students will develop the skills to critically explore a range of language issues across a range of texts and modes including spoken English.

COMPONENT 2

Examination Unit (40%)

Exploring Context

Child Language Acquisition

Language in the Media

Language Change

Students will explore theory and practical links regarding the way children (0-7) acquire language including through phonetics and real extracts of children's speech. Students will also engage with how the concepts of power or gender are presented through language. Students will also consider how the mode of communication affects the language used. Finally, students will explore the historical contexts of language comparing the language of a range of different texts.

COMPONENT 3

Coursework Unit (20%)

Independent Language Study

An independent Language Study

The Academic Poster

Learners will conduct an independent language study applying relevant methodology and conducting a level of quantitative data collection. Students will produce a report and then present information in a concise and visually accessible manner through the academic poster.