

A LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE

EXAM BOARD: AQA

Mrs Putman
Mrs Siggins

You will enjoy this A level if you are someone who enjoys reading, writing and communicating and who wants to develop their abilities in these areas. You'll have the opportunity to explore areas of interest whilst also examining how language and communication impacts society.

Topics and assessments include:

- Language, the individual and society (written paper)
- Language diversity and change (written paper)
- A non-exam assessment (NEA) which involves a language investigation of your choice, allowing you the freedom to explore your own areas of interest.

The specification can be found : www.aqa.org.uk

Useful websites and guides

Suggested blogs:

<http://david-crystal.blogspot.co.uk/>

<http://englishlangsfx.blogspot.co.uk/>

<http://alevellanguage.blogspot.co.uk/>

<https://aggslanguage.wordpress.com/>

Guides and interesting reads:

Aitcheson, Jean (2012) Language Change: Progress or Decay?

Bragg, Melvin (2004) The Adventure of English

Bryson, Bill (2009) Mother Tongue

Crystal Ben (2015) You Say Potato

Crystal, David (2003) The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language (in fact any textbook by Crystal would be useful – in particular 'How Language Works' and 'A Little Book of Language'.

Truss, Lynne (2003) Eat, Shoots and Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Guide to Punctuation.

News and current affairs:

Reading the newspaper is also a great way to keep on top of language debates and familiarise yourself with difference types of texts. We recommend you read as wide a range of newspapers as possible, but refer to The Guardian and The Independent as most important. You will need to write an opinion article in the style of one of these producers of news, so it's vital you are confident with their style in order to emulate it. Access these website regularly in order to do this: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/commentisfree>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices>