

English

Awarding Body

Assessment and Qualification Alliance (AQA)

Course Level

AS and A2 level

Course Leader

Mr C. Swanson

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grade C or above including C or above at English and/or English Literature.

Course Description

Great Wyrley Performing Arts High School English Department offers an exciting A Level course, selected to maximise the linguistic strengths and creativity of our Sixth Form students. **English Language and Literature, Specification B** provides a challenging, accessible course that successfully bridges the gap between GCSE and Higher Education. It allows for stimulating, vibrant teaching and offers a wide choice of classic and contemporary, prose and drama texts.

<p>AS Level: 2 units Unit 1 – Introduction to Language and Literature Study 60% of total AS / 30% of total A Level marks</p> <p>The study of an anthology of thematically linked spoken and written texts that will offer candidates the opportunity to consider the three major literary genres and a range of non-literary texts.</p> <p>External Assessment: 1 3/4 hr exam</p> <p>The examination consists of two compulsory questions: one on an unseen text(s) that will relate to the themes of the Anthology and one on the Anthology itself. The questions will address thematic and stylistic issues, with a focus on:</p> <p>a) writers' or speakers' use of language and b) their attitudes towards a particular theme.</p>	<p>A2 Level: 2 units Unit 3 – Talk in Life and Literature 30% of total A level marks</p> <p>Students will acquire knowledge of literary and linguistic concepts and determine approaches to a variety of transcripts of real life, spoken situations. This unit will involve construction, conveyance and interpretation of meanings, both in drama and in real life speech and the further development of key skills of communication and self-learning and performance.</p> <p>External Assessment: 2 hr exam</p> <p>The examination consists of two questions: One based on an extract from Arthur Miller's <i>The Crucible</i>: one question requiring candidates to compare two unseen texts, consisting of one transcript and one literary text on the same theme.</p>
<p>Unit 2 – Themes in Language and Literature 40% of total AS / 20% of total A Level marks</p> <p>Students will study major prose genres, including fiction and literary non-fiction, developing reading and writing skills through the in-depth study of writers' crafting</p> <p>Students will study a set of paired texts – Wilkie Collins' <i>The Woman in White</i> and Raymond Chandler's <i>The Lady in the Lake</i>.</p>	<p>Unit 4 – Text Transformation 20% of total A level marks</p> <p>This unit involves the choice of two literary works from a selection of prescribed authors and their transformation into different genres or sub-genres. Through this unit, students develop key skills of communication, self-learning and performance, and problem solving.</p>

Assessment: Coursework

Assessment will be by two-part assignment. The first part will focus on candidates' ability to structure a comprehensive and informed discussion of a set theme, by appropriately using selected extracts from a studied text pairing.

The second part will focus on candidates' ability to write creatively and demonstrate skills in a way that also provides evidence of their understanding of the texts as a whole.

Assessment: Coursework

Assessment will be by the production of a coursework folder that includes the transformed texts and associated commentary or commentaries.

Candidates will apply the knowledge, understanding and insights gained from literary and linguistic studies to transform the original work into a different genre, or 'sub genre' and to provide a commentary which reflects upon their work, demonstrating greater understanding of the creative process.

In conclusion, choosing English Language and Literature as a course selection allows students to:

- develop their understanding of English Language and Literature A as a combined discipline
- draw on their experiences at GCSE as well as offering a secure foundation for the study of English beyond GCE level
- play to their strengths and deepen their enjoyment by offering a great deal of choice

