

WHY CHOOSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE?

English language is the perfect fit for someone who has enjoyed English at GCSE and wants to take their learning in a new, but logical direction. It's important that students thinking of taking English language at A-level know it is very different to the GCSE or IGCSE courses; although you'll use some of these skills, there's a huge amount of new subject knowledge to digest.

In English language, you'll build on your knowledge of language techniques and features, as well as using and improving the skills you've developed in reading and processing texts, as well as writing both analytically and creatively.

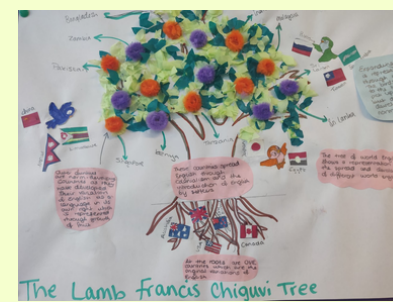
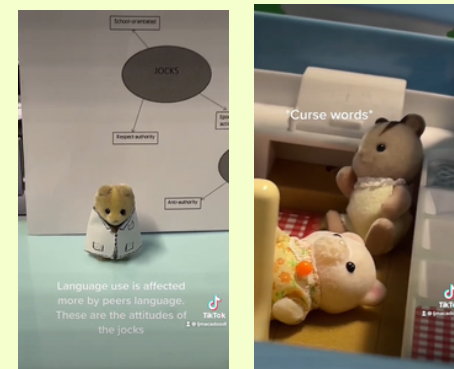
Betty Meek's Personal Language Profile

ANALYSIS OF JACOB

- I would say that Jacob is in the end of the telegraphic stage as he can put together compound sentences using a range of grammar techniques - such as → being able to use prepositions, 'high up' and first-person pronouns, 'I'.
- Has a schema for gingerbread men as he sings the song using Halliday's imaginative function - supporting the cognitive theory.
- Understands turn taking conversations which shows he has the innate ability to answer questions.
- Didn't need much negative reinforcement as he was not making virtuous errors with his language - behavioural theory.

WHAT HAPPENS IN LESSONS?

In your 12 lessons per fortnight, you'll encounter lots of different ways of learning, from class discussion and debate to group work, with activities including creating your own linguistic models, conducting your own studies, and creating TikToks to demonstrate existing research. We firmly believe that English language at A-level should be as dynamic and hands-on as possible. And we observe the truly important days in the international calendar: Talk Like a Pirate Day takes place on September 19th, in case you were wondering.



WHAT IS A-LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE?

English language at A-level would be better described as linguistics; the subject is about both the scientific and sociological aspects of English.

With Ms Evers, you'll delve more deeply into how meaning is shaped in texts, expanding your knowledge of a range of language frameworks. You'll add to your skills in analysing and comparing texts. One way in which the A-level course is completely different to what you've already studied is the introduction of Child Language Acquisition as a key topic; you'll learn about how young children learn to speak and write, applying linguistic models and ideas.

With Mrs Goodwin-Bates, you'll explore language diversity: the nature of and attitudes towards a range of different forms of English, from regional accents and dialects to occupational usage, as well as how gender affects our language use and why English sounds different around the world. You'll learn about how the English language has changed over time, how it continues to change and why any of this actually matters to people.

DO I HAVE TO READ BOOKS?

One of the questions we are most frequently asked! The answer is: you don't have to, but it's always a good plan. There's a huge amount of fascinating writing about the English language, and you'll be introduced to some of it in chapters or extracts; you might even be so intrigued you choose to read the whole thing. Here are some examples of the books we've referenced in the last year:

