



English Language and English Literature



Who is it for?

GCSE English Language and English Literature are subjects studied by all students at City of Derby Academy. They are compulsory subjects nationally with good reason – a strong understanding of writing and reading English and how to communicate with others verbally are important skills in all walks of life, no matter the job you want to go for. Employers will always ask you about your English GCSE.

What will students study?

In English Language, students study a mixture of fiction and non-fiction texts. They will expand their skills in reading these texts for close meaning and especially in focusing on how and why writers choose to use the techniques they do. Students will also learn to write in a variety of styles for different purposes.

Part of English Language is also Spoken Language. This is where students do a spoken presentation which they answer questions about.

In English Literature, students will study: a Shakespeare play – ‘Romeo and Juliet’; a 19th Century text – usually ‘Great Expectations’ or ‘A Christmas Carol’; A modern text – ‘An Inspector Calls’ and a selection of poetry based around a theme of Love and Relationships or Power and Conflict.

How will it be assessed?

English Language and English Literature are both assessed through exams at the end of the course. However, there will also be mock exams both in class and in the hall to help students and teachers keep an eye on how students are doing and to help them prepare for the real exams.

What can this qualification lead to?

English can lead to a wide variety of subjects at further study and nearly all courses will ask what your English GCSE results were. Employers in future years will ask what grade you got in English and a good grade here is often seen as a sign of a strong communicator and someone businesses want to employ.

Do you have any questions?

Speak to your English teacher or Mr Meehan for more information.