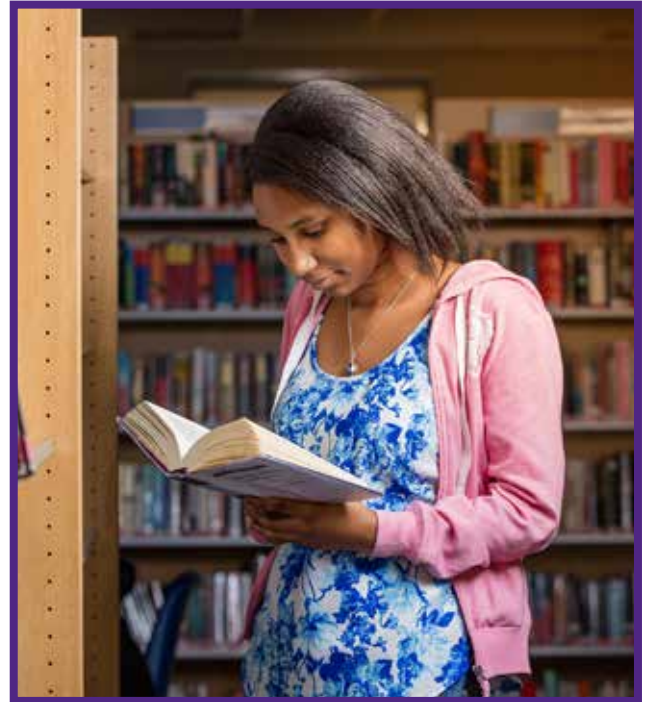


A level English Language

Why study English Language?

- It is a fascinating and constantly evolving subject, which offers you the opportunity to study how language is shaped in speech and writing by all kinds of people, how it has changed over the centuries and how it is still changing.
- It helps you understand and analyse how language works in the real world. You study everything from advertising techniques to emojis, the speech of children, letters and diaries from the distant past, radio and TV broadcasts, slang, the rhetoric of politicians and Twitter.
- Studying English Language will enable you to develop transferable skills including the ability to take an analytical approach, to communicate clearly and concisely, to be an independent critical thinker, to construct a persuasive argument and to collaborate effectively with others. Such skills will be relevant to a wide range of degree courses and valuable to many different employers.



Why study English Language at Solihull Sixth Form College?

- You will be taught by a team of experienced subject specialists who are enthusiastic about English Language and dedicated to helping students to achieve their potential.
- We provide extensive resources to support you in your studies such as *emagazine*, a specialist magazine for students of A level English, and a wide range of textbooks, study guides and online resources.
- We offer enrichment opportunities to extend your studies. Our Creative Writing enrichment gives students who pursue it the opportunity to develop their creative writing skills and to share their work with other like-minded enthusiasts. Our English Academy supports students to complete an Extended Project Qualification. As well as widening their study beyond the A Level Curriculum, students in the Academy work with academics from leading universities including the University of Birmingham and the University of Warwick.

Case Study

Among the recent successful students to have taken this course is **Kyaice Hendricks**.

A former Light Hall School student, Kyaice came to the College to study A Levels in English Language, English Literature, History and Mathematics. She achieved A and A* grades in her A levels and has progressed to the University of Oxford to study English Language & Literature at Mansfield College.



“Being a student of English Language has been incredible. The staff are really enthusiastic about the subject, and this has had a positive impact on learning both inside and outside the classroom. As well as this, they have continually offered support to students outside of lessons through intervention and an array of resources, which has aided progress across the two years of study.”

- student Luke Sheldon



Course Outline

Component 1: Language Concepts and Issues

You will study spoken language in a range of situations and genres and explore the ways in which speakers use language and interact. You will also study key language issues and topic areas: standard and non-standard English; language and power; language and situation; and language acquisition.

Component 2: Language Change Over Time and English in the Twenty-First Century

You will study how language changes across time through the study of unseen written texts from different periods, linked by genre. You will also study the ways in which language is used distinctively in the twenty-first century and consider how language is evolving to reflect technological and cultural change.

Component 3: Creative and Critical Use of Language

You will produce original writing in a range of genres, and learn how to construct commentaries on your written pieces.

Non-exam assessment: Language and Identity

The non-exam assessment allows you to select an aspect of study that interests you related to the theme of language and identity. You will independently conduct a language investigation to develop your methods of language analysis through research, data collection and interpretation in order to write an extended investigation of 2500-3000 words.

Assessment

Examination (80%)

Coursework (20%)

Examining Board – Eduqas/WJEC.

Special Entry Requirements

Standard A level entry requirements apply - www.solihullsf.ac.uk/courses/entry-requirements.

Prohibited Options

Students are not normally permitted to take more than one English course. However, if you are intending to study English at university and have grade 7 or above in both English Language and English Literature at GCSE, you may be permitted to take both English Language and English Literature, but only as part of a four A level programme. Students wanting to do this must therefore meet the entry requirements for a four A level programme.

What do our students go on to do?

Success in this subject will also allow you to access all sorts of degrees and career pathways. Students go on to take a range of degree subjects, including Linguistics and Language courses. Previous students have progressed to careers in areas such as law, journalism, teaching, speech therapy, public relations and advertising.

Cost Implications

There are no cost implications.

Complementary Subjects or Enrichment Courses

English Language goes well with most subject combinations and you may find that skills learnt in English can support you in other subject areas. Prospective students will need to be interested in how language affects all aspects of our lives and be prepared to read a wide range of texts.

Examination Results

In the past three years, there has been great success for students on this course, including consistently high pass rates. The full breakdown of results is as follows:

Year	Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A-E%
2018	77	1	4	15	31	23	2	1	98.7%
2019	59	0	3	18	27	11	0	0	100.0%
2020	52	1	4	16	22	8	1	0	100.0%

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