



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Linear A Level  
Exam Board EDUQAS

## What will the course involve?

English Language is a popular A Level appealing to students because it examines texts in the real world such as adverts, speeches and newspaper articles. The emphasis is on understanding how and why language is used in specific ways and developing knowledge of key terminology which will help you analyse texts in a concise and focused style.

After learning how to analyse unseen texts, you will continue to develop your understanding of key frameworks as well as studying the development of English Language over time. This topic covers historical, social and cultural aspects as well as examining current attitudes towards the effects of new technology. There is also a focus on spoken language. You will analyse a wide range of transcripts from television and radio, spontaneous real life talk, comedy and child language acquisition.

## How will I be assessed?

There will be three exams at the end of the second year (80%) and one piece of coursework (20%).

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

Linear A Level  
Exam Board EDUQAS

## What will the course involve?

English Literature is a great subject for students who enjoy reading, thinking independently and evaluating ideas. This is a two year linear course where you will gain a better understanding of interpretations within literary texts through methods of analysis, expressing this in cogent, detailed and critical essays. For the exams, you will read and compare a variety of literature, from classic plays to modern poetry, evaluating interpretations from your close reading of texts such as *The Tempest*, *The Duchess of Malfi* and *The Whitsun Weddings* in addition to analysing unseen prose and poetry in the exam. The coursework, which is worth 20%, is a 2500-3500 word comparative essay and allows you to pick a novel of your choice from your own wider reading at A Level.

## How will I be assessed?

There will be three exams at the end of the second year (80%) and one piece of coursework (20%).

## OUR STUDENTS SAY...

*At Carmel I love being independent and having the chance to become myself through the opportunities for enrichment and further study within college.*

I love studying English Literature because reading is, and has always been a passion of mine, and it gives me the opportunity to examine and enjoy literature even more through a developed understanding of its origins, context and construction. When people ask me if they should take English Lit, I would always ask whether they enjoy reading. If they do, I would fully recommend the course.

I have also enjoyed the opportunities to do sports at Carmel, and have partaken in American Football training with other students and friends.

After college, I would love to study English Literature at university, either in the UK or abroad.

**Jacob Pedder-Platt** Rainhill High School  
Studying - English Literature, French,  
History, Politics



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

Linear A Level  
Exam Board PEARSON

## What will the course involve?

This is a popular course that links the skills of both English Language and English Literature study. It will appeal to students who have enjoyed both aspects at GCSE and wish to continue studying them in a broader and more in-depth manner.

During the two years you will explore how 'voice' is crafted in both speech and writing, focusing on a drama text 'All My Sons' and a range of short literary, non-literary and digital texts. You will also study texts that give you the opportunity to explore the ways in which different writers use language techniques and literary devices to convey their thoughts or ideas on a theme in literary and non-fiction writing. For example, you will analyse the techniques Fitzgerald uses to explore 'Society and the Individual' in 'The Great Gatsby'.

As well as reading and analysing texts written by other people, you will also be given the opportunity to develop your own skills as a writer by producing a fiction and a non-fiction text in response to a topic area, such as 'Crossing Boundaries'. You will also undertake wider reading to further your understanding of texts from a range of genres and time periods.

## How will I be assessed?

There will be two exams at the end of the second year (80%) and one coursework component (20%).

## Where does an English course lead?

English subjects are challenging, but are an excellent preparation both for university and your future career. Obvious careers include journalism, sales, teaching, management, administration, information management, publishing and careers in the public services.

## What support will I receive?

All staff in the department are there to enable you to achieve the best grades possible and you can ask for help from any tutor. This is in addition to regular individual interviews with your own specific tutor. Additional revision classes are held for all re-sits and we take pride in the level of support given to our students.

## What is the English Department like?

There are eight tutors in the English Department all of whom teach the whole range of courses. There is an excellent library containing both traditional texts, but also the very best of contemporary writing. The Department has a 'book of the month' programme giving students the opportunity to enjoy the latest publications. We have comprehensive IT facilities in the college and the English Department subscribes to a range of magazines and on-line resources such as Pro-Quest and the Oxford English Dictionary.

## OUR STUDENTS SAY...

*I've enjoyed studying at Carmel mainly because of the help that is offered to you. The teachers can always see the potential in you and encourage you to do your best.*

Over the course of two years, I've really progressed, pushing my grades even higher than I expected and this is purely down to using the help offered to me by the teachers in tutorials and the resources given to us. English Language & Literature is one of my favourite subjects because of the texts we study. Currently we are studying 'The Great Gatsby' and 'The Whitsun Weddings' poetry collection, and, whilst analysing these, we have been able to do further research into the relevant contexts. In 'Gatsby' we focus on 1920s America and conspicuous consumerism whilst in 'The Whitsun Weddings' we focus on post-WW2 Britain. As I will be studying law at university, I decided to pick English Language & Literature because I knew it would allow me to enhance my analytical skills and my essay writing.

**Darrion Herbert Wade Deacon**  
Studying - English Language & Literature,  
Law, Sociology



## Where does an English course lead?

English subjects are challenging, but are an excellent preparation both for university and your future career. Obvious careers include journalism, sales, teaching, management, administration, information management, publishing and careers in the public services.

## What support will I receive?

All staff in the department are there to enable you to achieve the best grades possible and you can ask for help from any tutor. This is in addition to regular individual interviews with your own specific tutor. Additional revision classes are held for all re-sits and we take pride in the level of support given to our students.

## What is the English Department like?

There are eight tutors in the English Department all of whom teach the whole range of courses. There is an excellent library containing both traditional texts, but also the very best of contemporary writing. The Department has a 'book of the month' programme giving students the opportunity to enjoy the latest publications. We have comprehensive IT facilities in the college and the English Department subscribes to a range of magazines and on-line resources such as Pro-Quest and the Oxford English Dictionary.

## What other activities do English students get involved in?

The English Department offers the opportunity to be involved in theatre visits, trips to places of literary interest, study days on specific examination modules, workshops on creative writing, examination preparation delivered by Senior Examiners and conferences on English Language. You can also, through Enrichment, be involved in debating, personal creative writing, and the poetry group.





## OUR STUDENTS SAY...

*English Language lessons are always enjoyable and I've found it interesting to study real-world texts, such as leaflets, reviews and monologues.*

There's also opportunities to devise your own texts and engage in group activities and discussions, creating an interactive and relaxed atmosphere in the lessons. We learn a lot of key terminology, which relates to the analytical nature of the subject, but it's approached in a manageable and understandable way. My essay writing and other transferable skills have also greatly improved, which has assisted me in my other subjects, and the tutors are always willing to offer feedback in a helpful manner. After Carmel, I am hoping to extend my knowledge further and study English at university.

**Daisy Bradbury**

De La Salle  
Studying - English  
Language, English  
Literature,  
Psychology, EPQ



## Frequently Asked Questions

### How successful are Carmel's English students?

Carmel's English students achieve consistently high results across all three subjects:

|                               | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| English Language              | 100% | 100% | 99%  | 100% |
| English Literature            | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| English Language & Literature | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |



### What are the entry requirements for these courses?

For all English subjects you will need a **grade 5 in GCSE English Language** and a **grade 5 in GCSE English Literature** (if studied).

### Is there anything I should consider when choosing which English subject to take?

Students who know which specific English degree they are going to pursue should take the same A Level course. Students who are applying to Oxbridge, or prestigious universities should check with the university's admissions team to see which English course is preferred.

## Meet the Tutors

**Janet Gater**  
Assistant Principal

**Daniel Bryant**  
Curriculum Leader  
Head of English Literature

**Mark McGrath**  
Head of English Language

**Elizabeth Connor**  
Head of English Language  
& Literature

**Rebecca Blakey**  
**Nicholas Williams**



The Herbal Bed at the Playhouse in Liverpool

**carmel**  
college

Prescot Road, St Helens  
Merseyside WA10 3AG  
[www.carmel.ac.uk](http://www.carmel.ac.uk)

## More Information

The Exam Board websites contain details of the full course specifications:

English Literature / English Language: [www.educas.co.uk](http://www.educas.co.uk)

English Language & Literature: [www.qualifications.pearson.com](http://www.qualifications.pearson.com)



carmelcollege



@CarmelCollege



Carmel College



carmel\_college



carmelcollege1



carmelcollege



Carmel Sixth Form College