



GCSE

English Language

The Brunts Academy

Key Features of the Course:

The English Language course we follow is with the exam board AQA and the qualification and support is designed to enable students to engage with, explore, enjoy and succeed in English.

The English Language course will be assessed over two exams which will address the following skills:

- Analysis of language and structure
- Retrieving implicit and explicit information
- Inference and summary
- Comparing writer's viewpoints
- Critical evaluation
- Writing to explain a point of view
- Writing creatively for a purpose

These skills are key to our study of both English Language and English Literature and students will have the opportunity to practice these skills across both GCSE courses. In Year 11 students will sit two English Language exams which are equally weighted and these form the entirety of their English Language qualification.

What type of student is this suitable for?

The aim of this course is to build on the knowledge, understanding and skills established at Key Stage 3. **This is a compulsory subject for all students.**

What could this course lead on to?

The English course is diverse and essential in equipping students with the right skills to reach their future destination, whatever that may be. English Language is important in improving student's communication skills which is integral in a range of future career choices.

For those students who are particularly interested in developing their English skills further, this course could provide the platform to go on to study either English Literature or English Language and Literature at A level, providing they meet the course requirements.

Assessments

English Language is un-tiered meaning that all students will sit the same exam and the qualification consists of two exams. All question papers must be taken in the same series. Students will also have the opportunity to receive a Spoken Language qualification as part of this specification which is detailed below.

Exams are taken in May/June of Year 11.

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

What's assessed

Section A: Reading

- one literature fiction text

Section B: Writing

- descriptive or narrative writing

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Questions

Reading (40 marks) (25%) – one single text

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

What's assessed

Section A: Reading

- one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

Section B: Writing

- writing to present a viewpoint

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Questions

Reading (40 marks) (25%) – two linked texts

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language

What's assessed

(AOT-AO9)

- presenting
- responding to questions and feedback
- use of Standard English

Assessed

- teacher set throughout course
- marked by teacher
- separate endorsement (0% weighting of GCSE)

Course Details: AQA GCSE English (8700)

Website: <https://www.aqa.org.uk>

Course Contact: Mr T McDermott