



The Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form
A Level course 2017-19

English Language

Entry Requirements

6 A* - C GCSE passes including a grade 6 in English Language.

What will I study?

- English Language A Level introduces the study of English in its various forms and contexts, with the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis of language underpinning all elements of the course.
- Offering clear skills progression from GCSE, this course allows you to build on the skills already gained and prepare for your next steps.
- The variety of assessment styles used, such as data analysis, discursive essays, directed writing, original writing and research-based investigative writing will allow you to develop a wide range of skills. These include critical reading, data analysis, evaluation, the ability to develop and sustain arguments and a number of different writing skills which are invaluable for both further study and future employment.

A Level English Language is assessed by written examination (80%) and coursework (20%)

Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society – 40% of the A level mark. 2 hours 30 minutes.

Section A: Textual Variations and Representations – two texts (one contemporary and one older) linked by topic or theme.

- A question requiring analysis of one text (25 marks)
- A question requiring analysis of a second text (25 marks)
- A questions requiring comparison of the two texts (20 marks)

Section B: Children's Language Development

- A discursive essay on children's language development, with a choice of two questions where the data provided will focus on spoken, written or multi-modal language

Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change – 40% of the A level mark. 2 hours and 30 minutes

Section A: Diversity and Change

- One question from a choice of two – either an evaluative essay on language change **or** language diversity

Section B: Language Discourses: Two texts about a topic linked to the study of diversity and change

- A question requiring analysis of how the texts use language to present ideas, attitudes and opinions (40 marks)
- A directed writing task linked to the same topic and the ideas in the texts (30 marks)

Coursework: Language in Action – 20% of the A Level mark.

Task: Students to produce a language investigation and a piece of original writing and commentary.

What skills will I develop?

- You will develop your skills as producers and interpreters of language, by understanding and using the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis and study of language.
- You will also develop your skills as independent producers and interpreters of language.

How will this subject help me with my future career?

AS and A Level English Language is a respected, academic subject which will be helpful in any field of work or study. All areas of personal development require effective communication and interpretation skills, which are a key focus of this course.