



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Subject Leader

Miss K Elkins

Examination Board

WJEC

Overview of Course Content

In English Language, the skills of close reading and analysis are developed and extended. Pupils are taught to read and respond to a range of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, and answer questions concisely and accurately. Units are taught thematically and cover a range of topics from, 'Life in Wales' to 'Space and the Universe' and 'Social Media and Reality TV'. All themes offer opportunities to develop key skills in Reading, Writing and Oracy.

It is important to note that marks for spelling and punctuation are worth 50% of all available marks in written tasks. As such, a close focus of these will be undertaken throughout Year 10 & Year 11.

We aim to equip students with the functional literacy skills they require to embrace post 16 education/employment with confidence. Greatest success is achieved through regular practice of self and peer assessment in relation to key assessment objectives and success criteria.

Summary of assessment

Unit 1: Oracy (20%)

Non-examination assessment

Task 1 (10%) – Individual Researched Presentation (40 marks)

One individual, researched presentation, which may include responses to questions and feedback, based on WJEC set themes.

Task 2 (10%) – Responding and Interacting (40 marks)

One group discussion to written and/or visual stimuli provided by WJEC to initiate the discussion.

For both tasks, half of the available credit for AO1 will be awarded for the choice of appropriate register, grammatical accuracy and range of sentence structures with the remainder for content and organisation.

Unit 2: External assessment

Reading and Writing: Description, Narration and Exposition

40% (2 hours)

Section A (20%) – Reading (40 marks)

Understanding of at least one description, one narration and one exposition text, including continuous and non-continuous texts, assessed through a range of structured questions.

This section will also include an editing task focusing on understanding short texts at word, sentence and text level (2.5% of qualification total).

Section B (20%) – Writing (40 marks)

One writing task to be selected from a choice of two that could be either description, narration or exposition.

This section will also include one proofreading task focusing on writing accurately (2.5% of qualification total).

Half of the marks for this section will be awarded for communication and organisation (meaning, purpose, readers and structure) and the other for writing accurately (language, grammar, punctuation and spelling).

Unit 3: External Assessment

Section A (20%) – Reading (40 marks)

Understanding of at least one argumentation, one persuasion and one instructional text, including continuous and non-continuous texts, assessed through a range of structured questions.

Section B (20%) – Writing (40 marks)

One compulsory argumentation writing task and one compulsory persuasion writing task.

Half of the marks for this section will be awarded for communication and organisation (meaning, purpose, readers and structure) and the other half for writing accurately (language, grammar, punctuation and spelling).

Learning Pathways post 16

A successful pass in GCSE Language is essential for both further study and future employment. It will provide excellent foundations for study at Level 3 as well as furthering close reading skills you will have acquired and developed key literacy skills in reading, writing and critical thinking skills.

Most students who are successful in Language at GCSE are very well suited to the Arts, Languages, Social Sciences and Humanities Level 3 choices