



Introduction:

There are five periods of English per week in these two IGCSE years. During these lessons students are prepared for the IGCSE examinations in First Language English and Literature. English is taught for two of the periods: these are language periods. Those who are still experiencing difficulties in English are taught in a smaller group whereby the personal attention of the teacher can instil confidence and help the student overcome individual difficulties. This group does coursework as part of the English language exam to give pupils the best chance possible drafting and improving their work. All 3 groups follow the same IGCSE literature course.

Content:

English Language

The aims of the language course are:

- To enable students to communicate accurately and effectively in speech and writing.
- To enable students to understand and respond appropriately to what they hear, read and experience
- To encourage an appreciation and enjoyment of a variety of language.
- To complement students' other areas of study and provide them with a wide range of language skills.
- To promote students' personal development and their understanding of society and themselves.

English Literature

Over the course of the two year course, pupils will study four texts. These will include prose, drama and poetry. The examination is a closed book exam and pupils will therefore have to have a detailed knowledge of all the texts. They will be required to write formal essays, comment closely on the language a writer uses, and write empathetic responses to texts. Full details of texts studied can be found on the Cambridge IGCSE website.

The aims of the language course are:

- to develop the ability of students to communicate appropriately and effectively
- to develop a sensitive critical understanding.
- to foster a love of literature and an awareness of its social, cultural and artistic value.
- to explore areas of universal and human concern.

Supplementary English:

Supplementary English is offered for pupils who need further support with the mechanics of the English language. As a part of the course they sit two additional exams -The English As A Second Language

IGCSE and the Advance Certificate Qualification offered by the British Council in November of their Year 11. Both these exams complement the work covered in the main English lessons.

Skills:

During the English Language IGCSE, pupils will develop the following skills:

- **Reading and Directed Writing**
Students read a wide variety of texts and are encouraged to analyse structure, presentation of information, writer's intention etc. An important module takes them through précis skills. There are opportunities to study and write in various forms and styles: letters, reports, speeches, scripts for radio and television, stories, expressive developments of an idea etc.
- **Continuous Writing**
Students study the demands and techniques of the main prose composition styles: narrative, description, argument, opinion, fantasy, essay etc.
- **Usage**
Throughout the course students develop control of grammatical structures, an awareness of the reader and the task in hand, a sense of appropriate style, suitable range of vocabulary and competence in punctuation, paragraphing and spelling.

During the English Literature IGCSE, pupils will develop the following skills, in order to meet the assessment objectives of the course:

- Knowledge with Understanding
- Critical Interpretation
- Judgement and Personal Response

Homework:

Two pieces of homework are set each week. They are usually written. Language and Literature assignments are each set each week. Students are encouraged not to leave work to the last minute, but to take the time necessary to read, plan and make a rough draft. Marking of homework closely follows the dictates laid down by the Cambridge Board for the marking of IGCSE examinations and coursework.

Assessment:

Internal examinations are designed to familiarise students with the format and standards of the final examinations. The Language examination format chosen for the majority of candidates is the conventional one: timed, written papers. The literature examination consists of two written papers. In both papers on prepared texts, candidates are not allowed to take their copies into the examination. The distribution of marks is 25% per answer. No distinction is made between core and extended papers, so the full range of grades is available to all candidates.

Digital usage in this subject:

All students use Google Classroom to access resources and homework tasks, as well as study and revision advice. Recommended websites and videos will be posted through Google Classroom. Most teaching resources (such as Study Guides to IGCSE Literature texts) are shared with pupils via Google Classroom.

Students may also be asked to use Pages, Keynote and Numbers to produce work and to collaborate using Google Education apps including Docs, Slides and Forms. Some members of the department also use the Showbie app.

As part of the Speaking and Listening element of the IGCSE English Language curriculum, pupils are regularly asked to work collaboratively (in groups, pairs etc) and to present ideas to the class. This will often involve a digital element (usually Keynote).

Pupils may also use digital versions of texts in the classroom for annotation, although books are preferred. Where books are inaccessible pupils may refer to digital texts. Film versions which aid understanding of texts in performance can be found on the film page of the Runnymede website.

Average time spent each homework:

One hour

Typical tasks set:

- Consulting resources on Google Classroom
- Producing presentations
- Collaborative work
- Research
- Reading exemplar/modelled work from teachers/peers

Resources and Materials:

Course books for Language work: Cambridge IGCSE First Language M. Cox.
There is a large stock of supplementary material for classes and individual pupils.

