STAFFORD
SIXTH FORM

Course title: English Literature and Language

Academic year:	2027
Course Venue:	BWH
Course Type:	A level
Duration:	2 years

Course Description:

This course offers a slightly different approach to the study of language and literature. It uses a combined approach of literary and linguistic frameworks to explore a broader range of text types than you would encounter on the Literature course, including a range of non-fiction texts and transcripts of speech. It also has a creative element to it so assessment goes beyond the analytical essay-writing found on the Literature course.

Course Content:

Paper 1: Telling Stories

- **3 hour exam paper**

Section A – Remembered Places

- One compulsory question on the *AQA Anthology: Paris* (40 marks) which has a particular focus on non-fiction and non-literary texts, including speech and other genres.
- This section is closed book – students are not permitted to take their anthology into the exam hall.

Section B – Imagined Worlds

- One question from a choice of two on a prose set text (35 marks) - either *Dracula* by Bram Stoker or *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood.
- Students will explore the imagined worlds created in one of these texts, focusing on:
  - point of view
  - characterisation
  - presentation of time and space/place
  - narrative structure

- This section is open book – students are permitted a clean copy of their set text in the exam hall.

Section C – Poetic Voices

- One question from a choice of two on a poetry set text – *Mean Time* by Carol Ann Duffy or *New Selected Poems* by Seamus Heaney (25 marks).
- This section is open book – students are permitted a clean copy of their set text in the exam hall.

Paper 2: Exploring Conflict

- **2 hour 30 minute exam**

Section A – Writing about Society

- This section asks students to complete a 'recasting' task based on a set prose fiction text from a choice of four: *Into the Wild* by John Krakaeur, *The Suspicions of Mr Whicher OR The Murder at Road Hill House* by Kate Summerscale, *The Great Gatsby* by F Scott Fitzgerald, or *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini.
- Students will 'rework' an aspect of the original text by changing the point of view, genre or context in a way that enriches the reading of the text.
- They are also required to produce a critical commentary (30 marks) which will explain the stylistic changes made in producing the new text.
- This section is open book – students are permitted a clean copy of their set text in the exam hall.

Section B – Dramatic Encounters

- One question from a choice of two on a drama set text - *Othello* by William Shakespeare, *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams or *All My Sons* by Arthur Miller (45 marks).
- Study will focus on how a dramatist creates conflict.
- This section is open book – students are permitted a clean copy of their set text in the exam hall.

STAFFORD
SIXTH FORM

Coursework: Making Connections

- A personal investigation that explores a specific technique or theme in both literary and non-literary discourse (2,500-3,000 words).
- Students will carry out an investigation into connections between a literary text and non-literary materials, e.g. a comparison of openings in a novel and an autobiography; an exploration of real and fictional events; an exploration of the idea of character in literature and other texts; representations of particular themes in literary and non-literary sources.

Entry requirements: The standard entry criteria to study in the sixth form are a 9-5 in at least five different subjects, including English and mathematics, which would usually be at grade 4 or above.

Future opportunities: English Language and Literature is for students who enjoy studying a subject which is relevant to their own lives and who may wish to explore new approaches to the study of written and spoken language.

This course complements other Advanced Level courses which would facilitate progression on to higher education in English-related studies or more general higher education courses. English Language and Literature is a widely recognised Advanced-Level course by all universities and employers.

With additional professional training, you could pursue a career related to English such as a teacher or journalist or, indeed, any profession where analytical and communication skills are essential. Due to its strong, cross-curricular elements, the course often sees a wide range of students taking very different career paths. This GCE A Level is also obviously a recognised and highly regarded qualification that will help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across a breadth of industries will be looking for.

Further information: To find out more about this qualification, speak to Mr Vince.