



A-LEVEL

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Why study English Language at A-Level?

Do you want to find out:

- How our accents, expressions, and the words we use are determined by our age, our friendship groups, and where we grow up?
- How the rise of the internet and technology has revolutionised the English Language at an unprecedented rate?
- Why you can encounter a different accent and dialect every 24 miles throughout the UK?
- What academics have to say about the unique phenomenon of how children learn languages fluently in the first few years of their lives?
- How language both creates and perpetuates stereotypes of class, gender, and race?
- How people in power use language to exert authority and influence others?
- That Shakespearean English is actually a form of modern English – and that there is an entire epoch of the English Language that went before *it*?

This course develops your understanding of how the context of social attitudes and relationships can dramatically affect language choices. You will explore how writers and speakers, either consciously or subconsciously, present themselves to their audiences, constructing multi-faceted identities through their language choices. For example, you will explore how a teenager might simultaneously display the influence of their favourite Youtuber or Influencer, their parents and their regional background through the language choices they make! You will develop skills of linguistic analysis, using methods such as grammar, lexis, pragmatics, semantics, graphology and discourse to deconstruct language in both spoken and written texts.

How is A-Level English Language different to GCSE study?

To put it simply, A-Level English Language is very different from the GCSE course!

The A-Level course builds on your understanding of what language does and how it varies to perform different functions. The skills of analysing, evaluating and comparing texts that you have learned during your GCSE English Language course will be deepened and broadened, with a challenging range of new terminology to enhance your subject knowledge. You will also develop your writing skills at A-Level through the NEA (coursework) element. This component allows you to write two pieces of writing, either fiction or non-fiction, that are differentiated by audience; examples of past students' work include Dystopian YA fiction and Gothic fiction aimed at adults, and a sports article about masculinity in boxing alongside an article for teenagers coping with mental health concerns.

However, unlike at GCSE, you'll also develop a thorough understanding of spoken language in the A-Level course. Whether it's exploring the ways language is first acquired during childhood, considering how conversations display power between those involved, or even considering how the language of teenagers has been influenced by the development of social media, there are lots of new theories, content and challenge that separates the A-Level from the GCSE course.



Entry Requirements

To study A-Level English Language at BRGS, you will need a **minimum** of grade 6 in English Language.

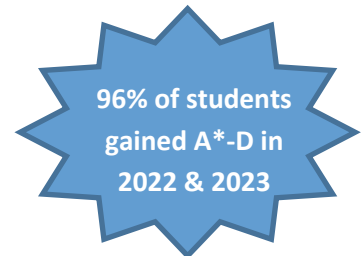
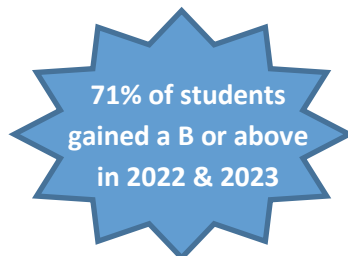
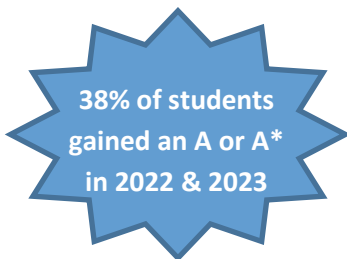
Overview of the course

	Component 1: Language Variation	Component 2: Child Language	Component 3: Investigating Language	Component 4: NEA
Structure & Content	<p>Section A – Individual Variation Exploring texts to consider the ways in which we shape our language in order to present version of ourselves we want others to perceive.</p> <p>Section B – Variation Over Time Learning how words can be born, grow, change, and ultimately die out in a process of linguistic evolution throughout centuries of history.</p>	<p>You will study the phenomenon of language acquisition, unpicking the ways in which children naturally acquire language, and all of its complexities.</p>	<p>You will develop your research skills by carrying out a focused investigation on a topic of your choice: Global English, Language and Gender Identity, Language and Journalism, Language and Power, Regional Language Variation.</p>	<p>Coursework - Crafting Language You will study the distinctive features of a variety of genres before selecting a genre you will work with in the production of two pieces of original writing and a commentary analysing your choices.</p>
Weighting	35%	20%	25%	20%

Where to next?

Degree Courses	Careers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Marketing / Business Media Studies (& Communication Studies) Speech Therapy Sociology Modern Languages Psychology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media / Journalism Speech Therapist Education Marketing / Business Lexicographer Content Manager / Copy Writer Public Relations / Communications

What can you expect from A-Level English Language results at BRGS?



What do our A-Level English Language students say about the course?

“The subject matter is fascinating, both looking into language and how it has changed and developed over time and also how we acquire language as children. There is a lot of support for coursework, which is beneficial during the writing process.”

Isabella

“Language is enjoyable to study because it’s all-encompassing, brushing on topics from everyday life like accents, advertising and language acquisition and how these have been influenced by social changes / attitudes.”

Cara

“English Language is a really great course to take; it’s really interesting exploring the different concepts evident in a person’s writing or speech.”

Joseph