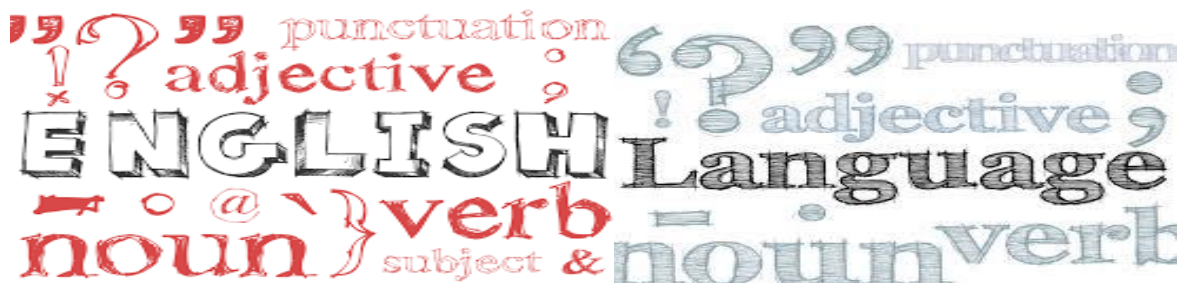




A Level English Language

Bridging Booklet



Examination Board: AQA English Language

Teacher: Yasmin Iqbal

Email: yasmin.iqbal@tighs.staracademies.org



What Will I Study?

The study of language and how it is produced will be the main focus of this course. You will study a wide range of spoken and written texts, and learn how to analyse them closely and in a systematic way. You will also explore issues surrounding language and identity, including language and gender, language and occupation and language and social groups. For your coursework, you will have the opportunity to produce some creative writing and carry out an investigation into a specific area of the English Language. There is a strong focus on lexical choice (vocabulary) and syntax (word order) when analysing texts.

How Will I be Assessed?

You will complete two exams at the end of the first year. The first exam requires you to analyse unseen texts, using language techniques you will learn throughout the year. An outline of the AS examinations is given below.

Component 1: Language and the individual Written Paper 1 hour 30 mins	50%	Textual variations and representations Two texts, 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 question requiring comparison of the two texts (20 marks)
Component 2: Language varieties Written Paper 1 hour 30 mins	50%	Section A – Language diversity A discursive essay on language diversity, with a choice of two questions (30 marks) Section B – Language discourses A directed writing task on attitudes to language (40 marks)



How can I Prepare for the Course?

You can gain a head start by reading the following books: David Crystal *Rediscover Grammar*. Sarah Thorne *Mastering Advanced English Language*.

There are also a number of pre course tasks that you should complete and bring with you to your first lesson.

Activity One

The first thing you will need to do is purchase a scrapbook. This can be any notebook or plain paper pad where you will be collating and annotating texts throughout the year.

Before your first lesson, you will make a start on your textbook by cutting and sticking the six texts below into your book (Texts A-F). You should then annotate the texts for any interesting language techniques you know. When analysing your texts, you may wish to select from the techniques below.

Methods of language analysis

- **phonetics, phonology and prosodics:** how speech sounds and effects are articulated and analysed
- **graphology:** the visual aspects of textual design and appearance
- **lexis and semantics:** the vocabulary of English, including social and historical variation
- **grammar, including morphology:** the structural patterns and shapes of English at sentence, clause, phrase and word level
- **pragmatics:** the contextual aspects of language use
- **discourse:** extended stretches of communication occurring in different genres, modes and contexts.



Here is a model that you can cut out and stick at the front of your book.

G = Advertisement
A = Anyone interested in holidays
P = To persuade/inform

Simple Sentence
 Regarding food, being straight ahead to point. (Clearly not rejecting food, core key point to audience).

Relative Noun
 Placed it second in sentence, showing that benefits increase, while doing what everybody loves.
 - Even though theme of comfort continues theme.

Adverbs
 Finally, persuading audience (one last step) to get out their comfort zone and try something new. Tone - like audience have not it before.

Infinitive Verb
 Persuading viewers to try something diff. (Purpose + theme) getting out of personal + everyday routine area.

Compound Sen
 Introducing a new purpose to readers with two easy steps, also with two imperative verbs. Could be showing what they're missing out on, if they don't.

Subject Compl.
 Creating the theme of slow pace + ending **Comp Sen.** with having only peace + nothing else. (Clearing air) - Persuasion.

Adverbial with Pre-modifier
 Not only are they presenting wanted emotion, the adverbial introduces extra detail which lengthens aim to persuade.

G = Article
A = Businesses / Community
P = To inform

Adverbial
 Presenting both significant times - Change had occurred.

Noun Phrase
 Not named any physical objects. Only abstract nouns, showing their belief + optimism is high.

Subject complement
 Almost like personification, treating like a human. Every stock will want us coming to it (idea) science idea - there's no possibility we won't be drawn to it.

Subordinate Clause
 Trying to put a little guilt/responsibility on audience. (Success relies on them)

2nd person possessive Pronoun
 Missing out if not got it. It's available only for the audience.

Infinitive verb
 Mysterious. Only opportunity to be aware if got it. Could create idea that everyone thinks they must have one. (aim to inform)

Adverbial
 Right at end with a phone call. 2nd chance of not missing out.

1st Person Personal plural Pronoun
 Team effort commitment

Abstract Verb
 Success gained

Noun Phrase
 Proud of their method will carry on.



Text A

This is the beginning of a TV commentary covering The Elite Women's Race of The Great North Run.

Key: (.) indicates a normal pause

Numbers within brackets indicate length of pause in seconds

Commentator: so two Olympic champions ten thousand metres and the marathon
coming together at the classic half marathon distance (10.0) little pause (2.0)
and away they go (.) in Olympic year (2.0) the elite field in the Great North Run
setting off on what promises to be an enthralling race (1.0) Tirunesh Dibaba in
her first ever half marathon (.) can she bring the brilliant pedigree she's always 5
shown us on the track (.) onto the road (.) she's a good road runner (.) has a
good history of er good performances on the road (.) after all her exploits at
the Olympic Games and indeed er quite a few of these athletes here will it be
(.) a (.) long season but for the likes of Dibaba and Kiplagat and the Olympic
marathon champion Gelano have come here looking for a good race 10

Source: BBC Sport

Text B

These are jokes from an online source.

1

I said to the Gym instructor, "Can you teach me to do the splits?"
He said, "How flexible are you?"
I said, "I can't make Tuesdays."

2

A man walks into a bar with a roll of tarmac under his arm and says, "Pint please, and one for the road."

Source: <http://newsfeed.time.com>

Turn over ►



Tauheedul Girls



Text C

This is a curriculum vitae handed to potential employers.

I'm looking for part time coffee shop work.

Joe White

As a keen cook with an addiction for artisan tea and coffee that goes beyond caffeine dependency, I am excited to have the opportunity to work in the colourful and exciting environment that is the London coffee scene. I've had extensive experience working in an independent coffee shop and would love to increase my expertise with a part time position during my studies.

Education

- 7 A*s & 5 As at GCSE – 2008
- 2 A*s & 3 As at A level – 2010
- Studying History and Politics UCL– 2010 - 2012

Employment History

- Sales Assistant at Noteworthy Music Centre – till work, extensive customer interaction, telecommunications
- Barista at The Coffeehouse in Lincoln – Making espresso drinks and loose leaf infusions, till work, food preparation, bussing. Also exclusive artwork responsibilities; including sign making and street art
- Several volunteering positions over the last 2 years, including leading blind walkers on a charity night walk and teaching schoolchildren sign language

E-mail: joe.white@me.com

Phone Number: 07375531991

Address: Top Flat, 119 Crewe Road, London, N3 1RS

Source: Private Data

Turn over ►



Text D

This is taken from the Church of England's Marriage Service.

The minister says to the congregation

First, I am required to ask anyone present who knows a reason why these persons may not lawfully marry, to declare it now.

The minister says to the couple

The vows you are about to take are to be made in the presence of God, who is judge of all and knows all the secrets of our hearts; therefore if either of you knows a reason why you may not lawfully marry, you must declare it now.



Text E

This is a homepage for BBC Weather.

BBC Sign in Search Settings Language

News Sport Weather iPlayer TV Radio More...

WEATHER

London 13:00 **10°C**

Your Forecast
This location is used across the BBC. You can search for other locations in "Find a Forecast"

Find a Forecast
Enter a town, county or UK postcode
> Favourite Locations (1)

UK Today
Generally windy with sunshine and showers.
A frosty, perhaps icy start in places, then generally quite a windy day with sunny spells and blustery showers, some giving hail and thunder. The most frequent showers are expected in the northwest of the UK.

Weather warning(s) have been issued
Flood warning(s) have been issued

More UK Weather
Monthly Outlook
Coast & Sea
Winter Sports
Country Guides

UK Forecast Video
LAST UPDATED 17:52, THURSDAY 20 FEB

Map of UK:
Lerwick 6
13:00
7 Edinburgh
7 Belfast
Manchester 6
Cardiff 8
10 London
7 St Helier

Source: adapted from BBC Weather, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather> [accessed 21.02.2014]



Text F

This is an extract from Chapter Ten of *Hard Times*, a novel by Charles Dickens, published in 1854. Stephen and Rachael, the characters, meet briefly on their way home from work.

'Ah, lad! 'Tis thou?' When she had said this, with a smile which would have been quite expressed, though nothing of her had been seen but her pleasant eyes, she replaced her hood again, and they went on together.

'I thought thou wast ahind me, Rachael?'

'No.'

5

'Early t'night, lass?'

'Times I'm a little early, Stephen! 'times a little late. I'm never to be counted on, going home.'

'Nor going t'other way, neither, 't seems to me, Rachael?'

'No, Stephen.'

10

He looked at her with some disappointment in his face, but with a respectful and patient conviction that she must be right in whatever she did. The expression was not lost upon her; she laid her hand lightly on his arm a moment as if to thank him for it.

'We are such true friends, lad, and such old friends, and getting to be such old folk, now.'

'No, Rachael, thou'rt as young as ever thou wast.'

15

Source: *Hard Times*, by Charles Dickens



Activity Two

You should now fill your scrapbook with any other texts that you feel will have interesting techniques. Try to use real texts that you come across, as these are the types of texts you will analyse in the exam.

Find at least 6 other texts to stick into your book to annotate. These can be from any genre.

Examples of texts you can use are:

- Recipes
- Newspaper articles
- Leaflets
- Brochures
- Transcripts of a TV show
- Magazine articles
- Poems
- Pretty much anything with language in it!

You will be adding to the scrapbook throughout the year.

Activity Three

Select any of the texts in your scrapbook.

Write up two paragraphs analysing the language used.

When analysing texts, you should explore how language is:

- shaped according to **audience, purpose, genre and mode**
- shaped according to **context**
- used to construct **meanings** and **representations**
- used to enact relationships between **writers, speakers** and **audiences** or between **participants within** a text.