

YEAR 12 ENGLISH LANGUAGE NEWSLETTER

We extend a warm welcome to parents and students joining the English Department at Northampton School for Boys. We are delighted that your son or daughter is studying English Language as part of their post-16 qualifications. At Northampton School for Boys, we follow the AQA English Language A Level specification. This is assessed through two examinations, each weighted at 40% of the final grade, and a Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) portfolio, accounting for 20%.

The Year 12 curriculum centres on Language Paper 2 and the completion of the NEA portfolio. As a department, we look forward to sharing our expertise and enthusiasm for linguistics. This termly newsletter aims to provide parents with key information and guidance to support students in achieving their full potential.

Best wishes,

The English Team

Contacts:**Class teachers:**

Ms S. Mitchell
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Ms S. Morrison:
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Key Stage 5 English Learning Leader:

Ms A. Jesson:
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English Curriculum Team Leader/ class teacher:

Mrs C. Morrell:
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Senior Leadership Team line manager:

Mrs S. Bradley-Brophy:
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Equipment list:

All A Level English Language students have been provided with:

- An A4 lever-arch folder
- An exercise books

These must be brought to every lesson to ensure students file their classwork effectively in order to support their home learning and revision.

We also suggest students come to lessons with a pack of highlighters to use when annotating texts, but this is not mandatory.

What are students studying with Ms Morrison this term?

This term, students will study language change processes, exploring why multiple languages exist, how and why English has evolved, how new words emerge, how meanings shift, and how such changes spread. They will engage in wider reading on historical language change, including the influence of the Anglo-Saxon and Viking invasions on English. Home learning will focus on consolidating this reading and deepening understanding of the factors shaping linguistic development over time.

What are students studying with Ms Child this term?

To support the transition from Key Stage 4 to 5, Ms Child will commence the year with creative writing workshops. By the end of the first term, students will have refined their skills and produced an opinion article modelled on the styles of columnists such as David Mitchell and Charlie Brooker. In the latter half of the Autumn term, Ms Child will introduce the Original Writing component of the NEA, worth 5% of the final A Level grade.

What are students studying with Mrs Morrell this term?

In preparation for the 'Language Investigation' element of the NEA, students will study Language and Gender, beginning with key questions: What is gender? Does childhood socialisation contribute to gender inequality? What is gendered language? What are the deficit, dominance, difference, and diversity models of language and gender? This unit will equip students with the theoretical understanding to analyse language through a gendered lens, forming a foundation for their independent investigative work.

Home home, revision and wider reading

Each week, students will be set home learning by each of their 3 teachers. We often use Massolit, Babel e-magazine and the EMC e-magazine for home learning and wider reading. As such, students will be required to set up logins for each subscription (funded by the school) in their first week of the course. The details for each login can be found below.

Alongside these online resources, all students will benefit from purchasing:

- 'The Ultimate Revision Guide for AQA A-Level English Language' by Tom Hollins.

More advanced students may also benefit from purchasing:

- 'Attitudes to Language' (Cambridge Topics in English Language) by Dan Clayton
- 'Language and Gender' (Cambridge Topics in English Language) by Felicity Titjens
- 'Language Change' (Cambridge Topics in English Language) by Ian Cushing

Babel Magazine

<https://babelzine.co.uk/digital-archive/>

Login: Northampton
School for Boys

Password: Archive



EMC e-magazine

<https://www.englishhandmedia.co.uk/emc-magazines/>

Username:
NSB1911

Password:
NSBENGLISH

MASSOLIT

https://massolit.io/users/sign_in

- 1) Click SIGN UP in the top-right corner on any page of the site.
- 2) Pick your school or college from the drop-down list (type the first few letters to save time!)
- 3) Enter your SCHOOL email address and click the SIGN UP button.
- 4) Wait for an activation email to arrive, then click the link in that email.