

VCE English

Subject Description

English aims to develop students' critical understanding and mastery of the English language and to help them communicate in a wide range of situations. The study of English will help to develop the skills to meet the demands of employment, further education and participation in an open democratic society.

English consists of three areas of study: Reading and the Study of Texts, The Craft of Writing and Using Language to Persuade.

UNIT 1

The focus of this unit is on the reading of a range of texts, particularly narrative and persuasive texts. Students will develop competence and confidence in creating written and oral responses.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Students will write analytical, personal and imaginative responses, give spoken presentations and read a range of texts including a play, novel and/or short stories. The subject promotes the integration of the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Close reading and listening, effective writing and speaking and using language expressively and accurately.

ASSESSED TASKS

Analytical essay on the set text, creative responses to the Context, spoken presentation on an issue in the media and an end of semester exam consisting of an extended text response and shorter persuasive and creative responses.

UNIT 2

The focus of this unit is on reading and responding to a wider range of types of texts and developing the skills to analyse their ideas and structures.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Students will study a film, newspaper articles and other texts such as short stories. Class work will involve a range of individual and group-based activities.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Close reading and listening, effective writing and speaking and using language expressively and accurately. In Unit 2 there is a stronger emphasis on constructing and analysing arguments.

ASSESSED TASKS

Analytical essay on the set text, creative responses to the Context, analysis of an issue in the media and an end of semester exam consisting of an extended text response and shorter analytical and creative responses.

UNIT 3

The focus of this unit is on reading and responding, both orally and in writing. Students analyse how the authors of texts create meaning in different ways. This unit has a strong emphasis on the role of language in argument and persuasion.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Students will read a range of texts, write analytical essays, personal and argumentative responses and give spoken presentations. They will work individually and in groups.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Close reading and listening, effective writing and speaking and using language expressively and accurately.

ASSESSED TASKS

An essay in response to the Unit 3 text, a persuasive oral presentation, an analytical response to an issue in the media and an extended written response to the selected context.

UNIT 4

The focus of this unit is on reading and responding to a range of texts in order to analyse their construction and provide an interpretation. The ability of students to write creatively and explain their approaches is emphasised.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Students will read a range of texts, write analytical essays, personal and argumentative responses, and give spoken presentations. They will work individually and in groups.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Close reading and listening, effective writing and speaking and using language expressively and accurately.

ASSESSED TASKS

An essay in response to the Unit 4 text and an extended written response to the selected context. The final exam consists of an essay on one of the set texts, a response to the Context and an analysis of a piece of persuasive writing.

VCAA ASSESSMENT – The overall Study Score will consist of:

School Assessed Coursework Unit 3 (25%), School Assessed Coursework Unit 4 (25%), 3 hour written examination in November (50%).