

English as an Additional Language

Units 1-2

English as an Additional Language (EAL) recognises the particular English learning needs of those students for whom English is not their first language. EAL is similar in structure to the English course and will help students to develop understanding and control of the English language through reading critically, writing in a wide range of styles and oral communication. The teaching of skills described in the areas of study will target the particular language learning needs of students with a non-English speaking background.

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 novel, film and/or short stories. The subject promotes classroom activities that integrate 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 are all developed in this unit.

ASSESSED TASKS

Analytical essay, written response to the prescribed Context and spoken presentation on an issue. An end of semester written examination 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 text, film, newspaper articles and other texts such as plays and 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 language and arguments.

ASSESSED TASKS

Analytical essay on the set text, creative response to the context and analysis of an issue in the media. An end of semester written examination consisting of an extended text response and shorter creative and analysis responses.

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Units 3-4

These units help students develop understanding and control of the English language through reading critically, writing in a wide range of styles and oral communication. The study of English will help to develop the skills to meet the demands of post-school employment and further education. The course covers three areas of study: Reading and Creating/Comparing Texts, Analysing/Presenting Argument and Listening to Texts.

There are special rules of eligibility for these units. These are outlined in the introduction section for the English subjects.

UNIT 3

The focus of this unit is on reading and responding, both orally and in writing. Students analyse how the authors of texts, written and spoken, 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, complete note-taking tasks, 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 analytical interpretation of a set task, a creative response with written explanation, short-answer responses and an analysis and comparison of argument on the use of persuasive language in two to three media texts, and comprehension of an unfamiliar spoken text (listening task).

UNIT 4

The focus of this unit is on analysing comparative texts, including the interplay between character and setting, voice and structure, and how ideas, issues and themes are conveyed. Students also develop a persuasive text of their own.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Students will read a range of texts, complete note-taking tasks, write analytical essays, personal and argumentative responses, and give spoken presentations.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

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

ASSESSED TASKS

A detailed comparison in written form of how two selected texts present ideas, issues and themes, a point of view presented in oral form using sound argument and persuasive language with a written statement of intention.

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%).