

English Language Curriculum Overview - Year 9

	Unit	Details
Autumn One	An Introduction to Language Skills Paper 1 (Non-fiction) Genre: Travel Writing	In this unit pupils explore a range of travel writing texts looking at the voices of Bill Bryson, Monisha Rajesh, Isabella Bird and Charles Dickens amongst others. Pupils explore how these writers use language and structure to inform and entertain their readers and craft their own piece of travel writing demonstrating their understanding of the genre. Pupils begin to select and synthesise evidence from different texts and consider how writers convey their ideas and perspectives.
Autumn Two	An Introduction to Language Skills Paper 2 (Fiction and literary non-fiction) Genre: Travel Writing	Continuing with the theme of travel and adventure, pupils read and respond to unseen prose from the 20th and 21st centuries. Pupils explore how writers, such as Daphne du Maurier, Yann Martel, Anthony Doerr and Kit de Waal use pathetic fallacy and other figurative language to create meaning. Using these texts as inspiration, pupils then write imaginatively about a journey to a new or unfamiliar place employing a range of literary devices and vocabulary for effect.
Spring One	Interesting Characters: Preparation for Language Paper 1 and 2	In this unit, pupils explore archetypal Victorian characters from well-known novels such as 'Pride and Prejudice', 'Great Expectations', 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame' and 'Dracula'. Pupils read key extracts from the texts and consider how these characters break or subvert the expectations of a character in Victorian England. This unit allows pupils to explore contextual influences in the Victorian era which they will revisit via GCSE texts such as Jekyll and Hyde. By examining a range of characters, pupils understand how writers successfully create characters through description, dialogue and structure.
Spring Two		Continuing with the theme of interesting characters, pupils explore significant historical figures from the Victorian era such as Mary Seacole, Florence Nightingale and Jack the Ripper. Pupils read and respond to unseen non-fiction texts, including examples from the 19th century, and will write in a range of non-fiction forms, for example, an article, blog and letter. Pupils read and evaluate texts critically learning to support assertions with appropriate textual references.
Summer One	Diverse Voices: Autobiography and Biography	Pupils explore a range of inspirational and diverse voices in today's society, such as Amanda Gorman, Marcus Rashford and Emma Raducanu. This unit encourages pupils to consider what makes a person inspirational and the importance of their own voice. Looking at a variety of non-fiction forms, pupils consider how a text's structure can reflect its purpose and how grammatical features can contribute to the effectiveness of a piece.
Summer Two		Continuing with the theme of diversity, pupils read and examine extracts from the autobiographies of inspiring voices, such as Michelle Obama, Tara Westover and Nelson Mandela. Pupils compare and evaluate how these writers use form, language and structure to portray their opinions and achieve effects. Using these examples as models, pupils craft their own pieces of personal writing making thoughtful choices about vocabulary and linguistic devices to add impact to their writing.