

Course Start

Course Start is independent learning you need to complete as a fundamental part of your introduction to the course. It should take you approximately 5 hours to complete.

Course Name	GCSE English Language
How this Course Start fits into the first term of the course	• It will provide us with useful information about your GCSE progress so far • The ability to write descriptively and imaginatively underpins Paper 1/ Section B, so practising creative writing is key to success at GCSE
How will my Course Start learning be used in lessons?	• The questionnaire will enable us to consider your strengths & areas to develop in English this year • It will highlight eligibility for the Nov resit if you are someone with a Grade 3 already in <u>English Language</u> GCSE. • It will inform us whether you have done a Speaking & Listening assessment at school or need to do one at college • The descriptive writing task can also provide a stimulus for Speaking & Listening for those who need to complete this part of the qualification
Course Start learning objectives	• To reflect and evaluate strengths and areas to develop • To practising creative writing • To proofread and draft
Study Skills	• Self-reflection • Creative writing • Proofreading for accuracy

Expectations for: English Language GCSE

Our specification is: [AQA GCSE | English Language](#)

What this course involves:

This is a fast-track, one-year GCSE English Language course involving wider reading and building on written and spoken skills. There are two main units for this qualification:

PAPER 1:

- A written exam (1 hour/45 minutes)
- 50% of GCSE/ 80 marks
- Analysing a literature fiction text and creative, descriptive writing

PAPER 2:

- A written exam (1 hour/45 minutes)
- 50% of GCSE/ 80 marks
- Analysis/comparison of 19th-21st Century nonfiction texts and writing to persuade

NON-EXAM SPOKEN ASSESSMENT:

- Teacher-assessed in the autumn term. *(This mark is carried through from school, if you have already done it.)*

ENGLISH COURSE START

Your name:

Date:

Former school/ college:

Grade in GCSE English Language:

Grade in GCSE English Literature (*if you took it*):

Have you previously had any additional support or exam concessions? If so, give details:

What do you consider your strengths to be in English?

Which areas do you think you need to develop this year?

Which activities do you enjoy doing in English (*e.g. reading, creative writing etc*)?

What are your goals in English at Varndean?

What was the last book you read? (*This could be fiction or nonfiction.*)

Please feel free to add anything else that would be useful for us to know, in order to help you succeed in English this year.



CREATIVE WRITING

Write a story about a new beginning

OR

Write a description inspired by this picture

- You could write about a person, place or event.
- Write 3 or more paragraphs.
- Include a metaphor or simile, and engaging adjectives and verbs.
- Check your spelling and punctuation.

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