

Careers in...

English

Advice for Year 10 & Year 11 Pupils



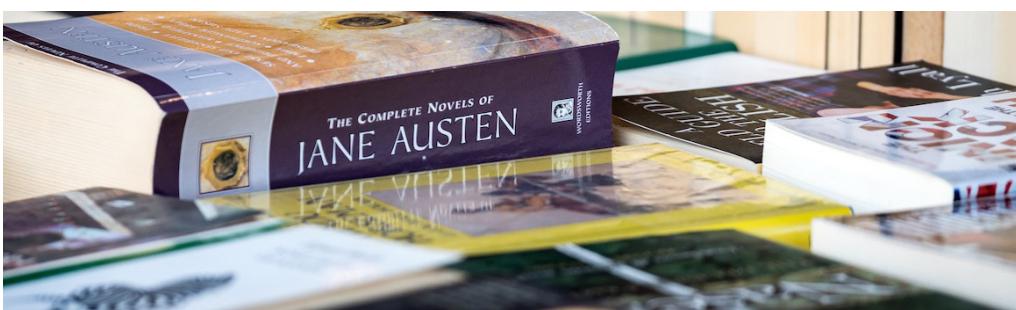
Why English?

GCSE English isn't just about exams - it's about learning how to communicate, think and succeed in the real world. It helps to develop your communication skills, be a problem-solver, enhance your confidence and independence and is an essential requirement for most college and apprenticeship courses.

1. Explore Career Paths in English

There is a wealth of different careers that an English GCSE can open up for you:

- **Education** (teaching, lecturing, educational support roles, Special Educational Needs)
- **Media and Communication** (journalist, content creator, social media manager)
- **Law, Politics and Public Services** (lawyer, police officer, civil servant)
- **Business and Management** (marketing, HR, project manager)
- **Creative Arts** (actor, playwright, screenwriter)
- **Travel and Hospitality** (events coordinator, travel agent, tourism officer)



2. Skills Studying English Gives You

Studying English Literature and English Language help you to develop a wide range of valuable skills such as:

- **Thinking & Analysis:** Critical thinking, inference (reading between the lines and drawing conclusions) and evaluation (forming and justifying opinions with evidence)
- **Writing Skills:** Clear, accurate writing for different purposes, adapting tone and style for different audiences, structuring ideas logically and effectively, using language creatively and precisely
- **Speaking & Listening:** Confident verbal communication, presenting ideas clearly in discussions and speeches, listening and responding thoughtfully to others, debating and arguing a point respectfully
- **Reading & Understanding:** Close reading of texts, understanding complex language and ideas, comparing texts and viewpoints, recognising bias, perspective, and writer's purpose
- **Literature-Specific Skills:** Empathy (understanding different experiences and perspectives and interpretation) and cultural and historical awareness
- **Transferable Life & Career Skills:** Problem-solving, independence and resilience, time management (planning essays and revision), confidence in expressing ideas. English provides a gateway to all other subjects in the curriculum. If you can't read and write in English, you can't learn other subjects.



3. Subject Combinations and Education Pathways

- **At School:**

History (analysis, essays, evaluation)
Geography (extended writing, argument, case studies)
Drama (performance, interpretation, empathy)
Modern Foreign Languages (communication and structure)
Religious Education (debate and critical thinking)

- **At College/Further Education:**

History / Politics (law, journalism, civil service)
Drama / Theatre Studies (acting, directing, teaching)
Media / Film Studies (marketing, content creation)
Psychology (analysis of people and behaviour)
Sociology (society, culture, inequality)
Languages (international careers)



4. English in the Real World

- Try to read as much as possible. It doesn't have to be a novel; it can be news articles, blogs, reviews, sports journalism.
- Engage with literature in different formats. Visit your local theatre, listen to a podcast, watch a TV adaptation of a novel, study song lyrics.
- Write for the real world. Create a CV, keep a journal, write poetry, email your local MP about issues affecting your area.
- Download apps such as Wordle, Kindle and Duolingo. Fun, daily brain-workouts and exercises can keep your brain sharp.



5. What Can You Do Now?

Year 10:

Get involved with interhouse competitions, create a revision plan for the set texts, attend any theatre trips/performances if you can, talk to your teachers/careers advisor about possible career paths or research volunteering opportunities in the local area.

Year 11:

Visit colleges on their Open Days, consider a range of post-GCSE pathways, attend your careers interview for tailored advice, engage with English intervention sessions after school, revise and prepare for mock and actual GCSE exams.



Useful Resources

- **Career Pilot:** www.careerpilot.org.uk
- **Prospects:** www.prospects.ac.uk
- **UCAS:** www.ucas.com
- **BBC Bitesize careers:** www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers
- **OAT Futures:** www.oatfutures.co.uk



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