

9. Year 12 Subjects 2011 (English)

VCE English Language Units 3&4

Unit 3: Language in Society (English Language)

In this unit the students explore language in a social setting and its distinctive nature. They learn the subsystems of language and identify the distinctive characteristics and varieties of Australian English within our society and in contrast to other national varieties such as British and American. They explore jargon, slang and doublespeak as well as language used for discrimination and manipulation. Furthermore they explore how Australia has established its identity through language and study the nature and function of spoken and written texts. Different mediums are used including, comedy shows, political texts, radio and film, transcripts of speeches, and media texts. Students must have knowledge of the metalanguage and read widely.

Areas of study:

There are two areas of study:

- Language variation according to users.
- Language variation according to use.

Assessment:

- Outcome 1 - Students should be able to analyse a range of attitudes to language varieties, and how language variation reflects its users and contributes to a sense of identity.
- Outcome 2 – Students should be able to identify the ways in which language features are used in societal interaction and analyse variations in language use.

Assessment Break-Down:

Assessment tasks for this unit are as follows:

- a written report of an investigation
- a folio
- a test
- a multimedia report
- an essay
- an oral presentation.

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VCE English Language Units 3&4 (Cont...)

Unit 4: Language in Use (English Language)

In this unit the students explore language in texts and their contexts, with the aim of describing the inter-relationship between word, sentences and text to discover how they construct their message. They particularly concentrate on the Written and Spoken text and their distinctive structures and features. They look at the text types different structures and features, and their nature and functions. Students must continue to extend their knowledge of metalanguage and read widely.

Areas of study:

There are two areas of study:

- Spoken language.
- Written language

Assessment:

- Outcome 1 - Students should be able to identify and analyse distinctive features of spoken English texts involving more than one speaker.
- Outcome 2 - Students should be able to identify and analyse distinctive features of written English texts.

Assessment Break-Down:

Assessment tasks for this unit are as follows:

- Outcome 1 - an analysis of one or more samples of spoken English texts involving more than one speaker in any one or a combination of the following formats:
 - an essay
 - a short-answer test
 - a written report.
- Outcome 2 - an analysis of one or more samples of written English texts in any one or a combination of the following formats:
 - an essay
 - a short-answer test
 - a written report.

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VCE English Language Units 3&4 (Cont...)

Graded Assessment – Units 3 and 4

- Unit 3 School-Assessed Coursework: 25%
- Unit 4 School-Assessed Coursework: 25%
- Units 3 and 4 End-of-year Examination: 50%

Note: Units 3 and 4 in this study can be used to satisfy the requirement for English in the VCE.

Other Information

- English Language does NOT have a mid-year Exam, but a Practice Exam is held during the third week of the July term break. Other practice exams are also held during Semester Two. It is important that students take every opportunity to ready themselves for the final examination.

Entry – Units 3 and 4

Students are required to complete a Unit 1 and 2 progression in an English unit (ie English, English Language or Literature) prior to attempting to complete the Unit 3 and 4 progression. Students must complete Unit 3 before completing Unit 4. VCE requirements are such that students need to satisfactorily complete 3 English units in order to obtain their VCE.