

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## ***The Course***

The study of English Language allows you, as the learner, to explore English language in a variety of contexts. It will provide you with opportunities to develop a wide and deep knowledge of the systems of the English language and of issues relating to language and its uses. Throughout the course, you will be presented with opportunities to develop your own creativity, both in the ways you think about language and in the ways you develop expertise in using language to communicate in different ways.

## ***Tasks***

In order to foster your independence as you explore English language in a variety of contexts, you will need to develop your appreciation of the interconnectedness of the different areas of language study. As an English Language learner, you will be required to show knowledge and understanding of the different language levels, and to show how these can be applied to language use in a range of contexts, including how texts and discourses are shaped and interpreted. There is no better way to prepare for this, than gaining valuable knowledge and understanding from pre-reading a range of relevant texts and materials before you embark on your studies. Some suggestions of a great place to start below.

## **Course Text (Good to purchase for A-Level Study)**

Grammar, Structure and Style, Shirley Russell (OUP, 3rd edition 2001)

Mastering Advanced English Language, Thorne (Palgrave Macmillan, 2nd edition 2008)

## ***Pre-Course Reading (library or online)***

The English Language, Crystal (Penguin, 2nd revised edition 2002)

The Story of English in 100 Words, Crystal (Profile Books, 2012)

Words, Words, Words, Crystal (OUP, 2007)

Making Sense of Grammar, Crystal (Longman, 2004)

## ***Useful Websites/links***

The Internet Grammar of English - excellent quick reference point with interactive exercises (the content is free of charge online).

British Council: Learn English - brief definitions/explanations with interactive exercises

BBC Radio: 6 Minute Grammar - simple explanations, each episode is available for 30 days

Englishbiz Grammar Essentials - student friendly site with advice for A level learners on grammatical terms and how to use them

The University of Sheffield: All About Linguistics - a useful site designed for A Level students by first year undergraduate Linguistics students in the School of English (Sheffield University) to introduce them to some key concepts.