


<p><b>Course Title</b></p>	<p>GCSE English Language (Online via Zoom)</p> 
<p><b>Course Description</b></p>	<p>This blended learning course aims to develop learners' skills and fluency in the inter-related disciplines of reading, writing and speaking and listening. The course is divided into weekly face-to-face classroom sessions and distance learning via a minimum of 2 hours of guided learning activities per week.</p> <p>During the 30 weeks of the course, a variety of teaching and learning approaches will be used including online digital learning materials as well as traditional paper-based methods such as text annotation, card-sort activities and mock exams. Learners will be involved in various group activities from whole class to paired work and will have the opportunity to contribute by way of discussions and presentations.</p> <p>Learners will read a wide range of texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, including literature and literary non-fiction as well as other writing such as reviews and journalism. By studying these texts, learners will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- evaluate texts critically and make comparisons between texts</li> <li>- summarise and synthesise information or ideas from texts</li> <li>- use knowledge gained from wide reading to inform and improve their own writing</li> <li>- write effectively and coherently using Standard English appropriately</li> <li>- use grammar correctly and punctuate and spell accurately</li> <li>- acquire and apply a wide vocabulary, alongside a knowledge and understanding of grammatical terminology, and linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language</li> <li>- listen to and understand spoken language and use spoken Standard English effectively.</li> </ul> <p>The GCSE English Language course is designed on the basis that students should read and be assessed on high-quality, challenging texts from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Each text studied represents a substantial piece of writing, making significant demands on students in terms of content, structure and the quality of language. The texts, across a range of genres and types, will support students in developing their own writing by providing effective models. The texts will include literature and extended</p>

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literary non-fiction, and other writing such as essays, reviews and journalism (both printed and online).

In addition to the two written exam papers which make up the assessment for the GCSE English qualification all learners must also undertake a spoken endorsement element which involves one spoken presentation to the group. ***The spoken endorsement element is a compulsory requirement of the course of study although it does not contribute towards the GCSE qualification. It will appear on all candidates' certificates as a separately reported grade, alongside the overall grade issued.***

The specification used for this course is the AQA 9 - 1 English Language GCSE (8700). The course is assessed via two final exam papers. The exams usually take place at the start of June, however, at this present time exam dates have not been set.

***PLEASE NOTE: As with all new-style GCSEs, grades A\*- U have been replaced with levels 9 – 1. To be considered to have gained a “good pass” you will need to achieve a level 5. A “standard pass” is a Level 4.***

The assessment structure for this course is as follows:

- **Paper 1 Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing (50% of total mark).**
- **1hour 45minutes written exam**

The aim of this paper is to engage students in a creative text and inspire them to write creatively themselves by:

- in section A, reading a literature fiction text in order to consider how established writers use narrative and descriptive techniques to capture the interest of readers
- in section B, writing their own creative text, inspired by the topic that they have responded to in section A to demonstrate their narrative and descriptive skills in response to a written prompt, scenario or visual image.

- **Paper 2 Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (50% of total mark).**
- **1hour 45minutes written exam**

The aim of this paper is to develop students' insights into how writers have particular viewpoints and perspectives on issues or themes that are important to the way we think and live our lives. It will encourage students to demonstrate their skills by:

- in section A, reading two linked sources from different time periods and genres in order to consider how each presents a perspective or viewpoint to influence the reader
- in section B, producing a written text to a specified audience, purpose and form in which they give their own perspective on the theme that has been introduced to them in section A.

**Spoken endorsement.** (Does not count towards the GCSE but is a compulsory requirement of the course of study.) The aim of the assessment is to allow students to demonstrate their speaking and listening skills by:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>giving a presentation in a formal context</li> <li>responding appropriately to questions and to feedback, asking questions themselves to elicit clarification</li> <li>using spoken Standard English.</li> </ul> <p>Students must undertake a prepared spoken presentation on a specific topic of no more than 10 minutes. The topic is at the candidate's discretion.</p> <p><b><i>N.B. There is only one level of entry for this qualification and it is possible for candidates to achieve a level 9 (equivalent to an old A* grade) in the exams they will be sitting.</i></b></p>				
<b>Start Date</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2021 16 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2021	<b>Day &amp; Time</b>	Mon 6.45pm-9.15pm Thur 9.30am-12.00pm	<b>Venue</b>	Online via Zoom
<b>Tutor Details</b>	<p><b>Anne Cordery</b> has taught English for almost 30 years in both secondary school and Adult Education environments including as the Head of the English Faculty in a wide variety of schools. She has written schemes for learning for the GCSE English Language courses in each of these settings and is also an accredited GCSE English examiner for both home and international boards.</p>				
<b>No. of wks</b>	30	<b>Terms</b>	3		
<b>Fee</b>	<b>FREE*</b> /£556	<b>Concessionary Fee</b>	<b>FREE*</b> /£417		
<b>Course Level:</b>	Mixed ability				
	Level 1, Level 2 (equiv. to GCSE / NVQ2)		ü		
	Level 3 Equivalent GCE A Level				
<b>Skills or qualifications needed for entry into the class</b>		<p>Willingness to learn, commitment, enthusiasm and creativity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><i>PLEASE NOTE: All learners are expected to be IT literate i.e. able to send emails, use the internet and word-process.</i></b></li> </ul>			
<b>Course aims &amp; objectives</b>					
<p>By the end of the course, and with the help of hard work and commitment, learners should be in a strong position to achieve a level 5 or higher in the final examinations.</p> <p>A variety of teaching and learning approaches will be used including digital learning materials as well as traditional paper-based methods such as text annotation. Learners will be involved in various group activities from whole class to paired work and will have the opportunity to contribute by way of discussions and presentations.</p>					

In addition to the work covered in class, there will be compulsory independent learning set each week, which must be completed by the deadline specified in order to meet the 120 hour teaching/learning requirement.

### **Progression – after this course what might you do next?**

A GCSE Level 5 or higher will open up a variety of job and training opportunities for successful learners.

### **How progress & success will be recorded**

To succeed learners must attend and participate fully in the weekly taught session (minimum of 85% attendance). In addition, learners must complete the independent study work which will be set each week. ***The independent learning is a compulsory part of the course and must be completed by the deadline each week as it makes up the required guide learning hours (GLH) needed to complete a GCSE. Persistent failure to complete this work will be treated in the same way as persistent absence from the taught session and may lead to the withdrawal of SFA funding for the learner. Learners must complete a minimum of 85% of the GLH.***

A variety of assessments methods will be used that provide personalised feedback and progress targets together with essays and mock-exam tasks. Each learner will have their progress and success monitored and recorded on a regular basis.

### **Additional course costs (e.g. visits, materials, books, equipment)**

**This course will be taught online using Zoom, therefore you will need access to equipment that can run this program.**

**You will be required to attend Comberton Village College to undertake the exams, these cannot be taken online.**

All course materials will be provided by the tutor and will be emailed to all students after each class to support revision and self-study. It is necessary that:

- your email address is able to receive and open PowerPoint presentations which, in some cases, may be quite large.
- you have an A4 folder, A4 pad of paper, pens, pencils and a set of highlighters.
- you have a dictionary and/or thesaurus.

#### **Materials/equipment required for first class**

**You must have photographic ID available at the first class**

An internet enabled device e.g. iPad, laptop, or smartphone  
A4 pad of lined paper, pens, and highlighters.

#### **Contact for further information**

Adult Education: 01223 264721  
[commed@combertonvc.org](mailto:commed@combertonvc.org)

## Funding

This course is funded through the Adult Education Budget allocated by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) or the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and part financed by the European Social Fund (ESF) programme. This funding is managed by Cambridgeshire County Council, Adult Learning and Skills. A short video covering the background of ESF, what it does, how it helps and who benefits is available on the European Union website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/esf/home.jsp>

## Eligibility criteria \*

In order to qualify for a FREE place on this course, you must be eligible for us to claim funding to cover the costs. The eligibility criteria is as follows:

- Aged 19 or older on 31 August 2021
- You are a citizen of a country within the European Economic Area (EEA) or other countries determined within the EEA, including those with bilateral agreements such as Switzerland, or have settled status or the Right of Abode in the UK, **AND**

have been ordinarily resident in the EEA or other countries determined within the EEA, including those with bilateral agreements such as Switzerland, for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning

- you must attend classes for a minimum of 85% of the guided learning hours
- you must undertake the exams
- you must fully complete an enrolment form
- you must complete an individual learning plan (ILP) on a regular basis

If you do not meet the eligibility criteria you can still attend the course on payment of the relevant fees.

## Enrolment and Payment

Please enrol at Comberton Village College for all courses, including those in Cambourne, Melbourn and online. **Please assume the class is running once payment has been received, unless you hear to the contrary.**

We would appreciate payment of fees over the telephone by debit card to avoid contact, however, if that is not possible then we will accept cheque or cash.

By Phone: 01223 264721

Email: [commed@combertonvc.org](mailto:commed@combertonvc.org)

Cheques: The Cam Academy Trust

Address: Adult Education, Comberton Village College  
Comberton, Cambridge, CB23 7DU

In person: Please bring payment to Reception

9.15am – 2.00pm Mon-Thurs

6.45pm – 9.15pm Weds, term time only

## Refunds

Refunds are only available if we close a class or you withdraw at least two weeks before the start. In the latter case there is a £5 administrative charge. Classes cancelled by us due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. tutor illness) will be replaced with an extra class at the end.

### **Concessionary Fees**

25% discount (excluding materials) is available for those in receipt of JSA/ESA, Universal Credit, Carers Allowance or a social care assessment (EHCP, PIP) evidence to be provided. It is also possible to pay by instalments, please ask for details.

### **Calendar** (Please check start date of specific courses)

Autumn Term Half term 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021

Spring Term Half term 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022

Summer Term Half term 30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

During the summer holiday period a member of staff will pick up messages each week and return calls and emails. We are closed in other school holidays.

### **Equalities statement**

We are fully committed to equality of opportunity and welcome enrolments from all adults aged 19+ (on 31 August 2021). We positively encourage all learners with any concerns about specific needs which might affect their learning to discuss their requirements with us in confidence. We believe that everyone is entitled to learn in an environment that is free from discriminatory behaviour so that we build a community based on mutual trust and respect. We will do our best to ensure that resources and equipment are accessible to all and make reasonable adjustments to ensure that all learners can access activities.

Cambridgeshire County Council, Adult Learning and Skills service supports a wide range of other adult learning opportunities across Cambridgeshire to support adults with the lowest level of qualifications or no qualification at all, and so typically find themselves in lower paid, less secure jobs or unemployed. Search our website [www.cambials.co.uk](http://www.cambials.co.uk) for details of all our funded courses.

### **Safeguarding Statement**

Arrangements have been made to make sure that you are safe at our Centres. If you feel you are not safe for any reason, for example through verbal or physical abuse or you have been discriminated against, please tell your tutor or the Centre Manager, who will investigate to ensure your safety.

### **How we use your data**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/esfa-privacy-notice>

