

The subject Essential English develops and refines students' understanding of language, literature and literacy to enable them to interact confidently and effectively with others in everyday, community and social contexts. The subject encourages students to recognise language and texts as relevant in their lives now and in the future and enables them to understand, accept or challenge the values and attitudes in these texts.

Students have opportunities to engage with language and texts through a range of teaching and learning experiences to foster:

- skills to communicate confidently and effectively in Standard Australian English in a variety of contemporary contexts and social situations, including everyday, social, community, further education and work-related contexts
- skills to choose generic structures, language, language features and technologies to best convey meaning
- skills to read for meaning and purpose, and to use, critique and appreciate a range of contemporary literary and non-literary texts
- effective use of language to produce texts for a variety of purposes and audiences
- creative and imaginative thinking to explore their own world and the worlds of others
- active and critical interaction with a range of texts, and an awareness of how language positions both them and others
- empathy for others and appreciation of different perspectives through a study of a range of texts from diverse cultures, including Australian texts by Aboriginal writers and/or Torres Strait Islander writers
- enjoyment of contemporary literary and non-literary texts, including digital texts.

Pathways

A course of study in Essential English promotes open-mindedness, imagination, critical awareness and intellectual flexibility — skills that prepare students for local and global citizenship, and for lifelong learning across a wide range of contexts.

Objectives

By the conclusion of the course of study, students will:

- use patterns and conventions of genres to suit particular purposes and audiences
- use appropriate roles and relationships with audiences
- construct and explain representations of identities, places, events and/or concepts
- make use of and explain opinions and/or ideas in texts, according to purpose
- explain how language features and text structures shape meaning and invite particular responses
- select and use subject matter to support perspectives
- sequence subject matter and use mode-appropriate cohesive devices to construct coherent texts
- make language choices according to register informed by purpose, audience and context
- use mode-appropriate language features to achieve particular purposes across modes.

Structure

| Unit 1 | Unit 2 | Unit 3 | Unit 4 |
|--|--|--|--|
| Language that works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to texts • Creating texts | Texts and human experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to texts • Creating texts | Language that influences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating and shaping perspectives on community, local and global issues in texts • Responding to texts that seek to influence audiences | Representations and popular culture texts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to popular culture texts • Creating representations of Australian identities, places, events and concepts |

Assessment

Schools devise assessments in Units 1 and 2 to suit their local context.

In Units 3 and 4 students complete *four* summative assessments. Schools develop three summative internal assessments and the common internal assessment (CIA) is developed by the QCAA.

Summative assessments

| Unit 3 | Unit 4 |
|---|--|
| Summative internal assessment 1 (IA1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoken response | Summative internal assessment 3 (IA3): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multimodal response |
| Summative internal assessment 2 (IA2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common internal assessment (CIA) | Summative internal assessment (IA4): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written response |

