

Contemporary English A

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Contemporary English A is designed to meet the literacy needs of students that are not met in other A courses. This course will assist with fundamental skills, particularly reading and writing, that will assist students in coping with college subjects and with post-school opportunities. This course has a focus on practical literacy application and everyday texts. Within the course, a pattern of study is used to develop language competency. All units have reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Contemporary English A is available by application only. Students who possess fundamental literacy skills should enrol in Essential English.

Course Patterns

Students follow a sequential pattern of units:

Minor: 2 units

Major: 3.5 or 4 units



Units

Units focus on students comprehending and responding to the ideas and information presented in texts drawn from a range of contexts. Students are taught a variety of strategies to assist comprehension.

They read, view and listen to texts to connect, interpret, and visualise ideas. They learn how to respond personally and logically to texts, by questioning and determining the importance of content and structure. The unit considers how organisational features of texts help the audience to understand the text. Students learn to interact with others in everyday and other contexts. Emphasis is placed on the communication of ideas and information both accurately and imaginatively through a range of modes. Students apply their understanding of language through the creation of texts for different purposes in real or imagined contexts.

Teachers construct practical activities and applications of literacy in this course, including excursions and hands-on experiences.

Each unit includes two elective topics.

Elective topics are selected with knowledge of the group and their capabilities, needs and interests. Not all electives are covered in any given year.

Topics include:

- ⇒ Multimodal Texts
- ⇒ Spiders in the Web
- ⇒ Reading, what's the point?
- ⇒ City Living
- ⇒ Australian Identity
- ⇒ Who is in control?
- ⇒ Film and Television
- ⇒ Crime Fiction

Goals

- This course seeks to develop students':
- ⇒ skills in listening, speaking, reading, viewing and writing
 - ⇒ capabilities to create texts for a range of purposes
 - ⇒ understanding and appreciation of different uses of language
 - ⇒ ability to communicate appropriately using Standard Australian English (SAE)
 - ⇒ ability to respond personally, critically and imaginatively to a range of texts drawn from Australian and other historical, contemporary and cultural contexts and traditions.



Note: Studying this course can meet the requirement that students must complete at least a minor course in the English course area in order to attain a Senior Secondary Certificate.