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Welcome to Pendleton College

Welcome to Pendleton College, an award-winning college where you can achieve your full potential. Our enthusiastic and dedicated team of staff will make sure you have the best college experience possible. We are here to guide, support and encourage you through your time at Pendleton and to make sure you have a challenging, rewarding and fun experience.

For an application form please visit our website (www.pendcoll.ac.uk), call Admissions on 0161 278 3325 or you will find one at the back of the main course guide.

English at Pendleton College

English is one of the most successful and popular subject areas at Pendleton. Large numbers of students have chosen English at A-Level over recent years, achieving superb results and gaining a huge amount of satisfaction and enjoyment from their studies.

A-Levels we offer:

- English Language
- English Literature
- English Language and Literature (combined course)

The English team are extremely proud of the results achieved over recent years. We believe any student who is prepared to work hard and bring enthusiasm to the subject can achieve a high grade and great personal fulfilment.

All three subjects now include some element of creative writing as part of the course. This means that all students should be able to develop their fictional writing and storytelling skills with expert help from our staff.

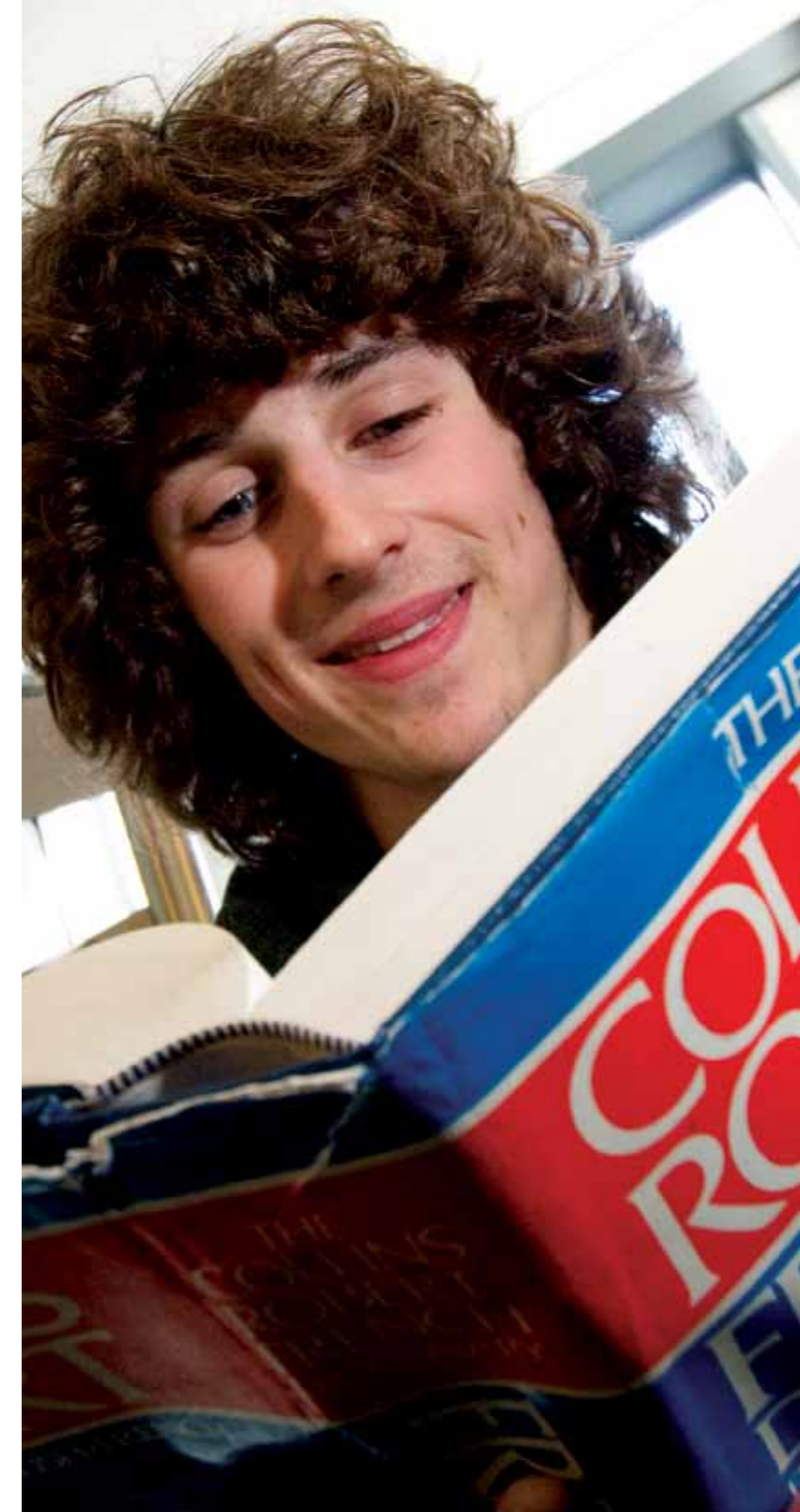
What our students have achieved

Our 2009 results are set out below:

- 100% pass rate for English Language
- 100% pass rate for English Literature
- 100% pass rate for English Combined

What Ofsted inspectors said

- 'The quality of teaching and learning is very good. Lessons are stimulating, varied, engaging and often entertaining.'
- 'Teaching is well planned and supported by a variety of high quality learning resources . . . all students are fully engaged in their work.'
- 'Teachers are experienced, well-qualified and committed to their students.'





Enriching your experience

English is one of the most active areas of the college in terms of trips, speaker visits and other activities. Students of all three A-Levels can expect to be offered a whole range of experiences beyond the classroom. Some of our most successful recent enrichments are listed below:

Rome Trip

International visit to Rome to visit Keats museum and explore writers' experiences of this great city.

Stratford Upon Avon – 'Measure for Measure'

Visit to the home of the Royal Shakespeare Company to see a major production of this rarely-performed classic.

Manchester University – Martin Amis on the poetry of Larkin

Visit to the university to hear novelist Martin Amis reveal some of his personal views and experiences of this major 20th century poetic figure.

Whitworth Art Gallery – Blake Study Day

A day of activities linked to the mysterious poetry and artwork of the writer of 'Jerusalem'.

Manchester Grammar School – Creative Writing Event

Hands-on writing workshop with poet and children's writer Cliff Yates.

London's Old Vic Theatre – 'Dancing at Lughnasa'

London visit to see modern Irish playwright Brian Friel's play about the changes and struggles faced by a family of sisters living in 1930s Ireland.

Manchester Literature Festival – 'Past Crimes' Discussion

Visit to hear three practising crime writers discuss their work and how they use historical sources to create their creepy worlds.

London's Globe Theatre

Visit to the fantastic recreation of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre for a workshop on 17th century play 'Dr Faustus' and backstage tour.

University of Bolton – Creative Writing Study Day

Full day session helping students to develop writing skills in fiction, poetry and scriptwriting.



Courses

English Language

This is our most popular subject and is suitable for students with a wide range of academic backgrounds and interests. English Language considers all types of spoken and written language and does not focus exclusively on literary texts. There are also significant opportunities for students to produce their own creative writing. It has a strong technical content and students will learn a lot about the grammar and other important structural features of language. Students will experience a huge variety of different materials during the course including:

- Newspapers and magazines
- Diaries and journals
- Advertising
- Internet sites and electronic communication
- Guide books and travel writing
- Scripts
- Reviews
- Letters

Analysis of spoken texts is also a central part of the course. This involves transcribing and analysing spontaneous spoken language taken from sources such as:

- Reality TV shows
- Soap operas and drama
- News programmes
- Interviews
- Radio shows and phone-ins
- Sports programmes

- Advertising
- Self-taped conversations

In the second year students will go on to study how the English Language has developed through its history and further specialise in areas of interest.

English Literature

On this course students will study great works written by both modern and historical authors. During the two years, the syllabus covers a broad spectrum of texts including poetry, drama and fiction. Students are strongly encouraged to develop their own ideas and viewpoints. In class we consider not just the text itself but also its historical, social, political and gender context.

Students can expect to cover the following types of literature during the course:

- 20th century poetry
- Modern drama (post-1990)
- 19th century fiction
- 20th century fiction
- Shakespeare and 17th century drama
- American literature
- Pre-20th century poetry

There is a creative reading module which requires students to produce a piece of fiction inspired or influenced by some reading.

Anyone considering a 'traditional' English course at university such as those offered by Oxford,

Cambridge, Manchester or any other Russell Group institution will need to take English Literature as an entry requirement.

English Language and Literature (Combined Course)

This is the most challenging of the three English subjects at Pendleton College but still has a strong track record of success. Students enrolling on this course will be expected to have achieved a grade B in GCSE English Language and in GCSE English Literature (if taken).

The combined course usually appeals to students with wide subject interests and who consider themselves strong at both literary and language study. Once again the range of material covered is wide and there is a very strong emphasis on creative writing by the students themselves.

Students can expect to cover:

- Non-fiction writing
- Poetry
- Creative writing (fiction)
- Creative writing (journalism)
- Creative writing (scripts)
- Shakespeare
- Modern drama
- Different approaches to studying literature

English and the Wider World

No matter which English subject you choose, you can be confident you will be gaining skills that will help you as you progress to university and beyond. English above all requires the ability to read and understand often difficult material. Students then must be able to express their ideas clearly in writing. These core skills of reading with understanding and communicating clearly are crucial no matter which university subject you choose to study or which career path you might follow. English is therefore a highly valued subject in higher education and in the workplace.

English is taken successfully with a wide variety of other subjects including social sciences, modern languages, science, drama and more. It is often welcomed by other subject tutors for the way it helps to develop students' writing.

Students completing an English A-Level at Pendleton often go on to some of the UK's top universities. English can then lead to some fascinating career choices. Popular options include:

- Journalism
- Creative writing
- TV and radio
- Advertising
- Publishing
- Law
- Other media (increasingly web-based)

Student Profiles



Grace Nugent

School: St Patrick's
Studying: A-Level English Language, Drama, Sociology
Trips: Theatre trips, London
Next Step: Study English language and creative writing at university
"I have enjoyed learning new aspects of English and applying these to my other lessons."



Shannon Oakley

School: Harrop Fold
Studying: A-Level English Language, Media, Drama
Enrichment: Pre-journalism course
Trips: Theatre performances, London
Next Step: De Montfort University to study English language and media
"Good facilities and social life. Inviting atmosphere."



Jessica Hamp

School: Walkden
Studying: A-Level English Literature, Graphics, Philosophy
Enrichment: Singing
Trips: London
Next Step: Manchester Metropolitan University
"I have enjoyed making new friends, meeting people from other schools and being able to take new subjects which weren't available at school."



Barney Khan

School: All Hallows
Studying: A-Level English Literature, Physics, Geography
Enrichment: Football team
Trips: Globe Theatre in London, Manchester Grammar School for poetry workshop, Oxford
Next Step: Glasgow University
"It has been a good experience. I have enjoyed the social aspects."



Phillip Beswick

School: Fred Longworth
Studying: A-Level Combined English Lang/Lit, Geography, Physical Education
Trips: University open days
Next Step: Study primary education at Manchester Metropolitan
"I have made new friends and had many opportunities."



Siobhan Smith

School: Swinton
Studying: A-Level English Lang/Lit, Law, Psychology
Next Step: Study law at Lancaster University
"I have enjoyed meeting new people and the friendly atmosphere."