

# English



## Course Description

In this subject, students engage in reading and viewing texts with a focus on personal connections with the story. They discuss and clarify the ideas and values presented by authors through their understanding of character, setting and plot, and through investigations of the point of view and/or the voice of the text. They develop and strengthen their reading and viewing skills, and consider the ways a text's vocabulary, text structures and language features can create meaning on several levels and in different ways.

## Course Structure

### *Unit 1*

In this Unit, students engage in reading and viewing texts with a focus on personal connections with the story. They discuss and clarify the ideas and values presented by authors through their evocations of character, setting and plot, and through investigations of the point of view and/or the voice of the text. They develop and strengthen inferential reading and viewing skills, and consider the ways a text's vocabulary, text structures and language features can create meaning on several levels and in different ways. Students engage with and develop an understanding of effective and cohesive writing. They apply, extend and challenge their understanding and use of imaginative, persuasive and informative text through a growing awareness of situated contexts, stated purposes and audience.

#### *Areas of Study*

1. Reading and exploring texts
2. Crafting texts

### *Unit 2*

In this unit students explore and analyse how the vocabulary, text structures, language features and ideas in a text construct meaning. They explore and analyse persuasive texts within the context of a contemporary issue, including the ways argument and language can be used to position an audience. They construct a point of view text for oral presentation.

#### *Areas of Study*

1. Reading and exploring texts
2. Exploring argument

### *Unit 3*

In this unit In this area of study, students apply reading and viewing strategies to critically engage with a text, considering its dynamics and complexities and reflecting on the motivations of its characters. They analyse the ways authors construct meaning through vocabulary, text structures, language features and conventions, and the presentation of ideas. They are provided with opportunities to understand and explore the historical context, and the social and cultural values of a text, and recognise how these elements influence the way a text is read or viewed, is understood by different audiences, and positions its readers in different ways. Additionally, students apply reading and viewing strategies to critically engage with a text, considering its dynamics and complexities and reflecting on the motivations of its characters. They analyse the ways authors construct meaning through vocabulary, text structures, language features and conventions, and the presentation of ideas. They are provided with opportunities to understand and explore the historical context, and the social and cultural values of a text, and recognise how these elements influence the way a text is read or viewed, is understood by different audiences, and positions its readers in different ways.

#### *Areas of Study*

1. Reading and responding to texts
2. Creating texts

## Unit 4

In this area of study, students further sharpen their skills of reading and viewing texts, developed in the corresponding area of study in Unit 3. Students consolidate their capacity to critically analyse texts and deepen their understanding of the ideas and values a text can convey. Additionally, students analyse the use of argument and language, and visuals in texts that debate a contemporary and significant national or international issue. The texts must have appeared in the media since 1 September of the previous year and teachers are advised to work with their students to select an issue of relevance to the cohort. Students read, view and/or listen to a variety of texts from the media, including print and digital, and audio and audio visual, and develop their understanding of the ways in which arguments and language complement one another to position an intended audience in relation to a selected issue.

### Areas of Study

1. Reading and responding to texts
2. Analysing argument

## Entry and Recommendations

VCE English is a compulsory subject for all students at St Marys' College. This ensures that the requirement of the VCE certificate of at least 3 English Units is met.

Students have the option of taking more than one English subject at VCE. For example, a student could choose to study both Literature and English at the same time.

## Assessment

### Satisfactory Completion

Demonstrated achievement of the set of outcomes specified for each unit. Demonstration of achievement of outcomes and satisfactory completion of a unit are determined by evidence gained through the assessment of a range of learning activities and tasks.

### Level of Achievement

#### Unit 1 and 2

- Personal response to a text
- Crafting texts
- Examination
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- Text response
- Analysis of argument and persuasive language response
- Point of view oral response
- Examination

#### Unit 3 and 4

- Unit 3 School-based Assessment (25%)
  - Text analysis
  - Written text in consideration of audience, purpose and content
  - Commentary on writing process
- Unit 4 School-based Assessment (25%)
  - Text analysis
  - Analytical response to argument
  - Analytical response to audiovisual material
  - Point of view oral presentation
- Examination (50%)