

German A Level

Overview

The new A Level in German is assessed at the end of Year 13 through three exams;

Unit 1 – The Oral exam. Students are expected to research a topic of their own choosing, rooted in a country or community where the target language is spoken. Students give a 2 minute presentation on this topic and the visiting examiner will ask follow-up questions for a further 9-10 minutes. Following this, students will have a conversation lasting 5-6 based on a randomly selected photo-card, which could be based on any topic studied during the course.

Unit 2 – Listening, Reading and Translating. Students will face a variety of listening and reading texts from authentic materials. The topics will be based on any of the topics covered during the two years of study. Students will also be expected to translate two texts (100 words each), one from German into English and the other from English into German.

Unit 3 – The writing exam. Students will be expected to write two 300 word essays. One on the book studied during the course and the other on the film studied during the course.

Will this course suit me?

The course is both interesting and academically demanding, however, it has the benefit of being a highly sought-after qualification and skill in the British business world. You will need to be willing to speak German without worrying about the mistakes you will inevitably make and form opinions on a wide range of issues. You will also need to be willing to invest the time required for learning vocabulary and practising the grammatical structures you have learned in the classroom. A willingness to participate in the exchange programme will be of enormous benefit to prospective students.

Opportunities

Studying German complements almost any degree and advanced language skills are beneficial in a large array of careers such as; Business, Accounting, Engineering, Journalism, Finance, Marketing, etc. Language graduates are amongst the most employable in the UK and, on average, earn more than graduates who only speak English. In a post-Brexit Britain, language qualifications/skills will be even more in-demand than they currently are.