

Summary of English subjects from 2016

The Board has accredited the following subjects for teaching at Stage 1 from 2016:

- English
- English as an Additional Language
- Essential English.

The Board has accredited the following subjects for teaching at Stage 2 from 2017:

- English
- English Literary Studies
- English as an Additional Language
- Essential English.

Subject descriptors

Schools may wish to use the following subject descriptors in their subject handbooks and counselling guides.

Stage 1 English

Stage 1 English has an emphasis on responding to texts, creating texts, and intertextual study. Students critically and creatively engage with a variety of types of texts including novels, film, media, poetry, and drama texts. Stage 1 English articulates with the Stage 2 English subjects.

Stage 2 English

Stage 2 English will be taught for the first time in 2017.

English is a 20-credit subject at Stage 2.

In English students analyse the interrelationship of author, text, and audience, with an emphasis on how language and stylistic features shape ideas and perspectives in a range of contexts. They consider social, cultural, economic, historical, and/or political perspectives in texts and their representation of human experience and the world.

Students explore how the purpose of a text is achieved through application of text conventions and stylistic choices to position the audience to respond to ideas and perspectives. They have opportunities to reflect on their personal values and those of other people by responding to aesthetic and cultural aspects of texts from the contemporary world, from the past, and from Australian and other cultures.

Students who complete this subject with a C– grade or better will meet the literacy requirement of the SACE.

Stage 2 English Literary Studies

Stage 2 English Literary Studies will be taught for the first time in 2017.

English Literary Studies is a 20-credit subject at Stage 2.

Stage 2 English Literary Studies focuses on the skills and strategies of critical thinking needed to interpret texts. Through shared and individual study of texts, students encounter different opinions about texts, have opportunities to exchange and develop ideas, find evidence to support a personal view, learn to construct logical and convincing arguments, and consider a range of critical interpretations of texts.

English Literary Studies focuses on ways in which literary texts represent culture and identity, and on the dynamic relationship between authors, texts, audiences, and contexts. Students develop an understanding of the power of language to represent ideas, events, and people in particular ways and of how texts challenge or support cultural perceptions.

Students who complete this subject with a C– grade or better will meet the literacy requirement of the SACE.



Stage 1 English as an Additional Language

Stage 1 English as an Additional Language is designed to improve students' general proficiency in the English language. There is an emphasis on communication, comprehension, analysis, and text creation. This subject leads to Stage 2 English as an Additional Language, which has a focus on developing students' academic literacy skills, and may also lead to other Stage 2 English subjects.

Stage 2 English as an Additional Language

Stage 2 English as an Additional Language will be taught for the first time in 2017.

English as an Additional Language is a 20-credit subject at Stage 2.

English as an Additional Language is designed for students for whom English is a second language or an additional language or dialect. These students have had different experiences in English and one or more other languages. Students who study this subject come from diverse personal, educational, and cultural backgrounds.

Students who complete this subject with a C- grade or better will meet the literacy requirement of the SACE.

Stage 1 Essential English

Stage 1 Essential English is designed for a range of students, including those who are seeking to meet the SACE literacy requirement, students planning to pursue a career in a range of trades or vocational pathways, and those intending to continue their study of English at Stage 2. There is an emphasis on communication, comprehension, analysis, and text creation. This subject leads to Stage 2 Essential English and may also lead to other Stage 2 English subjects.

Stage 2 Essential English

Stage 2 Essential English will be taught for the first time in 2017.

Essential English is a 20-credit subject at Stage 2.

In this subject students respond to and create texts in and for a range of personal, social, cultural, community, and/or workplace contexts. Students understand and interpret information, ideas, and perspectives in texts and consider ways in which language choices are used to create meaning.

Students who complete this subject with a C- grade or better will meet the literacy requirement of the SACE.

Comparison to current SACE subjects

With the redeveloped subjects, comparisons may be made to current cohorts.

The table below indicates the English option that may be most relevant to a similar cohort of students.

Current Stage 2 subject cohort	Stage 2 subject from 2017
English Communications	English
English as a Second Language Studies	English as an Additional Language
English as a Second Language	English as an Additional Language, or Essential English
English Pathways	Essential English
English Studies	English Literary Studies