CAMBRIDGE

Introducing Cambridge International AS & A Level Subject

English General Paper (AS Level Only) 8021[1]

Why Choose This Syllabus?

Cambridge International AS Level English General Paper develops a set of transferable skills, including comprehension, constructing an argument, presenting views, and writing English coherently and persuasively. Learners can apply these skills across a wide range of subjects, and these skills equip them well for progression to higher education or directly into employment. Our approach in Cambridge International AS Level English General Paper supports the development of learners who are:

- **confident**, explaining, analysing and evaluating multi-disciplinary issues and communicating arguments
- **responsible**, seeking a wide range of knowledge and opinions from varied sources, directing their own learning
- **reflective**, considering and reflecting upon a diverse range of ideas and incorporating these into their responses
- **innovative**, creating their own ideas and style as they explore topics and express ideas in writing
- **engaged**, developing informed opinions and engaging with the challenges of our dynamic world.

Syllabus Aims

Students following a course based on this syllabus will:

- develop understanding and build a confident working knowledge of English in the context of contemporary topics
- consider and explore a broad range of topics in local, national and international contexts
- develop a wider awareness of contemporary issues through reading sources from different perspectives
- develop skills of independent thinking and reasoning
- develop the skills of interpretation, analysis, evaluation and persuasion
- develop skills in writing structured arguments, presenting reasoned explanations and selecting appropriate information to provide evidence
- develop the ability to present a point of view clearly, and consider and reflect upon the views of others.

Content Overview

Learners will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of issues in these three broad topic areas:

1. Economic, historical, moral, political and social issues
2. Science, including its history, philosophy, ethics, general principles and applications; environmental issues; technology and mathematics
3. Literature, language, the arts, crafts, and the media.

Learners consider topics within local and international contexts. Learners should be able to draw upon knowledge and understanding gained from studying other subjects.

Through the study of these broad topic areas, learners develop effective reading and writing skills in English. They work with information, ideas and opinions. They analyse and evaluate opinions and ideas. They also learn how to build an argument.

Continued

1. This content is based on the 2028-2030 version of the Cambridge International AS Level English General Paper syllabus. For the latest updates and detailed information, please visit: https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-general-paper-as-level-only-8021/.

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Assessment Objectives

Assessment Objective	Weighting in AS Level %
Selection and application of information	29
Analysis and evaluation	33
Communication using written English	38
Total	100

Previous Study

We recommend that learners starting this course should have completed a broad range of subjects equivalent to Cambridge IGCSE.
These subjects should have included a course in English equivalent to IGCSE English as a Second Language or IGCSE First Language English.

Guided Learning Hours

180 guided learning hours. This is for guidance only. The number of hours a learner needs to achieve the qualification may vary according to each school and the learners' previous experience of the subject.

Exam Timetable

Students can take exams in the June and November exam series.

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