

Curriculum planning: Notes from Roger Lane

Below is an example of possible course planning, which you may find useful. There are other examples available and you will of course plan according to the needs of your students and school.

The course has been broken down initially into teaching and assessment components. These are often part-units. They have been re-labelled with a letter A - K to avoid ambiguity.

The three summaries of assessment have been laid out in full on the next pages. There follows an example of a course structure for a joint English Language/English Literature course, but with an English course in mind for those candidates for whom a switch would be expedient.

There is also an example of a course outline for a one-year post-16 English Language course.

Priorities

- Cross-over pieces to cater for 'doubtful' literature candidates.
- Controlled Assessments time-table along 'coursework' lines; exams as final assessments.
- Early coverage and/or entry for some, most, or all candidates.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE (planned with English Literature)

A	Unit 1	Non-fiction reading	20%	1hr exam	3 - 6 weeks
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Planning criteria: Close links with Unit 2? Part of final exam(s)? Benefits of maturation? To consider: Complete exams early.

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH UNIT 1

B	Unit 2	Information and ideas: writing	20%	1hr exam	3 - 6 weeks
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Planning criteria: Close links with Unit 2? Part of final exam(s)? Benefits of maturation?

To consider: Complete exams early.

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH UNIT 2

C	Unit 3 (part)	Extended literary text	15%	2hrs CA	6 - 8 weeks
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Planning criteria: To be completed adjacent to study of same text for lit CA/exam.

To consider: Complete textual studies early.

SOME CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH UNIT 3 (DIFFERENT CULTURES TEXTS ONLY)

D	Unit 3 (part)	Creative writing	15%	2hrs CA	3 - 4 weeks
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Planning criteria: Familiar territory for students or students need benefit of maturation.

To consider: Early completion.

SOME CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH UNIT 3 (IF 1ST AND 3RD PERSON WRITING BOTH COVERED)

E Unit 4 (part) Individual presentation 1/3 of 20% 2 - 3 weeks (or integrated)

Planning criteria: Link to written expression? Integrated? Assessments of individual contributions. To consider: Leave Speaking and Listening assessment until late in course?

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH UNIT 4

F Unit 4 (part) Group discussion 1/3 of 20% 2 - 3 weeks (or integrated)

Planning criteria: Link to understanding (reading/literature) skills? Assessments of pair/group work. To consider: Leave Speaking and Listening assessment until late in course?

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH UNIT 4

G Unit 4 (part) Role-play 1/3 of 20% 2 - 3 weeks (or integrated)

Planning criteria: Link to drama study and/or transactional writing? Assessments of role-plays.

To consider: Leave Speaking and Listening assessments until late in course?

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH UNIT 4

H Unit 4 (part) Studying spoken language 10% 2hrs CA 3 - 4 weeks

Planning criteria: Some benefit in leaving until Y11? Linked to Speaking and Listening? Part of final 40%?

To consider: Complete all Controlled Assessment in Y10 or complete as part of final 40% when left alongside Unit 3

ENGLISH LITERATURE (planned with English Language)

**I Unit 1 Different cultures prose 21% 2hrs exam 6 - 8 weeks*
Unseen contemporary 14% 3 - 6 weeks
poetry comparison**

*Planning criteria: Strong possibility of use as extended lit text in Eng Lang; *aggregate time could be reduced for different cultures prose; unseen poetry flexible.*

To consider: 35% total value - not likely to be used as final assessment.

SOME CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH UNIT 3 (DIFFERENT CULTURES TEXTS ONLY)

**J Unit 2a/b Heritage prose/drama 20% 2hrs exam 6 - 8 weeks
Contemporary prose/drama 20% 6 - 8 weeks**

Planning criteria: Favourite for end of course; two stand-alone text choices; could return to text used previously in extended literary text used for English Language.

To consider: The only single unit worth the full 40% for the end-game assessment; other routes would require two units to be assessed at end

K Unit 3 Linked Shakespeare/ heritage poetry 25% 4hrs CA 6 - 8 weeks

Planning criteria: Full half-term required; good way of committing students to the course early.

To consider: Could be done early and stored

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH UNIT 3

The joint English Language and English Literature course could possibly run for 11 half-terms and approximately 63 weeks.

ENGLISH (stand-alone, but with cross-overs in mind)

A Unit 1 Non-fiction reading 20% 1hr exam 3 - 6 weeks

Planning criteria: Close links with Unit 2? Part of final exam(s)? Benefits of maturation?

To consider: Complete exams early.

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE UNIT 1

B Unit 2 Information and ideas: writing 20% 1hr exam 3 - 6 weeks

Planning criteria: Close links with Unit 2? Part of final exam(s)? Benefits of maturation?

To consider: Complete exams early.

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE UNIT 2

C Unit 3 (part) Linked Shakespeare/ heritage poetry 10% 4hrs CA 6 - 8 weeks

Planning criteria: Full half-term required.

To consider: Could be done early and stored.

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH LITERATURE UNIT 3

D Unit 3 (part) Different cultures prose 10% 2hrs CA 6 - 8 weeks

Planning criteria: Full half-term required.

To consider: Complete textual studies early; store for final submission.

SOME CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH LITERATURE UNIT 1 (DIFFERENT CULTURES TEXTS ONLY)

E Unit 3 (part) Creative writing 15% 2hrs CA 3 - 4 weeks

Planning criteria: Familiar territory for students or students need benefit of maturation.

To consider: Early completion.

SOME CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE UNIT 3 (IF 1ST AND 3RD PERSON WRITING BOTH COVERED)

F	Unit 4 (part)	Individual presentation	1/3 of 20%	CA	2 - 3 weeks
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*Planning criteria: Link to written expression? Integrated? Assessments of individual contributions.
To consider: Leave Speaking and Listening assessment until late in course?*

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE UNIT 4

G	Unit 4 (part)	Group discussion	1/3 of 20%	CA	2 - 3 weeks
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*Planning criteria: Link to understanding (reading/literature) skills? Assessments of pair/group work.
To consider Leave Speaking and Listening assessment until late in course?*

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE UNIT 4

H	Unit 4 (part)	Role-play	1/3 of 20%	CA	2 - 3 weeks
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Planning criteria: Link to drama study and/or transactional writing? Assessments of role-plays.

To consider: Leave Speaking and Listening assessments until late in course?

CROSS-OVER TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE UNIT 4

The stand-alone English course covers between 27 and 40 weeks of work.

An example of initial planning for a joint English Language/English Literature course

Term 1 > Term 2

D Creative writing

Some misgivings about lack of maturation, but no real justification for agonizing. Get it done with a crisp teaching unit.

K Linked Shakespeare/poetry

Commit students to English Literature course. But also allows for cross-over to English.

F Group discussion (Non-functional)

An early assessment done in conjunction with linked assignment.

Term 2 > Term 3

C Extended literary text/different cultures prose

Definitely want to link this to Literature Unit 1 exam. And everything crosses-over to English so far!

I Lit exam I Different cultures prose/unseen poetry comparison

Summer Year 10; Literature assessment 35%, now 60% of course covered.

Term 3**H Studying spoken language**

A light term for new pieces because of diversions and catch-ups, but get this done cleanly.

Completed in Year 10:

English Language: D 15%; C 15%; F third part of 20%; H 10% (40%+)

English Literature: K 25%; I 35% (60%)

English: D 20%; K 10%; F third part of 20%; C 10% (40%+)

Term 4 > Term 5**A Non-fiction reading**

A strong teaching module preparing students for January or June.

B Information and Ideas: writing

Still worth linking it to above, despite free-standing units.

E Individual presentation (Functional)

Assessments can be woven in or done discretely.

G Role-play (Functional)

Assessments can be woven in or done discretely.

English Language and English requirements covered by Winter Term Y11.**Term 5 > Term 6****J Heritage/contemporary prose/drama**

Set texts study. Final 40%.

An example of a one-year English Language course**Term 1 > Term 2****D Creative writing**

Get to know the students.

C Extended literary text

Get the long text out of the way.

F Group discussion

Probably chance to link to the above.

Term 2 > Term 3

H Studying spoken language

Finish the Controlled Assessments.

E Individual presentation (Functional)

Possibly link to exam practice.

A Non-fiction reading

Exam practice now definitely in focus.

G Role-play (Functional)

Link to exam practice.

Term 3

B Information and Ideas: writing

End strongly with writing skills.