

The ULTIMATE IGCSE **ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE**

*** One Course ***
Two Exam Options

Cambridge English First Language
Or
Edexcel English Language Spec B



Welcome!



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your interest in your child studying **IGCSE English Language** with Tutor Led Learning.

This information pack contains all you need to know about the course, the exams, the package of support we offer and what makes Tutor Led Learning special.

If you are interested in other subjects at GCSE level, or Key Stage 3 (KS3), please head over to our [website](#) where you will find the latest information.

If you have any unanswered questions after looking through this pack please don't hesitate to get in touch.

With all best wishes,

Tutors Andy and Dave

Be different, together.



YOUR TUTOR...

TUTOR DAVE

I'm Tutor Dave, co-founder of Tutor Led Learning (TLL) and a passionate English educator. I have been working with HomeEd families since 2018 and have loved every minute. I studied a wide range of subjects at university including Creative Writing, Philosophy, History, Psychology and a master's degree in English Literature at the University of Manchester.



Tutor Dave BA, MA, PGCE, DDSL

Having this breadth of knowledge is invaluable in contextualising novels and looking deeper into the texts we study in order to give students a deep and critical understanding of language. The benefit? Students have the very best chance of success in their exam.

But learning is not only about knowledge. I also co-founded a mental health training company (delphis.org.uk) and place huge importance on the mental wellbeing of our students. I believe wellbeing is one of the most important factors for helping children succeed. After all, we learn best when we feel happy and well-supported.

My approach to education is best defined by the word 'flexibility'. Everyone learns differently, so a one-size-fits-all approach is definitely not for me! I love to be able to adapt and support students according to their needs, whether that be increasing the challenge and debating their ideas with them or offering motivation and encouragement for each small step along the way. Finding what works for each student is something I enjoy and there's no greater reward than seeing students who were feeling 'stuck' start to make progress.

I look forward to answering any queries you might have and helping your child to succeed in this course!

Qualifications

- BA in Humanities
- MA in Contemporary English Literature and Culture
- CELTA (teaching English as a second language)
- PGCE and QTS
- Enhanced DBS
- Mental Health First Aid trained
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Training
- Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Safeguarding In Education Training
- Prevent Training
- All statutory school training when employed there



AT A GLANCE...

IGCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



Course Title	The Ultimate IGCSE English Language Course
Exam Boards and Specifications covered	<u>Cambridge IGCSE English - First Language (0990/0500)</u> <u>Edexcel IGCSE English Spec B</u>
Course Length	Two years (approximately 11 terms of, usually, 6 weeks each = c66 live lessons)
Course Dates	From September to the week before the final exam the following year (usually early June)
Tutorials	Weekly live, interactive lessons on Zoom with cameras on
Homework	Set and marked weekly with personalised feedback
Additional Support	Mock exams with feedback, quizzes, wide range of texts studied, wide range of writing tasks focussed on real-life as well as the exam.
Group Size	Maximum of seven students
Exams (arranged by parents/carers)	Cambridge: 2 x 2 hour papers Or... Edexcel: 1 x 3 hour paper
Fees	£1,100 (comprising a £220 deposit* then £80 per term)
Financial Assistance	We work with a charity who may be able to provide some financial assistance to families facing hardship. Get in touch to find out more.





AT A GLANCE...

IGCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



One course - two exam options

START

Students all take the same 2-year course where we...

Learn IGCSE **reading** skills by analysing a wide and varied range of texts

Learn IGCSE **writing** skills by writing creatively and transactionally in varied ways

Extend **reading** and **writing** skills developing expertise and confidence in exams and real life

Prepare for the specific exam of your choice, knowing we have all the skills we need for either!

Take one of these exams!

Cambridge IGCSE English First Language

Edexcel IGCSE English Language Spec B



AT A GLANCE...

IGCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

This Ultimate English Language course covers the skills needed for two exams. **How?** Because both exams ask students to do the same things!

- 1: Read and analyse texts they haven't seen before
- 2: Write transactionally and creatively

There's no set texts for either exam, so we focus purely on the skills of English Language, which are the same in each exam.

Exam Features	Cambridge IGCSE English First Language	Edexcel IGCSE English Language Spec B
Specific set texts to learn	✗	✗
Unseen texts in exam	3	2
Reading analysis tasks	✓	✓
Combined reading AND writing tasks	✓	✓
Transactional writing tasks	✓	✓
Creative writing tasks	✓	✓
Exam papers	2	1
	2 hours each	3 hours



THE COURSE...

EXAM OPTIONS

Two exam specifications covered in one course

That's right! This course gives students all the skills they need to pass these exams:

1 Cambridge IGCSE English First Language (0990/0500)

OR

2 Edexcel IGCSE English Language Spec B (4EB1)

Because these exams don't have set texts, and the skills needed are the same in each, this course can support students to succeed in either exam!

As we get closer to the exam, each student is prepared for the specific exam they are taking with appropriate mock exams and feedback.

What the exams assess

Essentially, the exams assess reading and writing skills.

The exams give the students texts to read in the exam and students discuss how language has been used to create effects in those texts. The exams ask students to demonstrate both reading and writing skills by writing something that is based on the texts they have read. Students are also asked to write to demonstrate their creative writing skills.

Exam option 1: Cambridge (0990/0500)

This exam has **two papers (2 hours each)** that students need to complete...

Paper 1: Reading focussed, 2 hours, 3 unseen texts, mixture of short and long answer questions with a longer writing task based on one of the unseen texts.

Paper 2: Writing focussed, 2 hours, one directed writing task, one creative writing task.

Exam option 2: Edexcel (4EB1)

This exam has **one paper (3 hours)** that students need to complete...

Paper 1 is in three sections:

- Section A - analysis of two unseen texts
- Section B - students produce transactional writing based on the two unseen texts
- Section C - choice of creative writing tasks.



THE COURSE...

ULTIMATE IGCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

How we develop reading skills

In this course, we will explore a wide range of fiction and non-fiction. The texts in the exam could be about almost anything, so students need to be used to reading a variety of writing. We will discuss the meanings of texts, analyse the use of language and structure, and explore writers' intentions - all valuable skills in the exam (and in life!).

Students will learn important terminology, learn how to analyse texts (first with me guiding them, then independently), and how to write about language use in a clear and sophisticated manner.

We use many texts from past papers to help students get used to the level of writing that they will encounter in the exam as well as exploring extracts from interesting novels, biographies, travelogues and more. Prepare for a varied and exciting literary adventure, guided by an expert tutor who knows what the examiner is looking for!

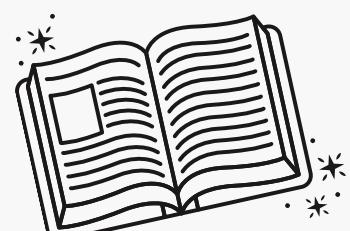
How we develop writing skills

Over the course we practice writing for a range of purposes such as writing speeches, letters, articles, travelogues, diaries to name just a few! We discuss how to structure writing effectively, the techniques we can use for various effects and the specific features of many forms of writing.

We also practise writing creatively by working on our skills of description, story-telling and imagination. We find ways to overcome writers' block and techniques to generate new ideas such as free writing! Whatever they are asked to write in the exam, students are given all the tools they need to construct a successful piece of writing.

How we prepare for either exam

As we enter the second year of the course, we start to complete more and more mock exams. These will be based on whichever exam the students have decided to take (I'll be happy to offer my professional opinion about which exam will be best for your child). Feedback will be based on the mark scheme for the specific exam they are taking and students will be familiar with the requirements of their exam. The best preparation, of course, is simply to have developed the strongest reading and writing skills we can with a tutor who knows the subject (and exam requirements) inside out!



THE COURSE...

ULTIMATE IGCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The tutorials

Tutorials are lively, engaging and interactive. We know our students and our students feel confident joining in and taking risks with their learning. Our bespoke lessons use a range of digital resources, making learning fun and interactive. Through the use of Google classroom we work together in online documents so students can receive live support on feedback - the most powerful way to make progress in English!

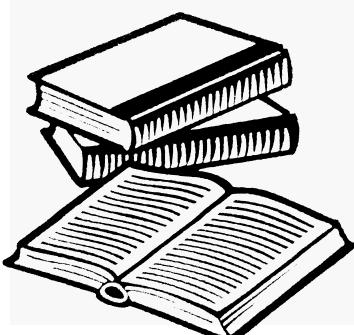
The homeworks

Our students start practicing GCSE level exam questions from the very first lesson. We take this approach because we know the importance of developing exam skills in order to maximise achievement. Homework is set weekly and individualised feedback is given. This dialogue means our students feel incredibly well supported and we are able to tailor our delivery on a weekly basis.

Prior learning requirements

Students taking IGCSE English Language should have completed most/all Key Stage 3 English. Many of our students complete Lower, Middle and Upper Key Stage 3 English Reading and Writing with us in our live, small group KS3 classes ([more details on our website](#)). You don't have to have learnt with us before; students who have studied English elsewhere are welcome too!

This course requires students to have self-motivation and self-management skills such that they are able to self-study, complete their homeworks by set deadlines and act on feedback given.



WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT..?



OUR APPROACH

Tutor Led Learning was founded in 2020 by two former classroom teachers who brought together their independent, face-to-face tutoring businesses when the Covid pandemic hit.

As well as our considerable teaching experiences in and out of the classroom, we also hold Psychology qualifications, have taught abroad (Spain and Japan), worked in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), worked in Mental Health Research for the NHS and run our own businesses (outside of tutoring).

These life experiences have led us to passionately believe that education is about more than simply achieving qualifications. Education is about personal development, enhancing wellbeing and opening up further opportunities for growth.

Three Core Principles

Our belief, that tutoring is about whole-person development, means we follow three core principles in our GCSE tutorials:

1

Small, friendly groups

Our small groups mean that we get to know our students and they get to know each other! Students feel safe in taking risks with their learning and enjoy each other's company with anecdotes and humour. We cap our GCSE group sizes at **just six students**.

2

Genuinely interactive

Nods, smiles, frowns etc. provide vital feedback so we can adjust the style and pace of our delivery. Having cameras on makes lessons significantly more enjoyable, sociable and helps young people develop those all important interpersonal skills.

Camera use is compulsory in all our GCSE classes as it also helps us to check engagement and attendance. We have many successful strategies for helping any anxious students feel at ease on camera.

3

Live Lessons - not recordings

Unusually **we do not provide lesson recordings**. We find recordings reduce attendance, hinder engagement, and take away from the unique experience of being together and interacting in real time.

We do share specially selected resources, via Google Classroom, to assist missed learning / revision and we're happy to give that little bit of extra help where we can. [Read more about our thoughts on recordings in our blog.](#)

TUTOR LED LEARNING...

OUR APPROACH



Contact

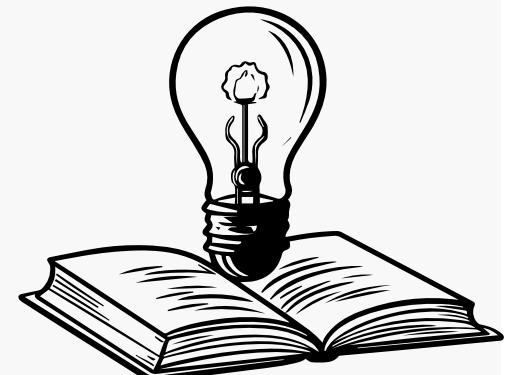
As part of our overall support package we are always available on the 'end-of-an-email' and usually able to respond quickly to any queries from parents/carers or students.

Learning Snapshots

We provide annual Learning Snapshots around the end of Term 3 each academic year. These Learning Snapshots include information on attendance, homework submission, engagement in tutorials and an indication of likely attainment.

Free Newsletter

All families joining our Learning Community receive a free weekly online newsletter with information about what has been going on, links to resources, priority sign-ups, discounts, news and questions for our younger learners to show off what they know.



TUTOR LED LEARNING...

JOIN US!



Like what you see so far? We know choosing a long-term tutor is a big decision for both parent/carer and student so we want to make the process as easy and reassuring as possible.

Our process is straightforward and easy to follow:

1 Get in touch - either [email](#) us directly or complete [this short form](#)

2 Check us out - have a chat, observe a lesson, view a sample Google classroom

3 Join us - pay the deposit* to reserve your place on the course



Some small print

- Please note that the non-refundable deposit* secures a place on the whole two-year GCSE course.
- Termly fees are reduced on a pro-rata basis and are payable in advance of each term via our website.
- A student's place on the course may be forfeited if a termly payment is not received prior to the start of each term.
- Prices are correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change. All places are offered in accordance with the terms and conditions available on our website.



TUTOR LED LEARNING...

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

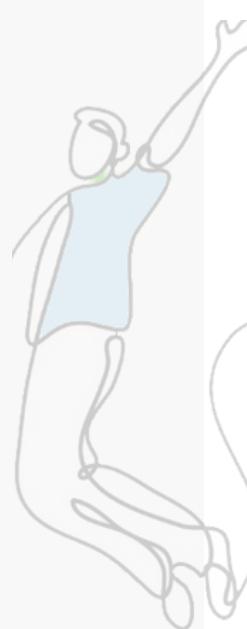


● When are your term dates?

We teach in 6-week blocks so that our students have ample time to decompress and explore other sides of life between terms. Whilst these 'terms' roughly follow the UK school term dates, they aren't exact as different parts of the country follow different dates. Our exact [term dates can be found on our website.](#)

● What if my child misses a lesson?

Attendance levels are usually very high for our tutorials but occasionally a lesson is missed. If it is missed then learning goals and selected resources are accessible via the Google classroom. We may also be able to assist further by recapping key points from the missed lesson, before, during or after the next lesson.



● Who arranges the exams?

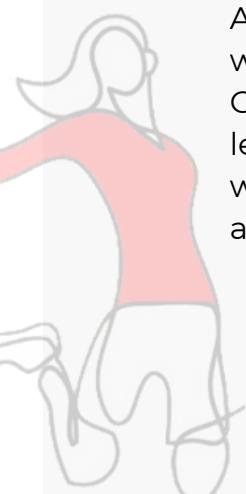
Exam entry is the responsibility of the parent/carer. You are advised to make early enquiries with local exam centres, particularly if your child has specific access requirements. We are partners with Tutors & Exams meaning you can receive a discount off their services with our discount code (available on request).

● What textbooks does my child need?

Our [bookshop](#) has titles which will be useful for your child's independent study. If you'd like any further suggestions, or to run a title past us, please just get in touch.

● How much self-directed study should my child be doing?

All our students are individuals with different strengths and weaknesses across the knowledge and skills needed for success at GCSE level. A GCSE is supposed to be around 110-120 hours of guided learning plus self-study. We'd generally advise allocating 1-2 hours a week of self-study at the start of the course, ramping up to 2-3 hours a week or more nearer the exams.



TUTOR LED LEARNING...

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



● **Are you good value?**

Tutor Led Learning is not trying to be the cheapest option for tuition. We believe our rates are fair given our experience, professionalism and level of service which means we provide excellent value.

If you are looking at other providers please consider whether the tutors are teaching subjects they are specialists in (ie have a BSc or BA in them), whether they have a recognised teaching qualification (eg a PGCE) and their experience of teaching given exam specifications / associated exam papers.

You may also wish to consider group size, camera use, how group rapport is established and the frequency of marked homework.

● **How do you assess my child's progress?**

Due to our small groups a lot of our assessment is formative (ie takes place during lessons) but we do also gather useful information from regular homeworks, tests, revision sessions and mock exams. We're always happy to give an idea of progress if asked so please just get in touch if you'd like some feedback.

● **Can I sign siblings or friends' children up to your KS3 courses?**

We would be delighted to welcome more students to our KS3 groups (subject to availability). Please just get in touch.

● **Do you have any reviews I can read?**

Yes! Our wonderful parents/carers and students have written us lots of wonderful reviews which you can read on Google, Facebook or on [our website](#).

● **Is there any 'small print' I need to know about?**

There are standard Ts and Cs on the website which cover all our tuition. There is also a privacy notice about how we handle data.

Details correct at time of publication (Feb 2026) but subject to change without notice.