



English (Foundation to Year 10)

The Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English is designed to develop students' skills to listen to, read, view, speak, write and create an increasingly sophisticated range of texts. It aims to create confident communicators who appreciate and use the English language creatively and critically in a range of contexts and for a range of purposes.

How is the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English structured?

The Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English is organised in three interrelated strands:

- Language – which focuses on knowledge of the English language and how it works
- Literature – which focuses on understanding, appreciating, responding to, analysing and creating literature
- Literacy – which focuses on interpreting and creating a range of types of texts with accuracy, fluency and purpose.

Content descriptions in each strand are grouped into sub-strands that, across the year levels, present a sequence of development of knowledge, skills and understandings. The sub-strands are:

<i>Language</i>	<i>Literature</i>	<i>Literacy</i>
<i>Language variation and change</i>	<i>Literature and context</i>	<i>Texts in context</i>
<i>Language for interaction</i>	<i>Responding to literature</i>	<i>Interacting with others</i>
<i>Text structure and organisation</i>	<i>Examining literature</i>	<i>Interpreting, analysing and evaluating</i>
<i>Expressing and developing ideas</i>	<i>Creating literature</i>	<i>Creating texts</i>
<i>Sound and letter knowledge (F-2)</i>		

The general capabilities and cross curriculum priorities are explicitly included in the content descriptions and elaborations across the strands, as appropriate to the learning area.

How are the language modes represented in the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English?

Each strand focuses on developing, expanding and consolidating students' skills in listening to, reading and viewing increasingly complex and sophisticated texts, and speaking, writing and creating their own. Content descriptions address the processes of listening, speaking, reading, viewing and writing in an integrated and interdependent way.

How does the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English relate to the literacy general capability?

The Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English provides a solid basis for strengthening literacy. Literacy involves the ability to listen, read and view, write, speak and create print, visual and digital materials accurately and confidently to become effective individuals, workers and citizens.

While literacy knowledge and skills are primarily built and consolidated through the English learning area, they are reinforced and strengthened through all learning areas.

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The Literacy general capability is drawn from knowledge, skills and understandings of both the Language and Literacy strands of the English curriculum. It also identifies language and literacy demands of learning areas that the English curriculum does not specifically address. These demands include for example, the language structures of mathematics questions, the particular requirements of writing a report of an investigation in science, or the specialist vocabulary of history.

What international references have been drawn upon in developing the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English?

Development of the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English has drawn on high quality national and international curricula and research.

Development of the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English has been informed by key international curriculum documents of top performing countries in the 2009 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) study in reading literacy, including Finland, Hong Kong, Canada (Ontario and British Columbia), New Zealand and Singapore. Other English curriculum documents referred to include those from England, California and Ireland.

The Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English is consistent with expectations described in these curricula. It is similar in stating explicit skills for early reading and writing.

The Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum: English reflects some of the latest research and theory in the field about the teaching of grammar. Many national and international curriculum documents do not treat grammar in any detail, focusing more generally on the need for grammatical accuracy.

Many international curricula are written around the modes of speaking and listening, reading and writing.

For more information, please go to:

www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/English/Rationale.