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Assessment Methodology

A 1000–1500 word assignment.

Students are expected to show evidence of planning and structure, demonstrate an awareness of language analysis methods and acknowledge sources used (using Harvard in-text referencing).

Indicative Content

Please note that the indicative content supplied below is intended as a suggested guide only. It is not meant to be a prescriptive, exhaustive or fully delivered content list.

1. Understand the key linguistic features of a range of texts

1.1 Describe the key linguistic features of a range of texts

Learners should be able to talk about language features in more than one text. This does not need to be a direct ‘compare and contrast’; it could, for example, be a discussion of two or three different treatments of the same idea within different types of text.

The range of texts studied should be primarily, though not exclusively, non-literary – for example, factual and opinion articles, reviews, adverts, persuasive and information texts, speeches, songs, interviews, etc.

The relationship between types of text and how they are presented and constructed (idea of audience and purpose)

Nature of a linguistic framework and its usefulness. Ways of using a linguistic framework in relation to a text (e.g. top-down or bottom-up)

Discourse – features of a particular text types including visual appearance/layout

Pragmatics – including the idea that the speaker/writer of the text has about the audience and how this is shown in language choices

Grammar – any grammatical features which are relevant to the texts including different types of sentence, use of pronouns, deletions, repeated grammatical structures, etc.
Lexis and semantics – any features of the way words and meaning are used (connotations/denotation), features such as metaphor, neologisms, borrowings and idioms

Phonetics, phonology and prosodics – any sound features used, for example the sounds of real speech recreated or suggested and the patterns of sound symbolism (rhyme, alliteration, onomatopoeia)

1.2 **Analyse the effects of key linguistic features within texts**

Apply a linguistic framework, identifying linguistic features and discussing their impact in the text using direct reference to and quotation from the text

Question and examine the text in relation to its effectiveness in terms of audience and purpose; how successfully do the linguistic features used create a particular impact?

2    **Understand a range of linguistic terms and concepts**

2.1 **Apply relevant linguistic terms and concepts when discussing and analysing texts**

Key terms and concepts from a linguistic framework as above and as appropriate to specific texts chosen (e.g. jargon and technical language, colloquialisms)

3    **Respond independently to textual material**

3.1 **Engage with the language of text (s) which have been chosen from a range of textual material**

Organise and present an analysis of the texts, questioning the linguistic choices made in the texts

Use close analysis and detailed relevant quotations from the texts as well as the specialist language covered in the unit

3.2 **Discuss the construction of texts with reference to purpose and context**

Distinguishing features of different types of text for different purposes

How language relates to and indicates purpose (for example semantic field, specialist vocabulary, jargon)

How the form, format and style of the text relate to and support purpose

Discussion of relevance of context and, for example, whether changing context changes meaning

3.3 ** Undertake a linguistic analysis of texts**

Produce an analysis which makes use of evidence from the texts in support of the argument made

Organise the analysis in the form of an essay in response to the title/task set