

English

at secondary school



English at secondary school covers 5 key areas:

- **Reading** - yay, more books!
- **Writing** - yay, more letters, stories and articles!
- **Speaking and listening** - yay, lot's more discussions about our learning and our ideas!
- **Literature** - wait, isn't that the same as reading?
- **Media** - ooh, that sounds exciting!

Literature and **reading** are *very* similar. Both of them focus on **the written word** - novels, short stories, poetry. Reading as a topic will also include the study of non-fiction, including newspapers, leaflets, books about real events, historical texts, transcripts of spoken language, and many more. Literature focuses purely on fiction. Also, when studying literature, you will study an *entire* text and learn all about the author and the time they were writing. In reading, you may only study small parts of a text.

So what about media? Media also crosses over with some of the other topics within English. Media includes film, TV, adverts, magazines, newspapers, and lots of other things. You might study a film adaptation of a novel, for example. Or you might explore the way children, or women, or the elderly are presented in advertising.

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Also: there is still a focus on **SPAG**, so your teachers will expect you to apply all of the things you've learned in primary school!

One of the ***most important*** things to know about English at secondary school, is that your teachers understand ***just how much knowledge you have***, and they want you to ***continue using all of the skills*** you have. Your secondary teachers might not always directly ask you to use all of these skills, but that is because ***they know that you have been taught them so very well in primary school***, that they will focus on teaching you ***new content and ideas***, rather than going back over the things you have already mastered!

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Why Latin?

The English language is notoriously difficult to learn; one of the main reasons for this is because so many different languages have fed into the language we use today. This means that it is more difficult to predict the spelling, pronunciation, and meaning of words, because they could come from lots of different places.

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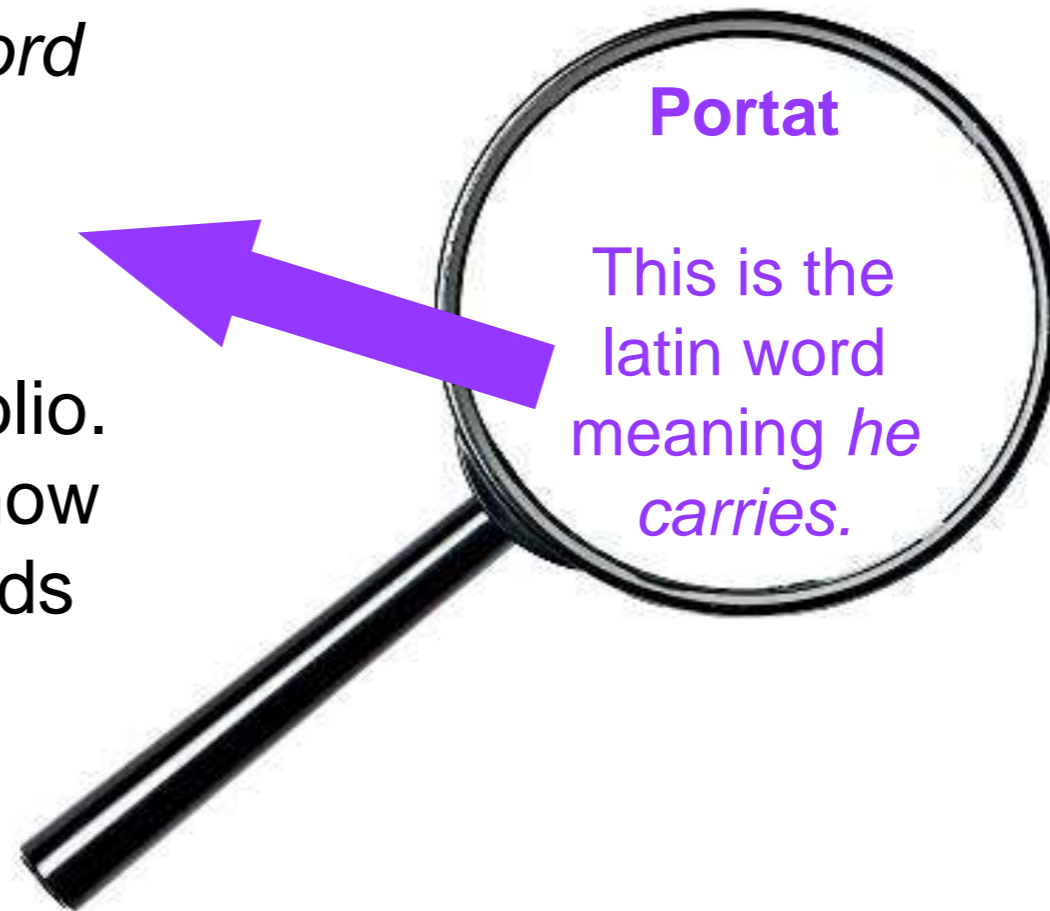
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Why Latin?

This is the *root word* of others such as: portable, porter, import, export, deportation, portfolio. Can you explain how each of these words links to *carrying*?

Portat

This is the latin word meaning *he carries*.



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Why Latin?

Your turn!



List all of the words you can think of that might *derive* (or come from) the following words:

- **spectate**
- **urbs**
- **scribit**
- **prima**
- **vita**
- **schola**
- **flamma**

So, what do you think each of these words means?

Ready for a challenge?

Let's look at some English words.

Can you work out what these words mean?

What might their *root words* be?

If you get stuck, think about other words that are similar.

- **procrastination**
- **exonerate**
- **luminosity**