

Module code: MOD009582	Version: 2 Date Amended: 13/Jun/2024
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1. Module Title
How Texts Work

2a. Module Leader
Vahid Parvaresh

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
4

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

No matter how we communicate – whether in spoken and daily interactions or in literary works – we always use language. Without understanding of how language actually works, we would not be able to engage in proper production or understanding of it. This is what this module is all about. Being focused primarily on the English language you will become familiar with, first and foremost, the building blocks of language including its smallest units of sound and meaning. Along the way, we will explore how such small units of meaning can be used to create longer stretches of meaningful texts, including non-literal uses of language such as metaphors. You will also reflect on different kinds of voice and meaning which such devices give rise to. In this module you will gain the terminology which helps you to begin to explore the various aspects of the samples of language you are likely to encounter.

6b. Outline Content

The module may discuss the following topics and concepts:

- What are the sounds of the English language
- How is rhythm created
- How do we create words
- What is grammar
- How can we put the words together
- What is the difference between saying and meaning
- Literal vs. non-literal uses of language
- Text-type and genre
- Close reading of texts (i.e. reading for meaning)
- Word meaning vs. discourse meaning

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate basic awareness of the sound and rhythm of English.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate basic awareness of the smallest units of meaning in English.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate basic awareness of how literal and non-literal language is used in context.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply your understanding of key terminology in the analysis of samples of language use.
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Work independently to gather information.
6	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Write well-constructed paragraphs.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	24	1-6	1 hour lecture per week
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-6	1 hour seminar per week
Student managed learning	252	1-6	Reading, seminar preparation and research, planning and writing of assignments
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-6	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Portfolio of coursework comprising various language analysis tasks, equivalent to 5000 words					

Assessment components for Element 010				
Component No.	Assessment Title	Submission Method	Weighting (%)	Components needed for Mark Calculation?
010/1	Portfolio part A	Canvas	50 (%)	All
010/2	Portfolio part B	Canvas	50 (%)	

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*). In addition, students are required to: (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above (b) pass any pass/fail elements [* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]
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