

# VCE English Language Study Design (2024-2028) implementation

Planning for electives  
Unit 2, Outcome 1

# Acknowledgement of Country

The VCAA respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays respect to the ongoing living cultures of First Peoples.



# Overview

- The inclusion of electives
- Incursions
- Inventions
- Choosing an elective
- Content and resources

# The inclusion of electives

- Electives allow greater;
  - Choice
  - Depth
  - Accessibility
  - Engagement
  - Focus
- Two options;
  - ***Incursions*** – Events which entered the English speaking world and influenced language change and development
  - ***Inventions*** – Human creations which influenced language change and development

# Choosing an elective

- Things to consider;
  - Interest of students
  - Expertise of teacher
  - Availability of and access to resources
  - Learning needs of cohort

# Incursions

- Socio-political lens
  - Change in subsystems explored through the lens of socio-political influences on change
- Consider
  - Nature of the incursion and motivation for linguistic change
  - Social hierarchy of the incursion (which social group was most influenced?)
  - Semantic fields of linguistic inheritance (what semantic field was most influenced?)
  - Specific examples of language change within subsystems

# Incursions

- Fixed in time
  - Vikings
    - 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Centuries
  - Norman Conquest
    - 1066 and beyond
- Flexible timings and focus
  - Religion
    - Christianity and Latin
    - Protestantism and King James Bible
  - Plagues
    - Black Death
    - COVID-19

# Content and resources

- Possible topics for exploration;
  - The influence of Norse and French on the rise of fixed word order and reduction in inflections
  - A comparison of the semantic fields influenced by Norse and French incursions
  - The impact of diverse incursions on the English spelling system
  - Increasing linguistic equality and democratisation influenced by the English translations of the Bible
  - Linguistic innovation and experimentation from plagues through time
- A range of web resources may be useful;
  - ‘Readings in Early English’ from the University of Glasgow
  - VCAA Support Materials pages for English Language



# Inventions

- Technological lens
  - Change in subsystems explored through the lens of technological change over time
- Consider
  - Nature of the invention and motivation for linguistic change
  - Role in increasing, or decreasing, standardisation
  - Specific examples of language change within subsystems

# Inventions

- Standardisation and codification;
  - Gutenberg and the printing press
  - Dictionaries
- Linguistic innovation and flair
  - Typewriters/keyboards
  - The internet

# Content and resources

- Possible topics for exploration;
  - Changes to the spelling system resulting from the printing press
  - Impact of Johnson’s dictionary, and subsequent English dictionaries globally
  - Role of word processing technology (typewriters and keyboards) on linguistic innovation
  - Contributions of the internet to linguistic innovation and change over time
- A range of web resources may be useful;
  - VCAA Support Materials pages for English Language

# Contact

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