



## Academic Interviews for English

All candidates applying for English are required to send in written work as part of their application. Please check the Applicants' website under "Written Work" for further details.

All candidates applying for English will be asked to sit a Pre-Interview Assessment.

The Pre-Interview Assessments are organised by the Admissions Testing Service and are taken at an authorised centre. It is very likely that your local authorised centre will be your school/college – speak to your teacher/exams officer to find out if you'll be able to take your Assessment at your school/college. The Pre-Interview Assessments will be taken on 2 November 2017.

Please note that your centre needs to register you by **15 October 2017**, separately from your UCAS application. Late registrations will not be accepted, so please ask your centre to register you well before the registration deadline.

If you are invited for interview, one of your interviews will be based on a short text that you will be given just before the interview itself. This text will probably be complex and perhaps opaque – it will usually not be the kind of thing you are used to reading at school, and it will require hard work and flexibility to think your way through it. Please do not be alarmed at this! Every applicant will find the text difficult, and there are no wrong answers; we simply want to see the way your mind works when confronted with something that does not immediately yield itself up to ways of reading and thinking that you have encountered and practiced previously.

You should arrive at interview willing to work hard, persevere, and keep rethinking your conclusions. The best preparation you can do is to read widely outside your A-Level course, think hard about everything you read, and think even harder about how to communicate what you think – if you would like to practice, pick a random poem from an anthology or online, and find a friend or family member or pet who will listen while you try to explain what you think is interesting about it.

We will also want to hear more about your other reading and questions may arise from the written work you have submitted, from your A-Level course texts, and from the wider reading you have mentioned on your personal statement.

Applicants will also sit a written exercise in College on the day of their interview, which offers you another chance to demonstrate your perceptive reading, critical thinking, and ability to communicate both. You will also be given the opportunity to ask questions and to highlight aspects of your application that you think are important and relevant. We try to conduct the whole process in a friendly and informal manner; please try not to feel daunted!