VCE English Language  
Units 1–4: 2024-2028  
Resources

Some of the print resources contained in this list may be out of print. They have been included because they may still be available from libraries, bookshops and private collections.

At the time of publication the URLs (website addresses) cited were checked for accuracy and appropriateness of content. However, due to the transient nature of material placed on the web, their continuing accuracy cannot be verified. Teachers are strongly advised to prepare their own indexes of sites that are suitable and applicable to the courses they teach, and to check these addresses prior to allowing student access.

Textbooks

Units 1 and 2

Burridge, K, de Laps, D & Burke, I 2023, *Love the Lingo VCE English Language Units 1 & 2*, 4th edn, <https://lingosbooks.com.au/index.html>

Dennis, S, Gleeson, N, Francis, L & Stewart A 2024, *English Language Year 11*, Insight Publications, <https://www.insightpublications.com.au/product/english-language-year-11-units-3-4-2024-sd/>

McCurry J & Hacking N 2023, *VCE English Language Units 1&2*, BooBook Education, <https://www.boobookeducation.com.au/bbe-books-landing-page>

Units 3 and 4

Burridge, K, de Laps, D & Burke, I 2023, *Living Lingo VCE English Language Units 3 & 4*, 4th edn, <https://lingosbooks.com.au/index.html>

Dennis, S, Gleeson, N, Francis, L & Stewart A 2024, *English Language Year 12*, Insight Publications, <https://www.insightpublications.com.au/product/english-language-year-12-units-3-4-2024-sd/>

Hacking N & McCurry J 2023, *VCE English Language Units 3&4*, BooBook Education, <https://www.boobookeducation.com.au/bbe-books-landing-page>

Grammar resources

Print

Crystal, D 2004, *Making Sense of Grammar*, Pearson Education.

Crystal, D 2004, *Rediscover Grammar*, 3rd edn, Pearson Education.

Derewianka, B 2011, *A New Grammar Companion for Teachers*, 3rd edn, PETAA, <https://petaa.edu.au/w/w/Store/Item_Detail.aspx?iProductCode=PET130&Category=BOOK>

Humphrey, S, Droga, L & Feez, S 2012, *Grammar and Meaning*, PETAA, <https://petaa.edu.au/w/w/Store/Item_Detail.aspx?iProductCode=PET098E&Category=DIGITAL>

Fogarty, M 2008, *Grammar Girl’s Quick and Dirty Tips for Better Writing*, Henry Holt and Co.

Freeborn, D 1995, *A Course Book in English Grammar*, Palgrave Macmillan.

Gardiner, A 2008, *English Language AS & A2*, Pearson Education.

Halliday, MAK, Christian, MIM & Mathiessen, C 2014, *Halliday’s Introduction to Functional Grammar*, 4th edn, Routledge.

Huddleston, R, Pullum, G & Reynolds, B 2021, *A Student’s Introduction to English Grammar*, 2nd edn, Cambridge University Press.

Humphrey, S, Love, K & Droga, L 2011, *Working Grammar: An Introduction for Secondary English Teachers*, Pearson Education.

Kuiper, K & Allen, WS 2003, *An Introduction to the English Language: Sound, Word and Sentence*, 2nd edn, Palgrave Macmillan.

Ramsay, M 2018, *The Complete Guide to English Usage for Australian Students*, 6th edn, Cengage Learning.

Thorne, S 2008, *Mastering Advanced English*, 2nd edn, Macmillan Publishing.

Thornbury, S 2017, *About Language: Tasks for Teachers of English*, 2nd edn, Cambridge University Press.

Electronic

EF Education First, English resources:  
[www.ef.com/wwen/english-resources/](http://www.ef.com/wwen/english-resources/)

Quick word class quizzes:  
[www.funbrain.com/grammar/](http://www.funbrain.com/grammar/)

ABC Education, resources:  
<http://splash.abc.net.au/home>

The Internet Grammar of English:  
[www.ucl.ac.uk/internet-grammar/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/internet-grammar/)

Units 1 and 2 resources

Print

Barber, C 1993, *The English Language: A Historical Introduction*, Cambridge University Press.

Butler, Susan 2014, *The Aitch Factor*, Macmillan Australia.

Carney, E 2014, *A Survey of English Spelling*, Routledge.

Carroll, L 1865, *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*.

Clyne, M (ed.) 1992, *Pluricentric Languages: Differing Norms in Different Nations*, Mouton de Gruyter.

Crystal, D 2003, *English as a Global Language*, 2nd edn, Cambridge University Press.

Crystal, D 2000, *Language Death*, Cambridge University Press.

Crystal, D 2006, *Language and the Internet*, 2nd edn, Cambridge University Press.

Crystal, D 2008, *Txtng. The Gr8 Db8*, Oxford University Press.

Freeborn, D 1998, *From Old English to Standard English*, 2nd edn, Macmillan.

Gwynne, P 1998, *Deadly Unna*, Penguin.

Hoban, R 1980, *Riddley Walker*, Picador.

Langstrof, C 2006, ‘Acoustic Evidence for a Push-Chain Shift in the Intermediate Period of New Zealand English’, in *Language Variation and Change*, vol.18, no.2, pp.141–164.

Langstrof, C 2009, ‘On the role of vowel duration in the New Zealand English front vowel shift’, in *Language Variation and Change*, vol.21, no.3, pp.437–453.

Lightbown, P & Spada, N 2021, *How Languages are Learned*, 5th edn, Oxford University Press.

Maclagan, M & Hay, J 2007, ‘Getting *fed* up with our *feet*: Contrast maintenance and the New Zealand English ‘short’ front vowel shift’, in *Language Variation and Change*, vol.19, no.1, pp.1–25.

McConvell, P 2008, 'Mixed Languages as Outcomes of Code-Switching: Recent Examples from Australia and their Implications', [*https://openresearch-repository.anu.edu.au/bitstream/1885/50173/2/01\_McConvell\_Mixed\_Languages\_as\_Outcomes\_of\_2008.pdf*](https://openresearch-repository.anu.edu.au/bitstream/1885/50173/2/01_McConvell_Mixed_Languages_as_Outcomes_of_2008.pdf)

McCrum, R, MacNeil, R & Cran W 2002, *The Story of English*, 3rd rev. edn, Penguin.

McDonald, M & Pryor, B 2002, *Njunjul the Sun*, Allen & Unwin.

Mitchell, AG & Delbridge, A 1965, *The Pronunciation of English in Australia*, rev. edn, Angus & Robertson.

Moore, B 2008, *Speaking our Language: The Story of Australian English*, Oxford University Press.

Romaine, S (ed.) 1991, *Language in Australia*, Cambridge University Press.

Trask, RL 1994, *Language Change*, Routledge.

Electronic

‘Awaye’, Aboriginal arts, language culture across Australia including ‘Word Up’:  
[www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/awaye](http://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/awaye)

Resources for Auslan:  
[www.auslan.org.au/](http://www.auslan.org.au/)

Australian English and the IPA

<https://australianlinguistics.com/speech-sounds/vowels-au-english/>

Aboriginal Languages of Australia, The Internet Library for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages:  
[www.dnathan.com/VL/austLang.htm](http://www.dnathan.com/VL/austLang.htm)

Australian National Dictionary Centre:   
[www.anu.edu.au/ANDC/pubs/ozwords/index.php](http://www.anu.edu.au/ANDC/pubs/ozwords/index.php)

Basic Middle English Words Lists with Meanings:

[www.yourdictionary.com/articles/middle-english-words-meanings](http://www.yourdictionary.com/articles/middle-english-words-meanings)

Information about the ‘feral child’ or ‘wild child’:  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feral_children>

David Crystal on ‘It’s Only a Theory’ defending the proposition that texting is good for the English Language:   
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=h79V\_qUp91M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h79V_qUp91M)

David Crystal and Lynne Truss expressing different attitudes towards the ‘use and abuse’ of English:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_8qOC6PJGvA&feature=fvsr](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_8qOC6PJGvA&feature=fvsr)

Etymology online website:  
[www.etymonline.com](http://www.etymonline.com)

The future of English as a global lingua franca (Big Ideas):

[www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/bigideas/the-future-of-english-as-a-global-lingua-franca/10405054](http://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/bigideas/the-future-of-english-as-a-global-lingua-franca/10405054)

The Linguists

[https://www.pbs.org/thelinguists/](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pbs.org%2Fthelinguists%2F&data=05%7C01%7CAnnelise.Balsamo%40education.vic.gov.au%7Cbe18b8a848084a923e6f08dbe5c63742%7Cd96cb3371a8744cfb69b3cec334a4c1f%7C0%7C0%7C638356411763274973%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=iaVpcL%2BgHg%2Bk%2BoGRlP5%2BwMLUNil2UYJqsoCP8uexRDo%3D&reserved=0)

Meanings and origins of Australian words and idioms

<https://slll.cass.anu.edu.au/centres/andc/meanings-origins/all>

Online Macquarie Dictionary:  
[www.macquariedictionary.com.au/](http://www.macquariedictionary.com.au/)

Online Oxford English Dictionary:  
[www.oed.com/](http://www.oed.com/)

The Urban Dictionary:  
[www.urbandictionary.com/](http://www.urbandictionary.com/)

TED talk by John McWhorter on the effect of texting on the English language:  
[www.ted.com/talks/john\_mcwhorter\_txtng\_is\_killing\_language\_jk?language=en](http://www.ted.com/talks/john_mcwhorter_txtng_is_killing_language_jk?language=en)

The History of English:

[www.thehistoryofenglish.com/](http://www.thehistoryofenglish.com/)

Documentaries

*Baby It’s You*, 1994, (Ch.4, ‘Word of Mouth’), <https://online.clickview.co.uk/exchange/videos/48863122/baby-it-s-you-4-word-of-mouth>

Bragg, M 2002, *The Adventure of English*, UK, 2002, London Weekend Television. Available on DVD and on clickview, <https://online.clickview.com.au/exchange/series/23115/the-adventure-of-english?sort=productionyear>

*Growing up with English Plus*, 1999, Monash University and The University of Melbourne. On vimeo

*The Story of English*, 1986, BBC. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLh06URz4IJQ4aI0A-xjXOtx2OnApu2SNn>

*Voices of the World*, television documentary on SBS television in Australia 4/4/2008. Available on DVD and clickview, <https://online.clickview.com.au/exchange/series/19935/voices-of-the-world?sort=seriessort>

*Why do we talk?*, 2009, BBC Horizon documentary on language acquisition, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0051z1v>

Film

*Beneath Clouds*, 2002, directed by Ivan Sen. Available on DVD.

Units 3 and 4 resources

Print

Allan, K & Burridge, K 1991, *Euphemism and Dysphemism: Language Used as Shield and Weapon*, Oxford University Press.

Allan, K & Burridge, K 2006*, Forbidden Words: Taboo and the Censoring of Language*, Cambridge University Press.

Bechervaise, NE 1996, *Language Power and the Press*, Pearson Education Australia.

Blake, Barry J 2011, *Secret Language: Codes, Tricks, Spies, Thieves, and Symbols*, Oxford University Press.

Bousefield, D 2008, *Impoliteness in Interaction*, John Benjamins.

Brown, P & Levinson, S C 1987, *Politeness: Some Universals in Language Usage*, studies in interactional sociolinguistics, Cambridge University Press.

Burridge, K & Mulder, J 1998, *English in Australia and New Zealand: An Introduction to its History, Structure and Use*, Oxford University Press.

Butler, S 2014, *The Aitch Factor*, Pan Macmillan.

Cameron, D 2012, *Verbal Hygiene*, Routledge.

Croft, S & Myers, R 2008, *Exploring Language and Literature*, Oxford University Press.

Crystal, D 2006, *Language and the Internet*, 2nd edn, Cambridge University Press.

Crystal, D 2008, *Txtng. The Gr8 Db8*, 2nd edn, Oxford University Press.

Eggins, S & Slade, D 1997, *Analysing Casual Conversation*, Cassell.

Fromkin, V, Rodman, R, Hyams, N, Amberber, M, Cox, F & Thornton, R 2021 *An Introduction to Language*, 10th edn, Cengage Learning Australia.

Garner, J 2022, *Politically Correct Bedtime Stories: 25th Anniversary Edition with a new story: Pinocchio*, Profile Books.

Holmes, J 1995, *Women, Men and Politeness*, Routledge.

Hornadge, B 1989, *The Australian Slanguage*, Mandarin.

Janks, H 1994, *Language, Identity and Power*, Hodder & Stoughton Educational.

Kreidler, CW 1997, *Describing Spoken English*, Routledge.

Laugesen, A 2020, *Rooted: An Australian history of bad language*, NewSouth Publishing.

Liddicoat, A, Dopke, S, Love, K & Brown, A 1992, 'The Effect of the Institution: Openings in Talkback Radio', *TEXT*, 12(4), 541–562.

Liddicoat, A, Dopke, S, Love, K & Brown, A 1994, 'Presenting a Point of View: Callers’ Contributions to Talkback Radio in Australia', *Journal of Pragmatics*, 22, 139–156.

Mancini, A 1998, *Australian Accents*, Hodder Education.

McCrum, R 2010, *Globish: How the English Language Became the World’s Language*, Penguin.

Moore, B 2008, *Speaking our language: the story of Australian English*, Oxford University Press.

Mulder, J 1999, ‘Exploring the Language Newspaper Headlines’, in *Literacy Learning: Secondary Thoughts* (journal of the Australian Literacy Educators’ Association) vol. 7, no. 1.

Peters, P 1995, *The Cambridge Australian English Style Guide*, Cambridge University Press.

Richards, K 2015, *The Story of Australian English*, NewSouth Publishing.

Romaine, S (ed.) 1991, *Language in Australia*, Cambridge University Press.

Tannen, D 1994, *Gender and Discourse*, Oxford University Press.

Watson, D 2003, *Death Sentence. The Decay of Public Language*, Random House Australia.

Weller, A 1993, *Going Home*, Allen & Unwin.

Electronic

State Library of Victoria VCE English Language resources:

<https://guides.slv.vic.gov.au/vceliterature/english-language-units-3-and-4>

*Australian Voices*, sound bites of Australian English:  
<http://clas.mq.edu.au/voices/>

Australian War Memorial website:  
[www.awm.gov.au/](http://www.awm.gov.au/)

Australian accents:  
<http://members.ozemail.com.au/~macinnis/syd/language.htm>

Australian lexical regional variations:  
[www.macquariedictionary.com.au/resources/word/map/](https://www.macquariedictionary.com.au/resources/word/map/)

Article on famous Australian speeches:

[www.theage.com.au/national/keating-speech-to-be-honoured-20100824-13qkg.html?autostart=1](http://www.theage.com.au/national/keating-speech-to-be-honoured-20100824-13qkg.html?autostart=1)  
Language and identity in Australia:

[www.convictcreations.com/research/languageidentity.html](http://www.convictcreations.com/research/languageidentity.html)  
<http://blogs.crikey.com.au/fullysic/> (Crikey)

Online satire on Australian language and attitudes; ‘How to talk Australians’: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHQRZXM-4xI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHQRZXM-4xI)

David Crystal’s analysis of Obama’s victory speech:  
<http://david-crystal.blogspot.com/2008/11/on-obamas-victory-style.html>

The Coodabeen’s Footy Show on ABC Radio:  
[www.abc.net.au/coodabeens/](http://www.abc.net.au/coodabeens/)

Transcript of Paul Keating’s *Remembrance Speech* 1993 on the Australian War Memorial site:  
[www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/keating.asp\_audio/transcript](http://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/keating.asp_audio/transcript)

Kevin Rudd’s *Sorry Speech*, 2008:  
<http://australia.gov.au/about-australia/our-country/our-people/apology-to-australias-indigenous-peoples>

See ‘Text messaging grammar’ for discussion about informal and formal texts:  
<http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/>

Links to the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities:  
[www.justice.vic.gov.au](http://www.justice.vic.gov.au)

Australian slang:

[www.koalanet.com.au/australian-slang.html](http://www.koalanet.com.au/australian-slang.html)

Monologues which can be downloaded:  
[www.abc.net.au/strictlyspeaking](http://www.abc.net.au/strictlyspeaking)

National anthems:  
[www.nationalanthems.info](http://www.nationalanthems.info)

Contemporary examples of public language abuse:  
[www.australianbeers.com/culture/generallingo.htm](http://www.australianbeers.com/culture/generallingo.htm)

Documentaries

*Love, Lust and Lies*, 2009, directed by Gillian Armstrong (5th film in documentary series). Available on DVD and clickview, <https://online.clickview.com.au/exchange/categories/8306/personal-development/videos/39626000/love-lust-and-lies>

The Making of Modern Australia, 2009, television program on ABC TV. Available on DVD and clickview  
  
Film and TV series

For Australian accents:

*Australian Rules*, 2002, directed by Paul Goldman. Available on DVD.

*Looking for Alibrandi*, 2000, directed by Kate Woods. Available on DVD.

*Summer Heights High*, 2007, television series written by and starring Chris Lilley. Available on DVD.

*The Castle*, 1997, directed by Rob Sitch. Available on DVD.

*The Honourable Wally Norman*, 2003, directed by Ted Emery. Available on DVD.

*The Sounds of Aus*, 2007, written and researched by Lawrie Zion. Available on DVD.

*We Can Be Heroes*, 2005, television series written by and starring Chris Lilley. Available on DVD.

*Wog Boy*, 2000, directed by Aleksi Vellis. Available on DVD.

‘Workin’ Class Man’, ep.2, *Frontline*, series 2, written, produced and directed by S. Cilaro, T. Gleisner, J. Kennedy, R. Sitch. Available on DVD.

General language resources

Print

Atchison, J 1997, *The Language Web: The Power and Problem of Words* (The 1996 BBC Reith lectures), Cambridge University.

Atchison, J 2000, *The Seeds of Speech*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Bauer, L & Trudgill, P 1998, *Language Myths*, Penguin.

Bluett, J & Shuttleworth, J 2008, *Living Language*, 3rd edn, Hodder & Staughton.

Burridge, K 2010, *Gift of the Gob: Morsels of English Language History*, HarperCollins.

Carter, R, Goddard, A, Reah, D, Sanger, K, Swift, N & Beard, A 2009, *Working with Texts: A Core Introduction to Language Analysis*, 3rd edn, Cambridge University Press.

Clyne, M 1991, *Community Languages: The Australian Experience*, Cambridge University Press.

Crystal, D 2018, *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*, 3rd edn, Cambridge University Press.

Finegan, E 1999, *Language. Its Structure and Use*, Harcourt Brace Publishers.

Freeborn, D 1996, *Style: Text Analysis and Linguistic Criticism*, Macmillan.

Freeborn, D, French, P & Langford, D 1993, *Varieties of English: An Introduction to the Study of Language*, Macmillan, London.

Fromkin, V, Rodman, R, Hyams, N, Amberber, M, Cox, F & Thornton, R 2021 *An Introduction to Language*, 10th edn, Cengage Learning Australia.

Holmes, J 2013, *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*, 4th edn, Routledge.

Jackson, H & Stockwell, P, 1996, *An Introduction to the Nature and Functions of Language*, Stanley Thornes.

Jeffries, L 1998, *Meaning in English: An Introduction to Language Study*, St. Martin’s Press.

Kaplan, J 1995, *English Grammar: Principles and Facts*, 2nd edn, Pearson.

Moore, B 2009, *Speaking Our Language: The Story of Australian English*, Oxford University Press.

O’Grady, W, Dobrovolsky, M & Katamba, F 1996*, Contemporary Linguistics: An Introduction*, Longman.

Pennycook, A 2017, *The Cultural Politics of English as an International Language*, Routledge.

Russell, S 2001, *Grammar, Structure and Style. A Practical Guide to Advanced Level English Language*, Oxford University Press.

Trudgill, P 2000, *Sociolinguistics: An Introduction to Language and Society*, Penguin.

Electronic

Living Black (SBS) has stories about language maintenance efforts in Australian indigenous communities:  
[www.sbs.com.au/shows/livingblack](http://www.sbs.com.au/shows/livingblack)

Language Log: a sporadic blog site discussing language:  
<http://languagelog.ldc.upenn.edu/nll/>

Wordsmith chat: debates about contemporary issues in language use:  
<http://wordsmith.org/chat>

First Languages Map:

<https://gambay.com.au/>

Online encyclopedia of writing systems and language:

[www.omniglot.com/links/english.htm](http://www.omniglot.com/links/english.htm)

Language in use:  
[www.putlearningfirst.com/language/index.html](http://www.putlearningfirst.com/language/index.html)

AUSTRALEX, the Australasian Association for Lexicography:  
[www.australex.org/](http://www.australex.org/)

BBC resources on English as a language:   
[www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/)

World Wide Words:  
[www.worldwidewords.org](http://www.worldwidewords.org)

Superlinguo: Linguistics and Language Podcasts:  
[www.superlinguo.com/post/731914958084931584/linguistics-and-language-podcasts](http://www.superlinguo.com/post/731914958084931584/linguistics-and-language-podcasts)

Journals

*English in Australia*, journal of the Australian Association for the Teaching of English.

*English in Education*, journal of the National Association for the Teaching of English, UK.

*English Journal*, journal of the National Council of Teachers of English, USA.

*Idiom*, journal of the Victorian Association for the Teaching of English, Australia.

School of Literature, Languages and Linguistics, Australian National University:  
<http://andc.anu.edu.au/publications/ozwords>

*Proceedings of Style Council*, journal, The Dictionary Research Centre, Macquarie University.