



Highfields State  
Secondary College

# Unit Three Course Overview

**Faculty:** English

**Subject:** English Literature

**Year level:** 11 & 12 (Composite class)

## Course Outline

In this unit, students develop knowledge and understanding of the relationship between language, culture and identity in literary texts. Students inquire into the power of language to represent ideas, events and people, comparing these across a range of texts, contexts, modes and forms. Through critical analysis, students consider how texts endorse, challenge or question cultural assumptions. In engaging with literary texts, students reflect upon their own backgrounds and experiences and how these affect their interpretations. Students analyse textual representations to explore the cultural assumptions that underpin points of view and perspectives in texts.

In analytical responses, students demonstrate an understanding of how the style and structure of literary texts engage critically with representations of issues and ideas related to culture and identity in particular contexts. Student responses are evidence-based and draw on a range of interpretations of literary texts.

In creative responses, students challenge conventions and reinterpret ideas and perspectives by drawing on their knowledge of literary conventions to create new texts that exploit style and structure.

Three interrelated areas of study outline the key learning that students should experience in this unit:

1. relationship between language, culture and identity in literary texts
2. power of language to represent ideas, events and people
3. creating analytical and imaginative text

Unit 1: Sci Fi and Communication	
Term 1: Short Stories of Ursula K. Le Guin	Term 2: <i>Arrival</i> and <i>Interstellar</i>
<p><b>Context</b></p> <p>During this unit, students will explore the science fiction genre with a focus on Ursula K. Le Guin's short stories. They will study the author's language choices in representing ideas, events and people. How Le Guin portrays cultural assumptions, attitudes, values and beliefs in literary texts will be a key focus and to help deepen students' interpretation of the stories, they will read and discuss academic responses to her short stories.</p> <p><b>Text focus:</b> A selection of short stories by Ursula K. Le Guin</p> <p><b>Task 1:</b> Analytical essay exam</p> <p>2 hours + 15 minutes planning 800-1000 words One week notice of essay question No notes allowed</p>	<p><b>Context</b></p> <p>During this unit, students will discuss the power of language to represent ideas, events and people, comparing these across a range of texts. They will consider textual representations in sci-fi to explore the cultural assumptions that underpin points of view and perspectives in texts. They will produce a spoken multimodal reimagining from one of two films studied in class.</p> <p><b>Task 2:</b> Imaginative spoken Students will create, script and present an imaginative spoken or multimodal submission in response to a science fiction film studied in class. Their response will be based on <i>Arrival</i> directed by Denis Villeneuve or <i>Interstellar</i> directed by Christopher Nolan.</p> <p>Four weeks notice Spoken 5-8 minutes or Multimodal 6-9 minutes</p>