

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Digital Copywriter



This area of work is open to all graduates. Having a qualification in marketing, journalism or creative writing can be helpful, or essay-based degree, such as history or English, will show that you have the skills.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

As a digital copywriter you'll produce the written content for webpages, either working in an employed position or as a freelancer. Your job will be to engage the reader and motivate them to do something. You may also write copy designed to convey valuable information about a brand, industry or issue.

Career information

Starting salaries for junior copywriters are between £22,000 and £30,000 per year.

For senior copywriters and heads of copy, the salary figure is between £45,000 and £80,000

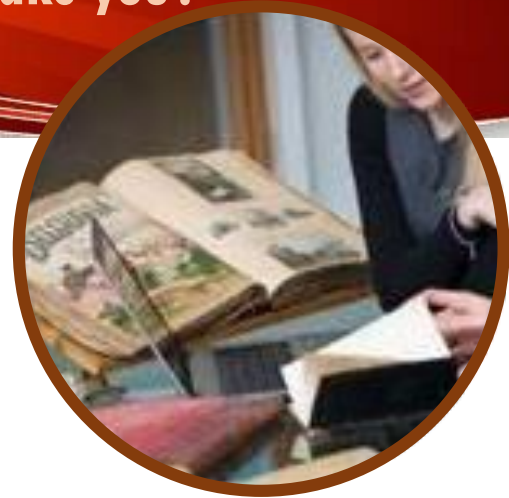
Average salary

Junior
Senior-level copywriter
Alternatively, digital content strategist
Freelance

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Editorial Assistant



This area of work is open to all graduates. Most entrants at editorial level are graduates. Postgraduate courses that include placements and contact with people in publishing provide a good introduction to professional skills and networking.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

Editorial assistants perform a range of administrative and editorial tasks necessary to the production of publications. You'll often be involved in projects from conception to completion, from receiving copy from authors through to the handover to production staff.

Career information

Starting salaries are likely to be in the region of £15,000 to £23,000. Average salaries in publishing are around £26,500-£40,000, with higher salaries possible in larger publishing houses.

Average salary

Development Editor
Managerial positions in publishing
Publishing - Editor
Freelance

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Magazine Journalist



This area of work is open to all graduates. Most entrants at editorial level are graduates. Postgraduate courses that include placements and contact with people in publishing provide a good introduction to professional skills and networking.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

Magazine journalists research and write news articles and features for a variety of publications, usually periodicals.

As well as writing, as a magazine journalist you may also get involved in the production of the publication, taking on sub-editing and designing.

Career information

At entry level typical starting salaries range from £15,000 to £26,000.

Senior staff usually earn between £18,000 and £35,000.

Editor-in-chief of a magazine, your salary will be anything from £22,000 to £65,000+.

Average salary

Staff writer, Sub-editor

Section head/Chief editor

Marketing, television journalism, public relations

Freelance

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

English Teacher



The minimum requirements are at least a GCSE grade C/grade 4 (grade B in Wales) in English and mathematics, as well as a degree. Undergraduate degree courses Bachelor of Education (BEd) or a BA/BSc with qualified teacher status (QTS)

What do I need to do to get into this career...

Secondary school teachers support, observe and record the progress of pupils teaching the national curriculum. The role involves liaising and networking with other professionals, parents and carers, both informally and formally.

Career information

NQTs in England and Wales start on the main pay range, which rises incrementally from £23,720 to £35,008

Management roles attract considerable salary increases.

Average salary

Specialist curriculum or pastoral role
Management, Lead practitioner
Head of Department/Year or coordinator of a cross-curricular area, Special needs or careers education. Leadership.

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Advertising, Marketing and PR



There are few specific PR degree courses available, and entry to the profession is generally open to all graduates.

**What do I
need to
do to get
into this
career...**

Public relations (PR) is about managing reputation. A career in PR involves gaining understanding and support for your clients, as well as trying to influence opinion and behaviour.

**Career
information**

The average salary range for a PR assistant is around £18,000 to £20,000
Senior management positions, such as PR director or head of corporate affairs, offer salaries from £40,000 to more than £100,000.

**Average
salary**

Junior Account Executive
PR Officer
Account Executive
Consultancy or Freelance consultant

**Career
progression**

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

University Lecturer



It's becoming more common for lecturers to have or to be working towards a teaching qualification. These come under a variety of names, including the Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (PGCHE) and Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

As an HE lecturer, you'll need expertise in your subject area including lectures, seminars, tutorials, practical demonstrations, field work and e-learning. You'll also pursue your own research to contribute to the wider research activities of your department or institution.

Career information

Salaries for higher education (HE) lecturers typically range from around £35,211 to £43,267. At senior lecturer level, you'll typically earn between £43,267 and £58,089. Salaries at professorial level can reach in excess of £100,000

Average salary

Management responsibilities (department)
Senior levels - senior lecturer
Principal lecturer

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Newspaper Journalist



This area of work is open to graduates of any discipline but an undergraduate degree in journalism, English or writing may improve your chances. However, some editors may be more interested in graduates with a specialist degree subject, such as economics or science.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

Newspaper journalists research and write stories for national, regional and local press. They report on news and politics, as well as on sports, arts and culture, science and business. They also cover national and local events, entertainment and human interest stories.

Career information

The average salary for a newspaper journalist is £22,250.

Experienced journalists can expect around £35,000 to £40,000.

Average salary

General reporter
Senior reporter
Chief reporter
Regional/topic-specific correspondents
Feature writers

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Writer- Screenwriter/ Playwright



Most academic qualifications will help you to develop strong writing skills, and provide a good grounding in grammar and the structure of language. Literature, media, journalism and performing arts may help to give you knowledge of different styles and genres of writing.

**What do I
need to
do to get
into this
career...**

As a writer, you'll be involved in the creation and development of works of fiction and non-fiction. New media is also opening doors for writers in areas such as mobile phone content and computer game scripts. Most writers work freelance and are self-employed.

**Career
information**

There are well-publicised cases of writers gaining significant advances (into six figures) for first novels.

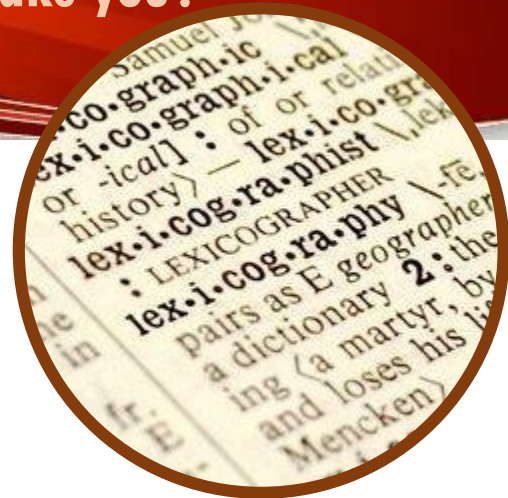
**Average
salary**

Royalties on published work
Public lending rights payments
Teaching, lecturing
Appearances at events

**Career
progression**

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Lexicographer



A degree in English language is particularly useful for a lexicography career.
It may also be useful, although not essential, to have a Masters degree in language, linguistics or translation.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

As a lexicographer, you'll search specialist for evidence of meanings and usages of a word or phrase.

As nearly all dictionaries are now online and encompass a broad range of related resources, the role is evolving to meet these changes.

Career information

Typical starting salaries for assistant editors are in the region of £18,000 to £22,000.

With experience, senior editors may earn £23,000 to £35,000, while project managers can reach salaries of up to £45,000.

Average salary

Assistant Editor
Editor
Lexicographer/research/publishing
Dictionary Editor
Senior Editor/Managing Editor

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Librarian



To work as a public librarian, you'll usually need either a first degree accredited by the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) or a degree in any subject plus a postgraduate diploma or Masters in a relevant subject accredited by CILIP.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

As a public librarian you'll acquire, organise and provide access to a range of information and reading resources to meet the diverse needs of a community. You'll support independent learning and encourage reader development

Career information

Salaries for assistant librarians range from around £25,000 to £29,000, rising to around £63,000 for head or director of library and information services (average salary £53,500).

Average salary

Librarian
Manager/senior roles
Information management
Local/central government
Law courts, academic/school libraries

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

TEFL, TESL or TESOL Teacher (EAL)



A degree in education, English, linguistics or modern languages may be particularly useful, but not essential. However, most employers will expect you to have a recognised teaching English as a foreign language qualification validated by a reputable examination body or university

What do I need to do to get into this career...

As an English as a foreign language (EFL) teacher, you'll teach English to adults and children whose first or main language is not English. You'll use a range of course books and materials, plus a variety of audio-visual aids, to encourage students to communicate.

Career information

Starting salaries range from £14,000 to £25,000. For those with considerable experience and expertise, salaries can be in excess of £35,000.

Average salary

Senior positions in schools in UK and abroad
Subject leader
Director of Studies
Managerial roles
Freelance

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Forensic Linguistics



Common undergraduate subject choices include linguistics, English, foreign languages, computer science, communications, and philosophy.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

Forensic linguistics is a broad term that looks at the relationship between language and law. It commonly refers to the linguistic examination of both written and spoken legal texts in order to decipher messages, understand meaning, and ultimately solve crimes.

Career information

Average salaries for Forensic Linguists are around £35,000 - with those new to the industry earning around £25,000. Experienced Forensic Linguists could stand to earn up to £60,000.

Average salary

Legal/law field
Teaching
Research

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Media Researcher



Specialist knowledge and research experience may be required for specific subject areas or documentaries. For general areas, knowledge of current affairs and the media, plus evidence of lateral thinking and creative problem solving is useful. A degree in English is an advantage.

**What do I
need to
do to get
into this
career...**

As a programme researcher, you'll provide support to the producer and production team of a television, radio, film or online project. You'll source contacts and contributors for programmes, as well as supply your own ideas and work on location.

**Career
information**

Basic rates for a junior researcher on a TV programme are around £400 for a 48-hour week.

Researchers with experience can charge around £650 for a 48-hour week.

**Average
salary**

Broadcasting Research Assistant
Media Researcher
Local radio/producer or director
Current events programs
Senior Research role

**Career
progression**

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Speech and Language Therapist



Most academic qualifications will help you to develop strong writing skills, and provide a good grounding in grammar and the structure of language. Literature, media, journalism and performing arts may help to give you knowledge of different styles and genres of writing.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

A Speech Therapist works with adults and children of all ages who have difficulties communicating verbally, supporting them in acquiring or improving their speech.

Career information

Salaries up to £28,000
But career progression can take salary up to £34,000-£40,000

Average salary

Speech Therapist
Specialist Speech Therapist
Advanced Therapist

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Law



To become a lawyer through the traditional route, you'll first need to complete a qualifying law degree (LLB). You'll then need to take the bar professional training course (BPTC) if you want to become a Barrister, or the Legal Practice Course (LPC) if you want to become a Solicitor.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

Lawyers provide advice and representation for individuals, government agencies, and businesses. This title could also refer to Solicitors, Barristers, Advocates, Attorneys, or any other legal professional. They could specialise in a wide variety of fields

Career information

Salary from £22,121 to £30,000

Rising to £40,000-£50,000

Some firms offer £80,000-£150,000 for partners

Average salary

Solicitor
Barrister
Paralegals
Chartered legal executive

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

HR – Human Resources



A degree in business management, economics, finance, HR or psychology may improve your chances of landing a job. Employers typically expect graduates to have gained at least a 2:1 at university.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

Core HRM functions include the hiring and development of employees - through training, incentives and benefits, and performance evaluation - administrative services, mediating in disputes and communicating with staff at all levels.

Career information

While new starters can expect to earn between £15,000 and £18,000 a year, a HR manager can earn on average £46,000 a year, with HR directors bringing in over £80,000.

Average salary

HR Officer
HR Manager
HR Director

Career progression

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Social Media / Web Content Manager



A degree can provide useful experience in writing, editing, presenting and group coordination, particularly if it's mainly assessed through essays and presentations.

**What do I
need to
do to get
into this
career...**

Web content - The content you'll manage can include web pages, images, videos, blog posts, guest articles, reviews and occasionally social media and marketing copy. A social media manager will be to lead an organisation's social media strategy in order to boost visibility and customer and client engagement.

**Career
information**

Starting salaries for web content coordinators are around £20,000 to £25,000. Senior web content managers and website managers can earn between £40,000 and £50,000. More experienced social media salaries can increase to £60,000 or more.

**Average
salary**

Web content Assistant
Writer, Editor of website, company blog, social media Management
Digital content manager
Senior management role / Head of Social media

**Career
progression**

Where can an English Language or Literature A-level take you?

Information Officer



Most information officers are graduates, who then go on to study for an accredited postgraduate library and information qualification. This is usually a postgraduate specialist qualification.

What do I need to do to get into this career...

As an information officer you'll manage and develop information to make it easily accessible to others. You'll work with electronic information - especially online databases content management systems, open access and digital resources and traditional library materials..

Career information

Typical salaries for those starting out, at paraprofessional level, are around £18,000 to £21,000..

At the top end, as an information specialist working in London, you could earn up to around £70,000.

Average salary

Information adviser
Information manager
Information scientist
Information specialist
Consultancy/Training

Career progression