

By **Stage 6**, students are developing or have developed an understanding of themselves, and the ways that they relate to learning and the value of learning in their lives. They bring to their learning a range of perspectives and experiences. Students' choices of study are broadened to recognise their growing independence as learners and the diversity of their needs, interests, abilities, goals, pathways and intentions. Study in English at Stage 6 is characterised by students' increased awareness of the ways in which they organise and participate in learning, and by greater self-direction.

At Stage 6, students are more specific and articulate in their study of how meanings are shaped in and through texts. Students extend their skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing and representing, by refining their imaginative and interpretive skills and by applying their analytical abilities to increasingly complex texts. They develop their awareness of personal, social, historical, cultural and workplace contexts, their notions of value and their understanding of self and others. They engage in responding to and composing texts, and consider the diverse processes involved in this through their wide reading, and through close analysis of texts. They develop knowledge and understanding of the ways that the linguistic, structural, contextual and thematic interrelationships among texts shape meaning. They develop and apply a knowledge and understanding of the role and function of literary conventions and devices. Students analyse the relationships between texts and technologies of production and evaluate the ways in which the medium itself influences the shape and nature of meaning. Their skills in composition are further developed.

In Stage 6, as students explore more complex texts, as well as simple texts in more complex ways, they refine their knowledge of language forms and features, and of the structures of texts. They apply this knowledge to develop communication skills in specific post-secondary contexts for personal, academic, workplace and social purposes.

Students value and appreciate their own and others' use of language. They enjoy the diversity of language and literature and appreciate the role of English in their lives and in learning.