

What Can I Do with an English Major?

Write and speak well

- Be able to write on many subjects intelligently, put ideas forth coherently, make arguments effectively
- Be able to speak fluently, with sophisticated vocabulary and sentence structure, presenting ideas clearly and with panache
- Be able to teach others these skills

Think through problems and apply research techniques to find information

- Be able to apply research skills to many jobs or professions where problem solving requires finding information
- Be able to think critically in a wide variety of tasks
- Be able to use technology (computer databases, etc.) to conduct research

Understand literature and analyze texts

- Be able to understand and explain literature as a gateway into a deeper understanding of what it means to be human
- Be able to read and understand literature to increase our ability to understand our world and ourselves
- Understand the cultural context for literary works and the cultural antecedents that formed them
- Be fluent in the world of ideas, with an ability to evaluate literature from many stances, including traditional literary theories and Christian perspectives

Career Opportunities with an English Major

- PR and marketing
- Supervising work groups
- Editing
- Advertising
- Journalism
- Acting
- Technical Writing
- Law and public service
- Medicine
- Management and business
- Personnel
- Library science
- Teaching
- Creative Writing
- Writing critiques, criticism, and reviews

Some Well Known English Majors

Actors:

Brett Butler
Joan Cusack
Matt Damon
Vin Diesel
David Duchovny
Harrison Ford
Jodie Foster
Famke Janssen
Tommy Lee Jones
Paul Newman
Gwyneth Paltrow
David Hyde Pierce
Susan Sarandon
Reese Witherspoon
Renee Zellweger

Astronauts:

Sally Ride

Directors:

James Cameron
Martin Scorsese
Steven Spielberg

Football Coaches:

Joe Paterno
Marty Shottenheimer

Government:

Carol Browner, former
EPA Director
Mario Cuomo, former
Governor of New
York
Henry Paulson, former
Secretary of the
Treasury
Clarence Thomas,
Supreme Court
Justice
Pete Wilson, former
Governor of
California

Journalists:

Russell Baker
Dave Barry
Richard Rodriguez

Diane Sawyer
Helen Thomas
Bob Woodward

Management:

Michael Eisner, Disney
Michael Lynne,
Chairman of New
Line Cinema
Herb Scannell,
President,
Nickelodeon, MTV
Networks

Musicians:

Don Henley
Chris Isaak
Mark Knopfler
Kris Kristofferson
Randy Owen
Paul Simon
Sting