

# **POLITICAL ENGLISH**

Language and the Decay of Politics

**Thomas Docherty**

BLOOMSBURY ACADEMIC  
LONDON • NEW YORK • OXFORD • NEW DELHI • SYDNEY

# CONTENTS

Introduction 1

- 1** On pluck: English and money 13
- 2** English nativism and linguistic xenophobia 33
- 3** Fundamentalist English: The stiff upper lip 67
- 4** On truth and lying in a political sense 95
- 5** Words, deeds and democracy 137
- 6** Profanity and free speech 165
- 7** Remnants of dissent: Free speech, political silence and guilt 191

Select bibliography 229

Index 234