

English Lang

Key Question: What is English Language A Level?

Suggested Reading/Research	Activity Task 2
<p>One of the best things you can do to prepare for language A Level is to read and keep your eyes open for anything to do with language in the media.</p> <p>A newspaper article about accents in the workplace, tweets about gender, blogs on new words, adverts aimed at teenagers... anything to do with language in the real world!</p> <p>The following blogs, websites and people to follow on Twitter are a great starting point to set you off paying more attention to real language in the real world:</p> <p>Twitter: @wordspinster @EngLangBlog @davcr @VyvEvans @tonythorne007</p> <p>Websites: www.englishlangsfx.blogspot.com/ Written by Dan Clayton at St Francis Xavier College; provides excellent materials and discussions, plus lots of links to other relevant sites. http://www.universalteacher.org.uk/</p>	<p>Activities are from the Leaping into Language Guide - in the folder. This guide, produced by The English and Media Centre, is brilliant and has 19 different activities included!</p> <p>There is a resource and audio file pack which you will need for some of the tasks.</p> <p>You are welcome to browse all of them and try as many as you like, but you will need to complete task 7 and then either task 4 or task 5.</p> <p>Task 7-Textercise: This activity gives you eight texts. You need to read them all, choose three to work on specifically and then answer the questions on your chosen three. Once you have answered the questions, you need to find 3-5 of your own varied set of texts from the world around you. Like the texts in the guide, your texts could be written, spoken, online, serious, silly, informative, clever and/or important. Then use the same questions to help you think about them. We will discuss these various texts on transition day.</p> <p>Either:</p> <p>Task 4 -New Words: The English language is always generating new words. New words can be created out of nothing (neologisms) or be formed by using other words - or parts of words - together in new combinations (what are called compounds e.g. football and blends e.g. smog/ brunch). Sometimes initials of words in a phrase might be used (acronyms e.g. radio / NASA and initialisms e.g. GCSEs) and you might also see parts of words being added to</p>

Lots of invaluable information on all aspects of your Linguistics course.

<http://www.ling.lancs.ac.uk/>

Lancaster Uni Language and Linguistics site. Enormous. They have a specific A Level site within this and loads of resources.

<http://www.geoffbarton.co.uk/>

useful site which covers many aspects of the course.

<http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/>

Very good for dialects, phonology.

<https://www.diplomacy.edu/blog/language-time-corona-virus-crisis-uk-case-study>

Podcasts:

Lexis - A podcast about language and linguistics for A Level students

<https://open.spotify.com/show/0EPs83hWYk0XX8cKkJplbT>

Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@paulheselton230>

the front or end of another word to give it a new form (prefixes e.g. metrosexual and suffixes e.g. racism. sexism).

For this task, you have a table of some new words to read and then make notes on - in response to some questions.

Or

Task 5 - Language Fingerprints: As you learn more about language use, you'll start to see that everybody has their own unique language style. Lots of things influence this - where we're from, how old we are, the type of work we do and our interests, our family backgrounds and our own individual personalities - but we all have what's called an idiolect (an individual language style). It's not quite the same as a fingerprint, but there are some similarities. And while detectives can use fingerprints to track down individuals, forensic linguists can also use this idea of individual language style to identify people, or aspects of a person's background. This activity puts you in the role of a language detective trying to solve a crime. The police need your help to work out who might have sent an abusive social media message from an anonymous account to a local politician. They have three suspects in custody and your job is to offer a view on which one you think is most likely to have sent the message, based on possible language clues.

What to submit:

Your work on Task 7 and either Task 4 or 5 (plus any others you have had a go at!)

A summary of some of the wider reading you have completed using any of the links on the left hand side - or any of your own.

To be handed to Miss Brett in your first lesson in September.