

PRE-COURSE ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT	A Level English Language
<i>Congratulations on choosing to study English Language at A Level- you have chosen to study a course that will not only build on the skills you already have but also encourage you to think critically and prepare you for whatever your next steps happen to be. Prepare to think a little differently about the world-the tasks below will give you a taster of the breadth of topics we cover.</i> <i>Don't forget your kit: although there are no set texts, there is a lot of learning and research that needs organising so make sure you have at least two folders, one for each teacher, together with dividers and plastic wallets to keep control.</i>	
WATCH THIS	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qVqcoB798ls David Crystak- perhaps our foremost linguist- on the impact of technology on our language use.
LISTEN TO THIS	https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001znld Language when there are no words- Autism and language Development https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001yxl3 The Etymology of Football Club names
READ and watch this THIS	https://www.ted.com/talks/anne_curzan_what_makes_a_word_real?referrer=playlist-how_language_changes_over_time&autoplay=true The transcript is by the side of the video.
DO THIS	Key terms will be a big shock to the system so create yourself a glossary - from AQA- and get ahead of the game before you even arrive. Find the terms here- know them and understand them: https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/AQA-7701-7702-GLOSSARY.PDF
ANSWER THIS	Using your understanding after the Anne Curzan Tedtalk, and in your opinion, when should a word be added to the standard dictionary? What criteria do you think it should fulfil before it is added? Do you think any words should be banished? What criteria would a word have to fulfil in order for it to be threatened with 'banishment'? Can you write a definition of what makes a word real? Investigation: Select three new slang words that you think your English teacher <i>needs</i> to know in order to be able to communicate effectively with your age group. Prepare the dictionary definitions for your words along with examples of them in use. Justify why you have selected these words over any others.