



The Thomas Hardy School

Summer Preparation Task

English Language A Level

Purpose of task:

The tasks below will give new students a broad understanding of the topics which are considered part of modern English Language study.

Recommended resources:

Task:

Please read *A Little Book of Language* by David Crystal (second-hand copies are readily available from Amazon). After reading, please complete the following tasks:

Task 1:

Chapter 26 explains etymology. Choose four words that you find interesting – David Crystal offers his examples to give you some ideas – and research their origins and various meanings using the Online Etymology Dictionary. Make notes of your findings in your own words and bring these along in September.

Task 2:

The final chapter 'Your Language World' contains Crystal's views on why we should value and protect language. As you ready yourself to begin your study of the English Language, explain in roughly 400 words your reasoning for whether you feel the English Language should be protected or not. As part of your response, you could make reference to aspects of language that Crystal refers to in other chapters of the book.

Task 3 (Optional):

Choose a topic from another chapter to investigate further. Use your research into this topic to create a poster to showcase your findings. It is up to you how you display this information, whether just text or text and images or even a comic strip!

Additional information:

Recommended reading & activities list:

Good general knowledge is essential if students are to understand the contexts of language. Regularly reading newspapers, either in print or online, to keep abreast of cultural, political and global issues should be established and continued throughout the course of study.

Deadline for Task: First lesson in week commencing 11th September 2017