

## **Year 12 Summer Bridging work English Language A Level**

### **Listening Task**

One of our topics at A Level English Language is Child Language Acquisition.

I'd like you to listen to this podcast and make notes about Language Acquisition:  
<https://slate.com/podcasts/lexicon-valley/2020/06/language-acquisition-bilingualism>



### **Research Homework**

1. Start following @asa2lang on twitter-we re-tweet useful articles all the time!
2. Log on to E Magazine: <https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk>

`Click here to enter eMagazine Online' and enter :

User Name: Rossett Password: EnglishA

3. Print off at least one of the articles you read. Annotate it carefully with as many language features as you can and be prepared to explain to the class in September why you have chosen it and what it is about.

### **Writing Task**

Choose one of the following written tasks: Either a short story of 500 words or a 500 word persuasive article on a current topic of your choice

## Personal Profile Task

One of the most interesting aspects of studying language is that you learn more about your own language use, so let's make this first task all about you...

- Create a 'language profile' of yourself by answering the following questions and then writing them up as a set of bullet points that highlight what you think are the most interesting and important aspects of the language you use:
  - What's your earliest language memory? Can you remember a nursery rhyme, song or picture book from when you were very little?
  - Have your family or extended family kept any records – video, audio, family memories – of any of your earliest words?
  - Have you kept any old school books from when you were learning to read and write?
  - Where were you born and where in the UK, or the wider world, are your family from? Go back a few generations if you like and think about any other languages that your family members might speak, or other places your family members might have lived.
  - Are there any words or expressions only you or your family use, which others don't really understand?
  - Do you or your friends at school use language in any ways that you notice as being different from other people around you? These could be other people in your year, your teachers, your family, whoever.
  - Do you listen to or watch anyone on TV, online or in films or music videos who uses language in a way that interests or annoys you?
  - Do you ever look at or hear someone else using language in a way that you find is totally new or strange to you?
  - Have your teachers or family ever talked to you about the way you speak?

One of the most useful resources for language on this course is **you**. Language is made up of so much more than the words we see printed on a page, so when you are thinking about language, come back to these ideas here to keep the range wide. We are often told there is a right way and a wrong way to use language, but the more you study about language, the more you'll realise that it's more complicated and interesting than that.

And you'll also start to build up a bigger picture of the different influences on your own language identity as this course goes on – all the factors that influence who you are linguistically and how you can choose to behave with language in different situations.

## Accent and Dialect Tasks

- Collect articles, tweets and posts about accents. Summarise what the author's viewpoint is and bring them in with you in September. You should collect at least five.
- Watch a TV programme or film that features a lot of different accents – gogglebox for instance. Write down the name of the characters and their accent. Rate it as either love or hate. Justify your opinion as best you can.
- Ask friend and family member what their opinions on accents are. Write up your findings in any format you like (article, essay, presentation etc)
- Listen to at least one episode of the podcast 'lexicon valley'. Write up what you have learnt.