



**Sandringham School**

*'Everybody can be Somebody'*

## English Language A Level

### Summer Work 2024, Pre-Course Preparations

Please ensure you have completed the following tasks ahead of your first lessons in September.

1. **Be clear about the main levels of language and the principal word classes.** Create a glossary for the following terms: syntax, semantics, pragmatics, phonetics, nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, prepositions. You are advised to create this in a Google Doc, you will add to this document as you progress through the course.
2. **Investigate a language concept or issue.** As discussed at Induction, prepare a summary of your findings (one side of A4) about an aspect of English Language that you are especially interested in or would like to explore further. This might be something you are curious about, a linguistic concept or a social issue related to language. You may wish to use the examples below as a starting point:
  - Accent Bias: <https://www.theguardian.com/inequality/2022/nov/03/bias-against-working-class-and-regional-accent-has-not-gone-away-report-finds>
  - Language and Gender: <https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/english-and-gender>
  - Language Change: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmvOgW6iV2s>

**You will also need to purchase the following items to ensure you are prepared:**

1. Course textbooks

English Language A/AS Level for AQA, Student Book – Marcello Giovanelli, Gary Ives. Cambridge Press. June 2015.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Level-English-Language-Student-Book/dp/1107465621>

AQA English Language A Level and AS – Dan Clayton, Angela Goddard. – Oxford University Press.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-Level-English-Language-Student/dp/0198334001>

2. Subject folders – you will need two, one for each paper. You are advised to purchase dividers as well.

If you would like some further reading for summer, we highly recommend the texts listed below:

### **English Language**

Lynne Truss – Eats, Shoots and Leaves

David Crystal – Words, Words, Words; The Stories of English; Shakespeare on toast.

Susie Dent – Modern Tribes: the secret languages of Britain

Deborah Cameron – The Myth of Mars and Venus; do men and women really speak different languages?

Guy Deutscher – The Unfolding of Language

Pragya Agarwal - Sway: Unravelling Unconscious Bias

Gina Rippon - The Gendered Brain

David Crystal - Listen to Your Child

Simon Horobin - How English Became English

Laurie Bauer - Language Myths

### **Wider reading**

*You could explore any of these fantastic writers – some titles in brackets:*

Invisible Women – Caroline Criado-Perez

Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People about Race – Renni Eddo-Lodge

To the River – Olivia Laing

Prisoners of Geography – Tim Marshall

Moab is my Washpot – Stephen Fry

Ian McEwan (On Chesil Beach, Nutshell)

Sebastian Faulks (Engelby, Birdsong)

Ali Smith (How to be both, Seasonal Quartet)

Bernadine Evaristo (Girl, woman other)

Rachel Kushner (The Mars Room)

Zadie Smith (White Teeth, Swing Time)

Kazuo Ishiguro (Klara and the Sun)

Alice Walker (The Colour Purple)

George Orwell (1984)

George Bernard Shaw (Pygmalion)

Jonathan Franzen (The Corrections)

Sylvia Plath (The Bell Jar)

Margaret Atwood (The Handmaid's Tale)

Kate Atkinson (Behind the scenes at the museum)

Andrea Levy (Small Island)