English Language Year 12 Private Study

This is wider reading and extension and support work beyond any specific homework set by teachers. Remember, this is to help *you*. If you take the tasks below seriously, then it is your confidence with English Language as a subject which grows, and you are more empowered in your assessed work as a result.

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| Month | Task | Outcome | Resources |
| September | Read a text about the English Language | Take notes, show to teacher. | eg Melvin Bragg’s Mother Tongue, Bill Bryson The Mother Tongue, David Crystal’s English Language, or A Little Book of Language, or pretty much anything by David Crystal. |
| October | Grammar tasks | Describe to your teacher what websites you are using and how they have helped you. | [www.englishbiz.co.uk/grammar](http://www.englishbiz.co.uk/grammar); [www.englishgrammar.org](http://www.englishgrammar.org);  blog.geoffbarton.co.uk; www.geoffbarton.co.uk  Or,  work through the 10 websites recommended on www.edtechreview.in (link called 10 websites for teaching grammar to your students) and also on www. prowritingaid.com (link called ‘10 websites to help you improve your grammar’), plus on the ‘blog’ tab you get a link called ‘grammar rules’ with many useful articles to trawl through! |
| November | Read a newspaper every PS | Make notes about audience, purpose, generic features, and language levels evident in the articles you read. Show to teacher. | Eg Guardian Online |
| December | Grammar tasks | Describe to your teacher what websites you are using and how they have helped you. | see October |
| January | Read a text about Language and Gender, or one (eg a novel) that explores gender issues. | Take notes, show to teacher. | The Handmaid’s Tale, Jane Eyre, On lsadc.org/web2/index.html, under ‘Field of Linguistics’, you’ll find useful articles e.g. by Deborah Tannen. On ‘I Love English Language’ (website) there are numerous articles on gender. Go onto The Guardian online and find an articles that are gender related. Read a magazine eg Cosmopolitan, or Vogue, (you will need to buy these and bring them in) and analyse the gender representation. Watch ‘Friends’, or ‘How I Met Your Mother’ or ‘Harry Potter’, or ‘Lord of the Rings’, and do an analysis of gender. |
| February | Read a text about Language and Power or one (eg a novel) that explores how language asserts or achieves power. | Take notes, show to teacher. | Eg 1984, Animal Farm, To Kill A Mockingbird. Articles on websites (see those in gender section above. Watch House of Cards, or Borgen, or analyse Donald Trump and Barack Obama speeches. Look at police dramas, eg ‘Silent Witness’, and analyse the various types of language used by police, pathologists, victims, and perpetrators. |
| March | Read a text about Language and Technology, or explore and analyse a series of multimodal texts. | Take notes, show to teacher. | Buy a book such as Language and the Internet, by David Crystal, or Language and Technology, by Angela Goddard and Beverly Geesin, or read the pages on language and Technology on the Andrew Moore Universal teacher website.  Or, read Dictionary of Slang, or Urban Dictionary (both online), and analyse the impact of slang on Facebook sites. Or of Facebook sites on slang. |
| April | Grammar tasks | Describe to your teacher what websites you are using and how they have helped you. | see October |
| May | Use websites to develop knowledge and skills | Take notes, show to teacher. | Websites like ‘I Love English Language’, or Andrew Moore’s Universal Teacher, or the BBC which has material on English Language. Listen to language-related programmes on ‘In Our Time’ on Radio 4. Find programmes on language on BBC I Player. Or Find your own. |
| June | Revision | Go over all notes from year 12, organising them, revising for end of year exams |  |
| July | Listen to Fry’s English Delight | Take notes, show to teacher. | On the BBC website there are plenty of free really nice clips around 10 minutes long, and you can buy whole episodes (30 minutes) for £1.49 on I Tunes. Alternatively find an online blog or podcast about English. There are several. |

***In general: Read as much non-fiction as you can: diaries, letters, biographies, autobiographies, travel writing, reviews etc. The more exposure to different genres the better.***