

## Pre-entry Preparation, Requirements and Recommendations

Welcome to A-Level English Language at Comberton Sixth Form!

### Preparation

To prepare for the course we strongly recommend that you keep up to date with the news generally but specifically anything about language, politics, social class, popular culture, and gender. To do so, we suggest that you regularly visit the websites below or – better still – follow these sources on the social media(s) of your choice! Broadsheets tend to carry more articles about language usage (both scholarly and spurious), but it is also worth reading tabloid news articles that pass opinions on language and, more specifically, its users.

[www.bbc.co.uk/news](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news)

<https://www.itv.com/news>

<https://www.channel4.com/news/>

<https://news.sky.com/>

[www.theguardian.co.uk](http://www.theguardian.co.uk)

[www.thesun.co.uk](http://www.thesun.co.uk)

[www.dailymail.co.uk](http://www.dailymail.co.uk)

<https://www.independent.co.uk/>

[www.themirror.co.uk](http://www.themirror.co.uk)

Please do take some time to follow these links and watch, read, or listen to anything that you think is interesting. The next page has some more specific things for you to watch and listen to.

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons?category=linguistics> – short videos on linguistics matters!

<https://theconversation.com/uk/topics/linguistics-1841> - articles on the same.

<https://blog.oxforddictionaries.com> – an excellent blog on language issues from the World's dictionary.

<https://debuk.wordpress.com> – Prof of Linguistics, at Oxford. Writes on language and gender.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006tnsf> – The Verb

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qtzn> - Word of Mouth, with Michael Rosen. A show for all language stories

<https://wp.lancs.ac.uk/enclair/> A podcast dedicated to the role linguistics plays in solving crime.

Accessing news and debates about language is made much easier by opening a Twitter account and following the sites above, alongside any others that you might find. Everyone has an opinion on language, and it is important to understand what those opinions are, who is expressing them, and why they are doing it!

### Requirements

Ready for when you start in September you will need the following equipment:

- Paper
- Two A4 lever arch file and dividers
- Highlighter pens.

Should you have any queries about preparation or any other aspect of the course, please do not hesitate to contact Stephen Cox (English Department) [scox@combertonvc.org](mailto:scox@combertonvc.org)