

English Language Transition Task

Studying English Language at A level is going to be very different to GCSE. The topics that we cover are all really interesting and reflect the real world that we live in. We will look at how new words and phrases drop in and out of use, and how you may use words that are very different to your family. One element of the A level course is a 2000 word investigation where you have to research a particular topic. This transition unit will get you to do something similar but on a much smaller scale.

UK culture is well known for its pubs; in 2019 there were estimated to be over 47000 pubs in the UK. We are going to explore how this impacts on the English Language and you are going to research the different words for being drunk.

1. You need to speak to 8 people, who all need to be different ages. (Don't use their name but make a note of their age (ask politely!) and gender) Find out how many different words or phrases they would use to describe being drunk. Try to get at least 5 from each person. Write these words/phrases down and follow the format for this below.

	Gender	Age	Words/phrases
Person 1	MALE	46	Plastered Legless Drunk as a skunk

2. Look at the different words/phrases that you have and try to:
 - i. Categorise them – are there words that mean something else? (plastered) are they phrases? (drunk as a skunk) Are they nouns? Verbs? Adjectives? Is it formal or informal? You might do this as mind maps.
 - ii. Comment on them – what devices can you see? (similes/hyperbole/rhyme)
3. Look at the words given to you by the youngest age group and the oldest age group – how are the words similar or different? What differences can you see?
4. Parents always argue that teens use words that they have never used before...read the following article from The Times <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/family-cant-understand-your-teenager-s-slang-that-s-the-whole-point-jdmlml08q>
5. Once you have read the article above, test this idea. Are some of the words for being drunk used by your youngest group understood by your oldest group? Have they heard of them before?

Make notes on all of this – we will discuss in our first lesson. If you have any questions then please contact me at amatthew@stpetershuntingdon.org Have a lovely summer. 😊

