

# Preparing for A level English Language

## Where to begin?

Familiarise yourself with the spec- this is what you will be learning for the next 2 years

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-english-language-h070-h470-from-2015/>



## What books can I read?

**David Crystal: Stories of English**

**David Crystal: How Language Works**

**Dan Clayton (ed) EMC Language handbook**

**Deborah Cameron: The Myth of Mars and Venus**

**We dip in and out of the following text book.:**

- S.Aykin, J. Harrison, D Kinder, N Winder: A level OCR English Language published by OXFORD

**Note you do not have to buy books for your course**

## What can I watch?

- **Clips from EMag the English A level Magazine**  
<https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/video-clips/clip-listing/leaping-into-language-emagclips>
- **TED Talks**  
**John McWhorter on digital language and texting**  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/john\\_mcwhorter\\_txtng\\_is\\_killing\\_language\\_jk](https://www.ted.com/talks/john_mcwhorter_txtng_is_killing_language_jk)  
**Deb Roy on children's language development**  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/deb\\_roy\\_the\\_birthing\\_of\\_a\\_word](https://www.ted.com/talks/deb_roy_the_birthing_of_a_word)
- **David Crystal interviewed by Cambridge University Press**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59GMlpAdVok>  
• <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8jofTbIxM>

## What can I listen to?

- **The BBC's Word of Mouth programme** presented by Michael Rosen, has a huge archive of previous programmes all available for download. Some recent highlights have been selected for you here:  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qtzn/episodes/player>
  - A Debate About American English  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08g5533>
  - Will Emoji Be the Future of English?  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08ffvp6>
  - The Language of Lying  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000dfpy>

## What websites can I use?

- **British Library English Language and Literature Timeline**  
(<http://www.bl.uk/learning/langlit/evolvingenglish/accessvers/index.html>)
  - **Open University The History of English in 10 Minutes** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H3r9bOkYW9s>)
- You can keep track of articles about language by following @EngLangBlog (<https://twitter.com/EngLangBlog>) on Twitter and by bookmarking your favourite articles using your preferred social media apps.