

A Level English Language: Academic Reading

These are links to articles and books which will support your understanding of the learning and the text-types in the language papers.

1. A video about technology changing language:

https://www.ted.com/talks/john_mcwhorter_txtng_is_killing_language_jk/transcript?language=en

Summarise the writer's attitude to change in this article.

2. Changing language:

<https://www.visualthesaurus.com/cm/dogearred/david-crystal-on-language-change/>

3. More discussion about language change:

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2015/may/01/icymi-english-language-is-changing-faster-than-ever-says-expert>

Compare the ways that language change is presented by different people in these links.

3. Language change reflects society:

<http://termcoord.eu/2016/10/david-crystal-a-language-changes-to-reflect-society/>

To what extent do you agree with the argument presented here?

4. Child language acquisition:

<https://www.linguisticsociety.org/resource/faq-how-do-we-learn-language>

Do you recognise the patterns described here from you own experience with learning language?

5. Travel writing from 1800:

<http://www.online-literature.com/dickens/pictures-from-italy/7/>

What features of this writing are present because of the time it was written?

6. Contemporary travel writing:

<http://hitherandthither.net/travelogue-rome-italy/>

Compare how the writers convey different attitudes to their experiences of Italy.

To do this:

- Compare the contextual influences on their writing
- Compare how the language they use is different
- Compare their differing purposes

7. Political correctness

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2640004/BBC-mauled-ruling-girl-offensive-word-MP-leads-growing-outcry-politically-correct-censorship.html>

Do you agree with the opinion presented in this article?