

# A-level English Language

## Step Up Work

Write an opinion article for The Guardian in which you discuss how social media is affecting the English Language.



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# English Language Step Up Work

An important part of the A-level English Language is learning how to write about language issues for a non-specialist audience (people who haven't studied the English Language).

You may be expected to write an opinion article in which you discuss the issues surrounding a language topic such as how social media is affecting the English Language.

## Aims

- To think independently about a language issue.
- To practise writing as a journalist and language specialist.
- To write an opinion article which explores a language issue.

## Your Task

- Read The Guardian article in which a newspaper columnist discusses a school which decided to ban slang.
- Write an opinion article for The Guardian in which you discuss how social media is affecting the English Language.
- Make sure it is typed up and set out like the example you have been given.

**You MUST bring your finished article to your first English lesson in September.**

## Some Starting Points

1. Make a list of the different types of social media.
2. Write down as many examples as you can of language use which is found on social media. (Write down as many examples as you can of language use which is found on social media. This includes symbols.)
3. List all the ways that language is changed by users of social media 😊  
Eg 1 example could be the use of numbers for letters.
4. Think about different opinions that people might have towards the language of social media. Decide what viewpoints you will discuss and what your own views are.  
Eg Will you argue that these changes are positive, negative, harmless, devastating, useful.....etc?
5. Write your article. Remember to write for a non-specialist audience and discuss the issues.

**Form:** broadsheet newspaper article

**Audience:** non-specialist, adult

**Topic:** language and social media

**Tone:** your choice

**Purpose:** to inform (how the language is changed) and discuss (different opinions people may have about the changes)

Good luck. We look forward to reading your pieces.

Mrs McHugh, Mrs Warland, Mrs Todd and Mrs Feeney.

