

RECOMMENDED READING FOR A LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A Level English Language is a combination of technical knowledge, knowledge of broader issues about how language works in society and creative skills. To prepare for A Level study we do not expect you to have already learnt the technical details of the subject, but broader reading around English as a subject and looking at a variety of different types of writing will always help. What follows is a list of texts which are hopefully as enjoyable as they are useful.

This might be a fun place to start:

<https://blog.lingoda.com/en/fun-facts-english-language>

General Interest:

Bill Bryson: *The Mother Tongue: English and How it Got that Way*

David Crystal: *How Language Works*

Literature:

George Orwell: *1984*

Aldous Huxley: *Brave New World* and *Island*

Ray Bradbury: *Fahrenheit 451*

Alan Bennett: *Talking Heads*

Irvine Welsh: *Trainspotting*

Anthony Burgess: *A Clockwork Orange*

Travel Writing

Bill Bryson: *Notes from A Small Island*

Patrick Leigh-Fermor: *A Time of Gifts*

Articles

Charlie Brooker: *Screen Burn*

Films:

Arrival (Denis Villeneuve, 2017)

Beowulf (Robert Zemeckis, 2007)

Textbooks:

Alan Gardiner: *A Level English Language, Revision Express*

Cambridge Topics in English Language have a good selection of books covering the main areas of the course.