



We're looking forward to welcoming you in September! Please note that this document has been created by staff to help you prepare to start your studies at sixth form. The work you produce from this will form the basis of a discussion in your first lessons with your teachers.

At the end of this document, there is a review grid for you to complete every time you engage with some preparatory reading this summer.

List of key topics you will study in Year 12:

1. Representation and language: people and hobbies
2. Textual variations
3. Child Learning Acquisition
4. Discourse, pragmatics, grammar
5. Use of language in age, occupation, gender, accent and dialect

Recommended research list:

Podcasts: Word of Mouth, The Allusionist, Lexicon Valley, Lingthusiasm

Documentaries: 'Babies' on Netflix, 'No More Boys and Girls: Can Our Kids Go Gender Free?' on BBC, 'Tiny, Happy People' on the BBC's 'Speech Lab'

Linguists: David Crystal, B.S. Skinner, Jerome Bruner, Jean Aitchison, Gretchen McCulloch

E-magazine: <https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/>

Username: St Peters School Students Password: StPeters22

Tasks

On the review and investigation gride, complete the tasks for :

- 1) My idiolect and Sociolect
- 2) How words enter society
- 3) Widening your knowledge
- 4) Idioms

Review & Investigation grid

My idiolect and sociolect

5 phrase you might use in a typical message to your parents:

5 phrases you might use in a typical message to your friends:

5 phrases adults over 40 years old might use to their friends:

What differences do you notice? Explain the reasons why this might be.

How do words enter society?

List each word of the year and explain why the words might have been chosen (link to what was going on at the time in the world).

2022 –

2021 –

2020 –

2019 –

2018 -

Collect 5-10 words that have entered the dictionary recently.

Use the urban dictionary to look up the etymology of words you use. Could you look at taboo words?

Widening your knowledge

Either read an article on language change or listen to a podcast.

Some topic ideas: language change, English around the world, accents in the UK, gendered language

What were 3 key takeaways from your research?

What did you find interesting?

What questions do you still have about this topic?

Idioms

Collect all the peculiar things you hear people say. Can you collect any of the more unusual ones? For example: 'Put a lid on it!'