

English Language: Top Tips for Success at A Level

Teacher tips:

1. Do some wider reading:
 - a. A-Level resources (e.g. eMagazine, library resources)
 - b. Material aimed at a non-specialist audience (e.g. programmes such as 'Planet Word', articles about English language in broadsheet newspapers).
2. Stay organised (keep a file, order all notes and hand-outs for future reference).
3. Learn specialist terminology regularly and use this in both speech and writing.
4. Re-read class notes at regular intervals and be independent in developing and consolidating knowledge.
5. Discuss language issues outside of lesson time. Relate issues and debates in English language to real world scenarios.
6. Show a willingness to improve accuracy of writing/essay writing techniques.
7. Research other related areas of study for personal interest (e.g. speech therapy).
8. Manage time and workload effectively, particularly in relation to coursework.
9. Act upon advice given on coursework, classwork or verbally.
10. Aspire to be an expert in the area of English language.

Student tips:

1. Ensure the mark schemes are understood for both exam answers and coursework.
2. Learn full details of theories and research studies.
3. Catch up with missed work and ensure the content is understood.
4. Practise analysing any text (e.g. a bus ticket) to refine skills.
5. Identify links with other subjects wherever possible.