

Welcome to English Language & Linguistics! We've prepared a selection of activities to give you a taste of the subject, ease you into the course, and hopefully spark your interest in the study of linguistics.

Please complete the following tasks and bring them to your first English lesson. You will need to submit your timeline, etymology research, and poster to your teacher during this session. If you create any digital resources, please either share them with your teacher or bring a printed copy.

Brief overview of linguistics

**Mandatory: 2 hours**

The English language is approximately 1,600 years old.

* Watch the video titled [How did English evolve? - Kate Gardoqui](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kIzFz9T5rhI)
* Create a timeline of key events that have shaped the development of the English language. You may present this in any format you prefer (e.g., poster, digital timeline, infographic).

**Mandatory: 2 hours**

English has over 170,000 words in everyday use.

* Watch the video [Where do new words come from? - Marcel Danesi](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ytr28t5VzAs).
* Research the origins of the following words. Present your findings in any format (e.g., slides, notes, poster, video):

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Quarantine | Decimate | Nightmare | Clue |
| Salary | Avocado | Nice | Tantalise |

**Mandatory: 1 hour**

English exists in many forms beyond the standard version taught in schools or used by tools like Word and Grammarly. One fascinating variety is Multicultural London English (MLE).

* Read the script extract from the BBC series Grime Kids, which tells the story of five kids forming their own garage crew in 2001.
* Highlight and annotate, or take notes on, how the characters use non-standard language specific to the MLE dialect. One example has already been provided to get you started.

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Would be ‘wasn’t’ in standard English.

