



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

School
Of
English.



Support Materials: English Language and Linguistics Reading List

BA (Hons) English Language and Linguistics

Course preparatory reading for 2020-2021

In the first year of your degree you will study some of the basic building blocks of language (its sounds and structures), and how it changes over time and place. Here are the texts we use in our first year (and in some cases in the second and third year)

Phonetics and Phonology

Carr, P. (2020) *English Phonetics and Phonology: An Introduction*, 3rd edition. Wiley Blackwell.

Gussenhoven, Carlos & Haike Jacobs. (2005). *Understanding Phonology*. 2nd ed. London: Hodder.

Morphology and Syntax

Sportiche, D., Koopman, H., & Stabler, E. (2013). *An Introduction to Syntactic Analysis and Theory*. Wiley.

Dialectology and Sociolinguistics

Beal, Joan (2010) *An Introduction to Regional Englishes*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. [ISBN: 0748621172]

Historical Linguistics

van Gelderen, Elly (2014) *A History of the English Language*, Revised edition. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.

Possible further reading before you arrive

For many of you, this may be the first time you have studied Linguistics, especially if you did not take English Language at A-level. So the summer before you arrive is an ideal time to explore what Linguistics is about. The following books are designed to provide an introductory overview of Linguistics. You do not need to buy these books, and they will not be assigned as obligatory set texts for your modules, but they will provide an accessible and enjoyable insight into the kinds of things you will study here. To help you decide which text(s) you might want, we have indicated what we think each has to offer.

Beal, Joan (2006) *Language and Region*. London: Routledge.

This provides a very accessible guide to the study of variation in British Englishes (it's aimed at A level students), and provides a gentle introduction to topics covered in the module. *Varieties of English*.

Crystal, D (2008) *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics*, 5th Edition. London: Blackwell.

This 'does what it says on the tin', providing a useful reference guide for unfamiliar concepts or terminology. Linguistics is a subject that tends to use rather a lot of specialist terminology, which can take a while to get used to.

Pinker, S (1994) *The Language Instinct: How the Mind Creates Language*.

This is a very general introduction to the biggest questions in linguistics, designed for the general public. It's a very accessible read, and a good place to start.

Fromkin, Victoria., Rodman, Robert., & Hyams, Nina. (2013). *An Introduction to Language* (10th Edition). Cengage Learning.

This is a great overview of linguistics with chapters on all areas that you'll study at Level 1 and beyond. You'll find it very useful as supplementary reading for *Structure of English* and *Sounds of English* in your first year, and then find it gives you a useful overview of other topics you'll study in more advanced modules in years 2 and 3.

Harley, Trevor A. (2010). *Talking the Talk: Language, Psychology and Science*. Hove & New York: Psychology Press.

This provides a lively and accessible overview of some of the key topics in linguistics, covering the uniqueness of human language; its structure, acquisition, geographical and social variation, patterns of everyday usage, and its place in contemporary social debates.