
Recommended Reading List

A-level English Language (7702)

Version 3.0



A-level Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society
Section A: Textual Variations and Representations

Author	Title	Description
David Crystal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Glossary of Netspeak and Textspeak (Edinburgh University Press, 2004) • Language and the Internet (CUP, 2001) • Internet linguistics: a student guide (Routledge, 2011) 	Useful introductions to the basics of these blended modes
Ronald Carter and Sandra Cornbleet	The Language of Speech and Writing	Student-friendly text (Routledge, 2001)
Mark Boardman	The Language of Websites	Student-friendly text (Routledge, 2004)
Tim Shortis	The Language of ICT	Student-friendly text (Routledge, 2000)
Geoffrey Leech, Margaret Deuchar, and Robert Hoogenraad	English Grammar For Today	A good text for teachers; includes material on the mode 'continuum' (141-155) (Palgrave, 2005)
David Graddol, Sharon Goodman and Theresa Lillis	Redesigning English	Another teacher text with a good chapter (3) on 'English in Cyberspace' (Routledge, 2007)
Peter Grundy	Doing Pragmatics	A refreshingly clear take on what pragmatics is and how it's relevant to communication. Never again will you see a student answer which begins 'This is a pragmatic' or 'There are no pragmatics in this text' (Hodder, 2008)
(Eds.) Daniel Allington & Barbara Mayor	Communicating in English: Talk, Text, Technology	Readable and very accessible, with some good coverage of multimodal forms and political rhetoric. (Routledge, 2012)
Doug Biber	Variation across Speech and Writing	One of the classic texts that introduced mode study. Still very relevant now. (CUP, 1991)
Culpeper et al (ed.)	English Language: Description, Variation and Context	A good range of material for teachers. (Palgrave, 2009)
Scott Thornbury and Diana Slade	Conversation: From Description to Pedagogy	Teacher text packed with very good examples to use in class. (CUP, 2006)

Angela Goddard and Beverly Geesin	Language and Technology	Interesting and accessible student book on aspects of new technology and language (Routledge, 2011)
Angela Goddard	Chapter: Language and Technology in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories (English and Media Centre)	A chapter on technology and language in this student and teacher-friendly book. (English and Media Centre, 2013)
Paul Simpson and Andrea Mayr	Language and Power: a resource book for students	One of the excellent Routledge English language Introductions series. Very good for teachers and brighter students. (Routledge, 2009)
Alison Ross	Language and Representation in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories	Chapter in student-friendly book on recent approaches to language development. (English and Media Centre, 2013)
Norman Fairclough	Language and Power (Longman, 2001) Critical Discourse Analysis (Longman, 2010)	Many of the frameworks used in the analytical approach to the unit are inspired by Fairclough's critical approach to language
Alan Gardiner	AS/A2 English Language	A very student-friendly revision guide which has clear explanations of basic frameworks (Pearson, 2008)
Ron Carter and Michael McCarthy	Cambridge Grammar of English	Very thorough and teacher friendly guide to grammar (CUP, 2006)
Deborah Cameron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Teacher's Guide to Grammar (OUP, 2007) • The Feminist Critique of Language (Routledge, 1998) 	An introduction to the frameworks for language analysis at A Level. Very useful for teachers as its title might suggest, while the Feminist Critique is a reader in language and gender, with some good material on how gender is represented
Steve Thorne	The Language of War	Good for both students and teachers. Some very detailed and wide-ranging approaches to studying areas like army recruitment adverts & computer games covers (Routledge, 2006)

Sue Fox	Chapter: Spoken Language in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories	Good introduction to the latest work on spoken language and how it's analysed. (English and Media Centre, 2013)
Articles from online/print publications		
Beth Kemp	Mode in the Modern World	<i>emagazine 41, September 2008</i> (English & Media Centre)
Dan Clayton	What's the M.O. of analysing mode?	<i>emagazine 54, December 2011</i> (English & Media Centre)
Dick Hudson	The Grammar of Spoken Language	<i>emagazine 50, December 2010</i> (English & Media Centre)
Elfrea Lockley	Blog off? Or log on? Blogging – an introduction	<i>emagplus 37, September 2007</i> (English & Media Centre)
Angela Goddard	Telling it Like it Is – Problems of representing and analysing real speech	<i>emagazine 57 September 2012</i> (English & Media Centre)
Angela Goddard	'Hello I'm on the train' Phone technology and the shaping of new texts	<i>emagazine 27 February 2005</i> (English & Media Centre)
Mandy Brooks	What does your mobile mean to you?	<i>emagazine 34, 2006</i> (English & Media Centre)
Beth Kemp	Txt, Textese or Texting	<i>emagazine 34, 2006</i> (English & Media Centre)
Michael Rosen	Jang and Slargon,	<i>emagazine 34, 2006</i> (English & Media Centre)
David Hann	The Grammar of Storytelling	<i>emagazine 56, 2012</i> (English & Media Centre)
Beth Kemp	Tense and Aspect - Using Detailed Comments on Verb Forms	<i>emagazine 51, 2011</i> (English & Media Centre)
Dan Clayton	Language matters: investigating representation	<i>emagazine 42, December 2008</i> (English and Media Centre)
David Hyatt	Beneath the surface of language – the critical analysis of discourse	<i>emagazine 42, December 2008</i> (English and Media Centre)
Ben Farndon	Murray-mania	<i>emagazine 42, December 2008</i> (English and Media Centre)
Simon Lavery	Investigating Language – Online Archives	<i>emagazine 40, April 2008</i> (English and Media Centre)

Online Resources

Crispin Thurlow	http://extra.shu.ac.uk/daol/articles/v1/n1/a3/thurlow2002003-paper.html	Generation Text: the sociolinguistics of young people's text messaging
Danah Boyd	http://www.danah.org/papers/	A variety of papers and articles on social networking sites and their impact on communication. Not strictly a linguistic focus, but interesting nonetheless
Susan Herring	http://ella.ils.indiana.edu/~herring/index.html	Susan Herring's website. Herring is one of the key thinkers and writers on technology and language.
	http://info.ils.indiana.edu/~herring/cmc.syll.13.html	Susan Herring's Introduction to CMC course
Language@Internet	http://www.languageatinternet.org/	An open access, electronic journal focused on language mediated through the internet
Teachit	http://www.teachit.co.uk	Go to the Language Library → Language and Social Contexts → Language technology for some resources on email and texting, or go to Language Library → Talk Talk for some great resources on spoken language
B. Fliss	http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~cpercycourses/6362Flis2.htm	A paper on 'The Language of Email'
David A. Huffaker and Sandra L. Calvert	http://jcmc.indiana.edu/vol10/issue2/huffaker.html	Gender, Identity, and Language Use in Teenage Blogs
EngLangBlog	http://englishlangsfx.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/text%20language	Collected links and posts on texting
EngLangBlog	http://englishlangsfx.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/twitter	Collected links and posts on Twitter
All Talk – English 14-19	www.bt.com/alltalk	A fifteen unit student resource for learning about spoken language and interaction in everyday life. Audio and video included. First published 2011

A-level Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society
Section B: Children's Language Development

Author	Title	Description
English and Media Centre	Mathilda Speaking & Mathilda 2	Excellent digital and print resources based around the developing language of children. Available from here: http://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/publications/cat_detail.php?itemID=546&title=MATHILDA%20SPEAKING%20DVD & http://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/publications/cat_detail.php?itemID=653

David Crystal	Listen to Your Child	A good accessible guide for students and teachers alike (Penguin, 1999)
Jean Aitchison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Language Web • The Articulate Mammal 	The Language Web (CUP, 1996) is suitable for students (chapter 3 providing some good material on Language Development) while The Articulate Mammal (Routledge, 2011) is heavy going and is really only recommended for teachers
Julia Gillen	The Language of Children	Suitable for students and teachers, with some good material on children's writing (Routledge, 2003)
Alan Gardiner	English Language AS/A2	Student revision guide (Pearson, 2008)
Jean Stilwell Peccei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Language • Child Language: a resource book for students 	Excellent book on Language Development. The former (Routledge, 1999) is aimed at students and is very good, while the latter (Routledge, 2005) is aimed at different audiences and covers the basics as well as material that would help teachers. Both are highly recommended
William O'Grady	How Children Learn Language	An excellent, student-friendly book that has much recent research and many case studies. Highly recommended (CUP, 2005)
Matthew Saxton	Child Language Acquisition and Development	Excellent, accessible and thorough look at child language development (Sage, 2010)
Frank Myszor	Language Acquisition	A good student-friendly introduction to the topic (Hodder, 1999)
Ambridge, B and Lieven, E.V.M.	Child Language Acquisition: Contrasting Theoretical Approaches	Excellent, comprehensive overview of theories about language development. Teacher text. (CUP, 2011)
Pahl, K and Rowsell, J.	Literacy and Education: Understanding the New Literacy Studies in the Classroom (2nd edition)	Teacher book – plenty of up to date references to recent work on new forms of literacy. (Sage, 2012)
Ibbotson, P.	<i>Child Language Acquisition</i> in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories	Chapter in student-friendly book on recent approaches to language development.

		(English and Media Centre, 2013)
Michael Tomasello	Constructing a Language: A Usage-Based Theory of Language Acquisition	Teacher text. Detailed look at new approaches to language development. (Harvard University Press, 2005)
Fromkin and Rodman	An Introduction to Language	Suitable for students and teachers (Heinle, 2002)
Steven Pinker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Language Instinct (Penguin, 1995) • Words and Rules (Phoenix, 2001) • The Stuff of Thought (Penguin, 2008) 	Probably of more use to teachers as they can be quite heavy going. Words and Rules has a very neat explanation of the Wugs test while The Stuff of Thought has a chapter on Child Language. The Language Instinct is highly recommended if you want to hammer out the ins and outs of theory
Karmiloff and Karmiloff – Smith	Pathways to Language (From Fetus to Adolescent)	Suitable for teachers (Harvard University Press, 2002)
Mike Cardwell, Liz Clark and Claire Meldrum	Psychology for A2 Level	(Chapter 17 - Language and Thought) Aimed at Psychology students but interesting reading for Language students and teachers alike. Has some very good material on cognitive theories of language acquisition (OUP, 2012)
Neil Mercer and Joan Swann (ed)	Learning English: development and diversity	Especially chapters 1 and 3 on initial acquisition and reading and writing (Routledge, 1996)
Katharine Perera	Children's Writing and Reading: Analysing Classroom Language	Currently out of print but occasionally available second hand. Very detailed and thorough book on children's acquisition and development of reading and writing. Suitable for teachers (Wiley-Blackwell, 1984)
Brian Street & Adam Lefstein	Literacy: An Advanced Resource Book for Students	A Routledge Introductions text. (Routledge, 2007)
Vivian Cook	Inside Language	(Chapter 7) An intro to the topic (Routledge, 1997)
Articles from online/print publications		
Alison Ross	The Functions of Children's Talk	<i>emagazine</i> 44, April 2009 (English and Media Centre)
Ben Eve	Novice Writers – Cognitive and Practical Processes	<i>emagazine</i> 66, December 2014 (English and Media Centre)
Danuta Reah	Learning how to write – the development of early literacy	<i>emagazine</i> 48, April 2010 (English and Media Centre)

Marcello Giovanelli	'It's Sleep Time' – Children's Routines and the Language of Bedtime	<i>emagazine 62, April 2013 (English and Media Centre)</i>
Alison Ross	Now Mathilda is Seven! – Child Language Acquisition	<i>emagazine 59, April 2013 (English and Media Centre)</i>
Alison Ross	Technonanny – CLA in Older Children	<i>emagazine 54, December 2011 (English and Media Centre)</i>
Paul Ibbotson	A new kind of language	Article on child language research and theory in <i>The Psychologist</i> magazine, February 2012 (http://www.thepsychologist.org.uk)
David Messer	State of the art: language acquisition	Article on different theories of language development from <i>The Psychologist</i> magazine, March 2000 (http://www.thepsychologist.org.uk)
Margaret J.Snowling	Language skills and learning to read	Article on different models of literacy development from <i>The Psychologist</i> magazine, August 2004 (http://www.thepsychologist.org.uk)

Online Resources

Organisation	Web Address	Description
Examples of children's writing	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-2-teacher-assessment-writing-exemplification-levels-2-3 http://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/view/ncc102573 http://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/view/ncc102570 http://www.puriton.somerset.sch.uk/Understanding-writing-levels.aspx	The old National Curriculum in Action site no longer exists, but the DFE's site has downloadable copies of children's writing for each Key Stage and Level, along with commentaries. Other LEAs offer links to older material from the National Curriculum, but it can't be guaranteed if this material will remain available. Probably best to download if it is.
Teachit Language Library	Technonanny blog Little Evie Dear Zoo http://www.teachit.co.uk/	Some excellent online resources – audio, video, worksheets, handouts and lesson ideas – which are constantly updated
CHILDES database	http://childes.psy.cmu.edu/	A resource bank for linguists, which collects

		child language data. Takes a while to get used to but also has some interesting material to support teaching. The <i>topics</i> link is particularly useful
EngLangBlog	http://englishlangsfx.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/language%20development	Collected links and posts on child language

A-level Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change

Author	Title	Description
Peter Stockwell	Sociolinguistics: a resource book for students	A Routledge Introductions text which is excellent on all manner of language varieties (Routledge, 2001)
World Englishes, Global English and English as a Lingua Franca		
Jennifer Jenkins	World Englishes: a resource book for students	Another excellent Routledge book that will help both students and teachers. Ranges from the basics in section A to much more advanced material in B-D. (Routledge, 2009)
Jane Setter	Chapter on world Englishes in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories (English and Media Centre)	Student and teacher-friendly book (English and Media Centre, 2013)
Nicholas Ostler	The Last Lingua Franca	A thorough look at how English has spread around the world and its possible antecedents as a lingua franca, along with its future chances (Penguin, 2010)
David Crystal	English as a Global Language (2 nd edition Cambridge University Press, 2003)	English as a Global Language offers a solid intro to World Englishes
Language Discourses and Debates		
David Crystal	The Fight for English	A particularly interesting riposte to the prescriptivism of Humphrys, Truss et al. (OUP, 2006)
Henry Hitchings	The Language Wars	A great read for teachers and students alike. Excellent coverage of the key debates about language. (John Murray, 2011)
Robert Lane Greene	You Are What You Speak	A good read for teachers and students. Plenty of discussion about language use and abuse. (Delacorte, 2011)
David Marsh	For Who The Bell Tolls	A good overview of arguments about language use from the Guardian's Style editor (Guardian Books, 2013)
Jean Aitchison	Language Change - Progress or Decay?	A thorough look at attitudes to language change (CUP, 2012)
Ammon Shea	Bad English: A History of Linguistic Aggravation	A US linguist's take on attitudes to "proper" grammar (Perigee, 2014)

David Crystal	Texting: the great debate	Very accessible book on arguments around texting and literacy. (OUP, 2009)
Dan Clayton	Chapter on attitudes to language change in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories (English and Media Centre)	Student and teacher-friendly book (English and Media Centre, 2013)
Harry Ritchie	English for the Natives	An interesting and accessible look at how grammar really works in spoken language, online communication and written texts. (John Murray, 2013)
Language Change: new words and meanings		
Susie Dent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Language Report: • 2007 Language on the Move • 2006 The, Like, Report, For Real • Language 2005 Fanboys and Overdogs • 2004 Larpers and Shroomers 	The annual report from the frontlines of language change. Always has very interesting and up to date examples and enlightening discussions around new words (OUP)
Kerry Maxwell	Brave New Words	New words and their origins, with comments from an experienced lexicographer (Pan, 2007)
Allan Metcalf	Predicting New Words	How and why some new words take off while others don't (Houghton Mifflin Books, 2002)
Geoffrey Hughes	Words in Time	Looks at how words have changed over time but with a particular focus on terms used to label others. More for teachers than students but could be used by able students for this topic. (Wiley-Blackwell, 1998)
John Ayto	Twentieth Century Words	A journey through the new words of the 20th Century, decade by decade (OUP, 1999).
Language and Gender		
Deborah Cameron	The Myth of Mars and Venus	A well-judged response to the Female Brain, Men Are From Mars and If Men Could Talk school of popular linguistics/ psychobabble (OUP, 2008)
Jennifer Coates and Pia Pichler (eds.)	Language and Gender: a reader (2 nd edition)	Contains many of the classic studies and lots of recent ones on gender and sexuality (Wiley-Blackwell, 2011)
Jane Sunderland	Language and Gender: an advanced resource book	Lots of material for teachers to explore and study with students (Routledge, 2006)
Mary M Talbot	Language and Gender	A very readable introduction to gender and spoken language. First chapter is particularly helpful for putting the deficit, dominance and difference models in perspective (Polity Press, 2010)
Allyson Jule	A Beginner's Guide to Language & Gender	Good accessible intro material for teachers and students alike (Multilingual Matters, 2008)
Lia Litosseliti	Gender and Language: theory and practice	Good teacher text for gender and language analysis (Hodder, 2006)

Angela Goddard	Language and Gender	Good student-friendly material on representation of gender. (Routledge, 2008)
Penelope Eckert and Sally McConnell-Ginet	Language and Gender (Cambridge Textbooks in Linguistics)	Excellent teacher book on the topic from two of the leading researchers in the field (CUP, 2003)
Dale Spender	Man Made Language	One of the most influential texts on gender, often seen as kick-starting the whole debate, and therefore essential reading for teachers (Rivers Oram Press, 1998)
Janet Holmes	Gendered Talk at Work	Teacher text with plenty of theory and examples (Wiley-Blackwell, 2007)
Paul Baker	Sexed Texts	Excellent book on gender and sexuality, both in interaction and represented forms (Equinox, 2008)
Paul Baker	Using Corpora to Analyse Gender	A book that uses corpus linguistics approaches to study gender. Very good for teachers exploring corpora for the first time (Bloomsbury, 2014)
Deborah Cameron	Chapter on gender and variation in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories (English and Media Centre)	Student and teacher-friendly book (English and Media Centre, 2013)
John L. Locke	Duels and Duets: why women and men talk so differently	Argues a case for biologically based sex-differences in language (very much at odds with other recent works) (Cambridge University Press, 2011)
Language Change: history and background		
Melvyn Bragg	The Adventure of English	Accessible and popular book on the history of the language. Accompanying videos are very good too (Sceptre, 2004)
Terttu Nevalainen	An Introduction to Early Modern English	A very thorough guide to Early Modern English complete with very good range of textual examples (Edinburgh University Press, 2006)
Graeme Trousdale	Chapter on language change in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories (English and Media Centre)	Student and teacher-friendly book (English and Media Centre, 2013)
Adrian Beard	Language Change	Excellent text for encouraging students to work from the textual level, outwards to an understanding of change and context on a wider level (Routledge, 2004)
David Crystal	The Stories of English	<i>The Stories of English</i> looks at the different narratives around language change in English. (Penguin, 2005)
David Crystal	Evolving English: One Language, Many Voices	The book that accompanied the British Library's exhibition on the history of English. (British Library, 2011)
Language diversity: accent, dialect and diversity		

Joan Beal	Language and Region	A very usable text for students on accent and dialect (Routledge, 2006)
Carmen Llamas and Dominic Watt	Language and Identities	Takes a really interesting look at many facets of language identity (Edinburgh University Press, 2010)
Julie Coleman	The Life of Slang	Slang is its main focus, but whole book is very interesting in its sociolinguistic take on new words and expressions. (OUP, 2012)
David Britain	Language in the British Isles	Covers language variation from British Black English to Anglo-Romani and British Sign Language (CUP, 2007)
Kevin Watson	Chapter on accent and dialect in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories (English and Media Centre)	Student and teacher-friendly book (English and Media Centre, 2013)
Paul Kerswill	Chapter on social variation in Language - A Student Handbook on Key Topics and Theories (English and Media Centre)	Student and teacher-friendly book (English and Media Centre, 2013)
Articles from online/print publications		
Deborah Cameron	A Language in Common	In <i>The Psychologist</i> , July 2009
Gill Francis	Grammar and Change – Is 'Correct' Grammar a Myth?	<i>emagazine</i> 66, December 2014 (English and Media Centre)
Suzanne Williams	Modern Marking – a Challenge to Gender Neutral Marking	<i>emagazine</i> 66, December 2014 (English and Media Centre)
Beth Kemp	Ladettes and slags, manwhores and boyfriends – gender, culture and language	<i>emagazine</i> 45, September 2009 (English and Media Centre)
Matt Carmichael	Up with which I will not put - The debate about language and prescriptivism	<i>emagazine</i> 26, December 2004 (English and Media Centre)
Dan Clayton	Language discourses 1 – debates and discussions about language	<i>emagazine</i> 49, September 2010 (English and Media Centre)
Dan Clayton	Language discourses 2	<i>emagazine</i> 49, September 2010 (English and Media Centre)

Online Resources

Organisation	Web Address	Description
Spoken English Teaching Resource Archive	http://linguistics.sllf.qmul.ac.uk/english-language-teaching	QMUL's excellent resource for the teaching of spoken language.
The Talk of the Toon	http://research.ncl.ac.uk/decte/toon/index.html	Masses of resources on English varieties in the north-east

Linguistics Research Digest	http://linguistics-research-digest.blogspot.co.uk/	QMUL's regular round-up of linguistic research for teachers and students
British Library Sounds Familiar site	http://www.bl.uk/learning/langlit/sounds/index.html	An invaluable resource including sound clips of many varieties of English
Buzzword archive	http://www.macmillandictionary.com/buzzword/AtoZ.html	Kerry Maxwell's archive of new words for MacMillan Dictionaries
MacMillan Dictionaries blog	http://www.macmillandictionaryblog.com/	Regularly updated material on language in use
Beth Kemp's website	http://www.bethkemp.co.uk/	Plenty of user-friendly material for students and teachers of A level English Language
BBC Voices project	http://www.bbc.co.uk/voices/	A wide-ranging resource with articles and sound files about language in use around the UK and connected language issues
BBC History timeline	http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/launch_timeline_english.shtml	A very student-friendly timeline with interactive features
The Routes of English	http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/routesofenglish/index.shtml	The website to accompany Melvyn Bragg's BBC series and books
International Dialects of English site	http://web.ku.edu/idea/europe/english/and/england.htm	Downloadable audio files of various regional accents

A-level non-exam assessment: Language in Action

Author	Title	Description
Language Investigation		
Angela Goddard	Researching Language: English Project Work at A Level and Beyond	Very clear guide to language Investigation (Heinemann, 2000)
Alison Wray and Aileen Bloomer	Projects in Linguistics and Language Studies	Full of great ideas for language investigations and developing methodologies (Hodder, 2012)
Mark Sebba	Focussing on Language	Booklet designed for helping students carry out investigations (Definite Article Publications, 2000)
Alison Sealey	Researching English Language	A useful guide to data collection, analysis and writing up projects on language (Routledge, 2010)
Teachit www.teachit.co.uk	Hot on the Trail	A step by step online guide to carrying out investigations

Susan Cockcroft	Investigating Talk	Good focus on spoken language in all its varieties (Hodder, 1999)
Original Writing		
Rob Pope	Textual Intervention	An excellent book for teachers which offers different angles on rewriting texts and making an 'intervention' in language discourses. Very interesting reading and helpful for teachers preparing students for the production and investigation coursework tasks (Routledge, 1994)
Various authors	...For Dummies series	The 'Writing x for Dummies' series has some very readable material on the process of writing for different audiences and genres, including writing for children, screenwriting and romance novels (John Wiley and Sons)
Steve Campsall's Englishbiz site	http://www.englishbiz.co.uk/	A great resource for students to use to improve their own writing. Very user-friendly and accessible. And best of all, designed by a real-life English teacher!
Shaun O'Toole	Transforming Texts (Routledge A Level English Guides)	Plenty of ideas and approaches for rewriting and transforming texts. (Routledge, 2003)

Beyond A level

Angela Goddard	Doing English Language	Really useful and student-friendly, book offering focus on degrees on English Language and Linguistics. (Routledge, 2012)
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General introduction books

Robert Lawrence Trask	Language, The Basics	(Chapter 8) A good, accessible introduction (Routledge, 1999)
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