



LOWESTOFT
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Summer Project 2019

Subject: A Level English Language: @SixthLanguage



Teachers: Lee Beales, Kerry Logan, Ann McGovern

Purpose of your Summer Project: *The purpose of this Summer Project is to allow you to express your own interest in the wider world of the English Language. We want you to see how the language you use and are surrounded by is rich and varied.*

Tasks/Activities: *Your task will be to collate as many social media status updates/ tweets/ posts as possible. These can be from family members, friends, people who have the same interests as you. After collecting your texts, we would like you to analyse them asking the following questions:*

- 1. How is the writer engaging with their audience?*
- 2. What shared knowledge is evident?*
- 3. What specialist language is used?*
- 4. Who is excluded and who is included?*
- 5. Are any generic conventions used and what is the effect?*

Read and summarise in six points, the following article. Extend yourself by applying the ideas to your social media research:

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/shortcuts/2019/jan/14/the-x-factor-is-ending-a-text-with-a-kiss-flirtatious>

<http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20151012-will-emoji-become-a-new-language>

Hand in date: First English Language lesson in September 2019

Email k.logan@lowestoftsfc.ac.uk if you have any questions

Example:



Use of emoji hints that the writer is laughing at herself or inviting people to respond; it may not be a serious issue.

She is inviting her audience to ask her what is wrong.

She is excluding people who might think she is attention-seeking – perhaps this is a regular type of post?

She is using spoken language features eg. lack of punctuation and emoji. The responses use kisses which may show affection or understanding and are common in computer-mediated communication and are more to do with the personalities involved than actual kisses (IRL).

Reading List

<https://david-crystal.blogspot.com/>

Dale Spender *Man Made Language*

Almut Koester *The Language of Work*