



@Causeway_Edu

Before we get started.....

Please check that you have a copy of:

Academic Taster Workshop - Student Booklet

Academic Taster Workshop

A Level Arts & Humanities Subjects



Session objectives

By the end of the session you will be able to:

- 1** Describe or give a definition of some of the Arts & Humanities subjects you could study at A Level
- 2** Identify the different skills required for these subjects
- 3** Talk about a specific Arts or Humanities topic in-depth
- 4** Understand what it is like to study Arts & Humanities subjects at a higher level



Session overview

- 1 | Starter: Quiz
- 2 | What are Arts & Humanities Subjects?
- 3 | Academic research activity
- 4 | Writing up your research
- 5 | Recording your voiceover



About us



Ed Hill
Programme Officer

A Levels
English lit, Film Studies, History, Maths,
Environmental Studies (AS)



University of York
BA History

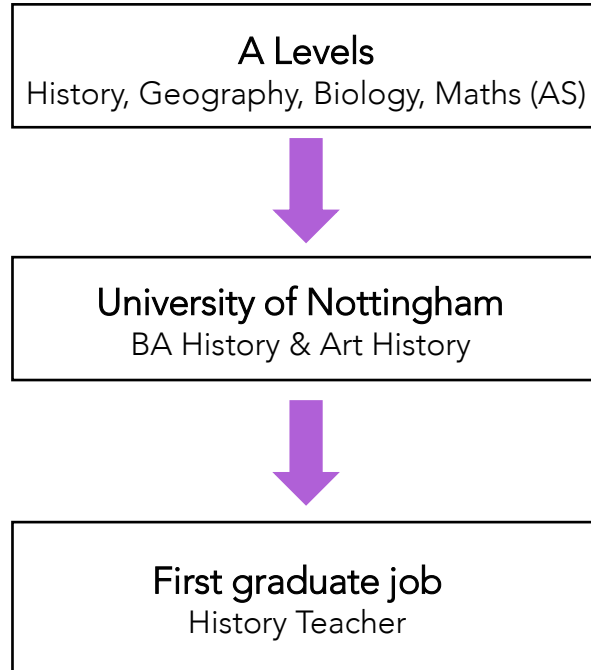


First graduate job
WP Graduate Ambassador





About us



Katie Buckingham
Head of Programmes



1. Starter: Quiz



Quiz

1. The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom has to be the leader of the political party who win the election– true or false?
2. The Vedas are the oldest scriptures of which religion?
3. Which country has the largest coast line? Australia, Canada, Norway or Russia
4. What are the two most aesthetically complementing colours?
5. Which poet and feminist scholar wrote the often shared quote: “The master's tools will never dismantle the master's house”?
6. As a musician what do you do when you read the word *Forte*?
7. Nobility in the 16th century would often wear cosmetics containing poison – true or false?
8. If a person's actions have bad consequences, it doesn't matter what their intentions were - true or False?



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Discussion

- How many quiz questions did you answer correctly?
- Did any of the answers surprise you?
- In which subject/s do you think you might get to discuss these sorts of topic?

2. What are Arts & Humanities subjects?

What is it like to study these subjects at A Level?



What are Arts & Humanities subjects?

Art & Design

Politics

Drama

Religious Studies

English Literature

History

Geography

Philosophy

Music



What is it like to study Arts & Humanities subjects at A Level?

In your booklets go to page 3 onwards. Here you will find lots of descriptions of Arts & Humanities subjects.

1. See if you can identify which subject each description belongs to.
2. Write the number of each description in the grid provided
3. You should be able to find 3 descriptions belonging to each subject:
 - ✓ A description or definition of the subject
 - ✓ Reasons why you might choose to study the subject at A Level
 - ✓ A taste of what it's like to study the subject at A Level



Example:

Subject	Description /definition of the subject	Why might you choose to study this subject?	What is it like to study this subject at A Level?
Art & Design	10	21	17

21. You might choose to study this subject if:

- You're interested in analysing and discussing images, objects and artefacts
- You enjoy planning, designing and creating images and artefacts of your own
- You enjoy communicating your ideas in a range of forms
- You have good attention to detail

10. This is the study of human creativity. It includes fine art, graphic communication, textile design, 3D design and photography.

You'll learn:

- about materials, processes, technologies and resources
- about different genres, styles and traditions
- how ideas and feelings can be conveyed and interpreted in images and objects
- how images and objects relate to the time and place in which they were made

17. The subject is mostly focused on practical and creative learning. You'll record your ideas and experiences in a variety of ways using drawing or other visual forms such as painting and sculpture. As well as learning a range of practical skills you'll also gain an understanding of different approaches towards art, from surrealism to the aesthetic movement.

You will undertake research; gathering, selecting and organising visual and other appropriate information.

You will use your knowledge and understanding of the work of other artists to develop and extend your thinking and inform your own work.

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Discussion

1. Which subjects do you like the sound of?
2. Which ones would you consider choosing to study at A Level?
3. Did you notice any skills that came up over and over again across different subjects?

3. Academic research activity

Research a topic in depth to get a taste of what it's like to study a Arts or Humanities subject at A Level.



Academic research activity

We would like you to complete a piece of independent research on a Arts or Humanities related topic and then record your research as a voiceover for a video.



If you submit your voiceover you will have it added to a Arts or Humanities subject information video to be shared with your school!

Instructions on how to record your voiceover will be provided at the end of this session.

If you are unable to record yourself, you can send us your research and somebody from the Causeway Team will record the voiceover for you.

Here is an example of one of the videos your voiceover could be added to.

Let's watch it now.





Academic research

Go to the Academic Research activity on page 11 in your student booklet.

1. Choose the subject you are most interested in learning more about.
2. Click on the links in your booklet to download a selection of resources about a specific topic for you to investigate.
3. Use the information in these resources to answer the questions provided in the pack.
4. You should start by using only the resources in the pack provided.

Art & Design
Music
Drama
English Literature
History
Geography
Politics
Philosophy
Religious Studies

EXTENSION: you can do your own additional wider research if you wish

Example:

Subject	Resource Pack Links
Art & Design	Art & Design Resource Pack.docx
Music	Music Resource Pack.docx
Drama	Drama Resource Pack.docx
English Literature	English Literature Resource Pack.docx
History	History Resource Pack.docx
Geography	Geography Resource Pack.docx
Religious Studies	Religious Studies Resource Pack.docx

3. Set by Tina Kitzing for the Landesbuhne theatre in Hannover (1999)



5. Questions

1. What are the main factors a designer has to think about when designing a theatre set?

2. Describe the difference between a realist and non-realist theatre set.

3. Describe two of the styles a set designer might use.

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4. Writing up your research

How to write up your academic research.

By the end of this section you will have written a short text (around 300 words) about the topic you have been researching.



Academic Words

1. What is the Academic Word List?

- This is a useful resource to help you to learn the words most needed to study at A Level and university.
- The list contains **570 words** that appear most frequently across a range of academic texts.
- The list does not include words that are in the most frequent 2000 words of English.

2. Why and how can you use them in your writing?

- The list of words will help to prepare you for studying at a higher level, after your GCSEs.
- When writing up your research **aim to use between 5 and 10 words from the academic words list.**



Academic Words

Choose 2-3 words from the Academic Word List.

Try to come up with a way of using each of these words in a sentence.

Example: **Incidence**

Due to the national lockdown there has been a higher incidence in sales of jigsaw puzzles....



Writing up your research

Now it is your turn to write a short text (around 300 words) about the topic you have been researching in the space provided on page 16 of your booklet.

How will you do this?



- Use the answers you found in the research pack and your list of academic words you were using during the last activity.
- Select and summarise the most interesting and important points (for example, pick one thing that surprised you or one thing you learnt that you didn't know before)
- Make sure your text gives the reader/listener a clear and accurate summary of your research topic.



Example:

Subject: Geography

Research Topic: El Nino

When scientists say that an El Nino event is happening, they mean that the sea surface temperature of a large area of the tropical Pacific Ocean is unusually warm over a period that lasts several months. The effect was first noticed by people living in South America, and because the warming happens around Christmas time they called it El Nino - it means "little boy" in Spanish, but when spelt with a capital N it actually refers to the baby Jesus.

An El Nino event happens every few years and is often followed by cooling of the surface of the sea, referred to as La Nina. Since the ocean interactions with the atmosphere, an El Nino event can dramatically alter the wind and rainfall patterns in the Pacific regions. These in turn causes changes in the atmospheric circulation worldwide- which means that an El Nino event can impact on regions as far apart as North America and Africa. There is no doubt about the knock-on effects, including an increased risk of diseases like malaria and cholera in areas affected by floods, and disruption to agriculture and economic welfare worldwide.

In 2014 economists of the University of Cambridge and the International Monetary Fund urged countries to plan initiatives to mitigate El Nino effects.

One way of getting an idea of what will happen in the futures is to investigate the past.... (235 words)

PAUSE HERE



Editing your writing

Checklist:

- ✓ Read your text out loud
- ✓ Does it make sense?
- ✓ Does your text give the reader/listener a clear and accurate summary of your research topic?
- ✓ Have you used between 5 and 10 words from the 'Academic Word List'?
- ✓ Is your text no more than 300 words?

PAUSE HERE

5. Recording your voiceover



Recording your voiceover

Preparation

1. Practise reading your text out loud again
2. Time yourself – is it long enough to fill 60 seconds if you read it aloud?

To make your voiceover as engaging as possible you might want to:

- Include a fun/unusual fact
- Ask a rhetorical question
- Vary your tone of voice at appropriate points





Recording your voiceover

How do I record myself?

Mobile phone/tablet: If you have access to a mobile phone or tablet you could record your voiceover clip using the “voice memo” tool.

Computer/laptop: If you have access to a desktop computer or laptop you may have a voice recorder app.

Save the audio file and send it to us by attaching to an email.



What if I can't record myself?

Don't worry! You can still enter the competition. You can send your 300 word research summary to us and we will record the voiceover for you.

PAUSE HERE

Finally.

Send us your work!

Please send your work along with your full name and school name to the Causeway Team email address:

info@causeway.education

- If you have recorded a voiceover please send us the **60 second audio clip**
- If you have not been able to record your own voiceover please send us your **300 word research summary**

www.causeway.education



If you submit a your research paragraph or voiceover to us, we will add it to our videos, credit you for your work (by including your name and school) and share the final video with your school.

A solid green horizontal bar is positioned to the left of the text.

Thanks and good luck!