

A Level English Language *Activity 3*

The history of the English language



The entire history of English in 22 minutes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgHE9bIt0mQ>

The history of the English language begins many thousands of years ago with the linguistic ancestor it shares with dozens of European and Asian languages. Let's begin with that pre-history of English, then learn about Old English, Middle English, Early Modern English and Present Day English. In this video you'll learn about where English came from, what impact the Vikings had on our language, what the Normans did to English, why Middle English is so weird, how the printing press affected how we spell, what the Great Vowel Shift did to pronunciation, how Shakespeare changed English, and how colonialism and the technology age have changed how we speak.

The above video is a brilliant introduction into the history of the English language. Pick a word and research its history, how it has changed and the influences that impacted the changes.