

## **The Big Exploration Week Three: English**

Hello! My name is Emily and I look after Year 5 to Year 9 outreach at Oxford Brookes University.

Hi guys! my name is Will and I work for Oxford Brookes University.

Hi everybody, my name is Catrin and I'm a current student at Oxford Brookes University

And you're watching The Big Exploration - Week Three: English!

Welcome back everyone, really good to see you! Now, this week we're going to talk all about all things English related, which is my favourite subject. Now, you guys are already experts from all the reading and writing you've been doing in school up until this point, but you might not have thought about all the ways English is used out there in life, and that's also true at university. Let's jump in

So, hopefully you've already completed the worksheet for this week. If you haven't, don't worry, pause the video now and go onto our website and find the worksheet.

Hopefully you found it interesting to look at some of the english-related things you can research at university. Thinking about the English-related skills, using reading we're better able to understand things, using books and what is available online. And thinking about writing, it's really important to be able to fully express ourselves just the way we want to. The skills you develop in English could help you to better research how human beings behave.

And that brings us to the second activity on your worksheet: is that really research? Have your answers ready, and let's start with number one.

Will humans marry robots?

Now amazingly, this piece of research is actually real. A university researcher at Maastricht University in the Netherlands has predicted that by 2050, just 30 years from now, robots will have become so advanced that we will think of them as friends and may even fall in love with them.

What are the similarities between Harry Potter and Jesus Christ?

So this topic is also true! A research student in Taiwan, a country in Asia, looked at the similarities between the world of Harry Potter and the world of Jesus in the bible. They then turned that into a book which has now won several awards!

Should plants have legal rights?

A group of researchers in Switzerland really did look into this topic! They concluded that, like human beings, plants have a right to live, and also it's unfair to do experiments on them unless you have a good reason.

Have people really been abducted by aliens?

Now, whether you believe this is up to you, but what is true is that research has taken place to find out if human beings have been abducted by aliens. To conduct the research, they spoke to people who said this was the case. The results were certainly controversial!

Can breaking wind make you feel better?

Now I'll admit, this one sounds a bit silly! But, a psychologist, someone who studies people's behaviour, looked at a boy who had had a really difficult upbringing. When things got really stressful at home, he used breaking wind to keep himself calm.

Could unicorns exist?

Kings College London (Philosophy student)

So I think we'll all agree this is a really important subject that needs investigation, and a Philosophy student at King's College in London really did look into the possibility that unicorns could exist. She looked at theories and stories about unicorns, and unfortunately she concluded it wasn't very likely, but could be possible in another world

If you've enjoyed the English-related research topics this week, there's more activity for you to complete on your worksheet. If you were going to go into an English-related research topic, what might you pick, and what would your question be?

That's it for this week - thank you very much for joining me! Next week we'll be looking at all the different research topics connected to Maths.