English Language Summer Task

It's marvellous that you've decided to study English Language at Harton 6th Form and we're all looking forward to meeting you! You'll have the chance to think about why we no longer have words like snollygoster to describe a dishonest politician (although I'm sure you could have a guess) and how children go from mewling and puking to studying English Language at A-Level.

Before we meet as a new class in September, it is important complete some preparatory tasks - you need to commit some time to exploring some of our tasks and topics so that you are ready to start our journey in September.

The tasks below are compulsory: they need to be completed and submitted as part of the enrolment process. Don't worry if you find any of the tasks difficult. It is important that you try your best, please, so that we have a clear starting point.

Please complete work for the specified deadlines - submit via email to DHudson@hartonacademy.co.uk and PStebbing@hartonacademy.co.uk to help with assigning course places for September. Any questions about these task, feel free to get in touch with either Mr Reavley or Mr Stebbing.

Task	Details
1	Introduction to Grammar Task.
	Research the "parts of speech". The internet is full of resources on this topic.
	Create a quick reference guide for yourself, to use in class or at home when you are asked to identify the "parts of speech".
	You should be able to answer the following questions: How do linguists define what the "parts of speech are"? How many are they? What are they called?
	How do we identify them? Are there any problems with a strict set of rules defining what the "parts of speech" are?
	Present your work as a quick reference guide.

2 Reading & Note-taking Task.

Access http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/~hana/teaching/ling1/01-Intro.pdf. This is an introduction to linguistics. Linguistics is the study of the building blocks of language. Make notes under the following headings

- · Why speech is more important than writing.
- Prescriptivists versus descriptivists.
- Grammar and why it's important.

Present your work as notes.

3 Investigating Names Task.

British Surnames are (usually) derived from a given name (e.g. Johnson), an occupation (e.g. Smith), a nickname (e.g. Small) or are toponymic (a place or geographical feature like London or Lake).

Choose a British television programme and write down the surnames of the actors. Google their etymology. Count how many are derived from given names, occupations, nicknames and places. Count how many are Anglicised (e.g. Price = Ap Rhys or "son of Rhys") and how many are non-Anglo-Saxon (e.g. Samia Ghadie). Research the etymology of at least 10.

Present your work as a table or graph, with explanatory notes.