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HIAS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

How are we teaching GCSE Language?

Reflection questions for departmental discussion

HIAS English Team
Autumn 2022
Final version

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Overview

This document contains…

A set of radial questions to consider around the teaching of language for GCSE, intended to support departmental reflection and discussion.

Points to consider when using this resource

These questions do not pretend to offer a ‘right’ answer but some straightforward prompts for open discussion within departments or leadership teams that can inform action planning.

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How are we teaching GCSE language?

When do we start formally introducing elements of the language papers?

Do we build up towards the GCSE papers, or does teaching towards particular questions dominate our planning approach?

Which teaching approaches do we use most often/most effectively?

How much curriculum time do we give to the explicit teaching of writing? Is this enough?

Do we give language as much teaching time as literature?

Do we teach writing at sentence level? Is this desirable? Why/ why not?

Are there particular points in the course where we focus on language exclusively?

How do we integrate elements of teaching for the language reading papers with literature teaching?

What do students struggle with most? What do we do about this? Is it working?

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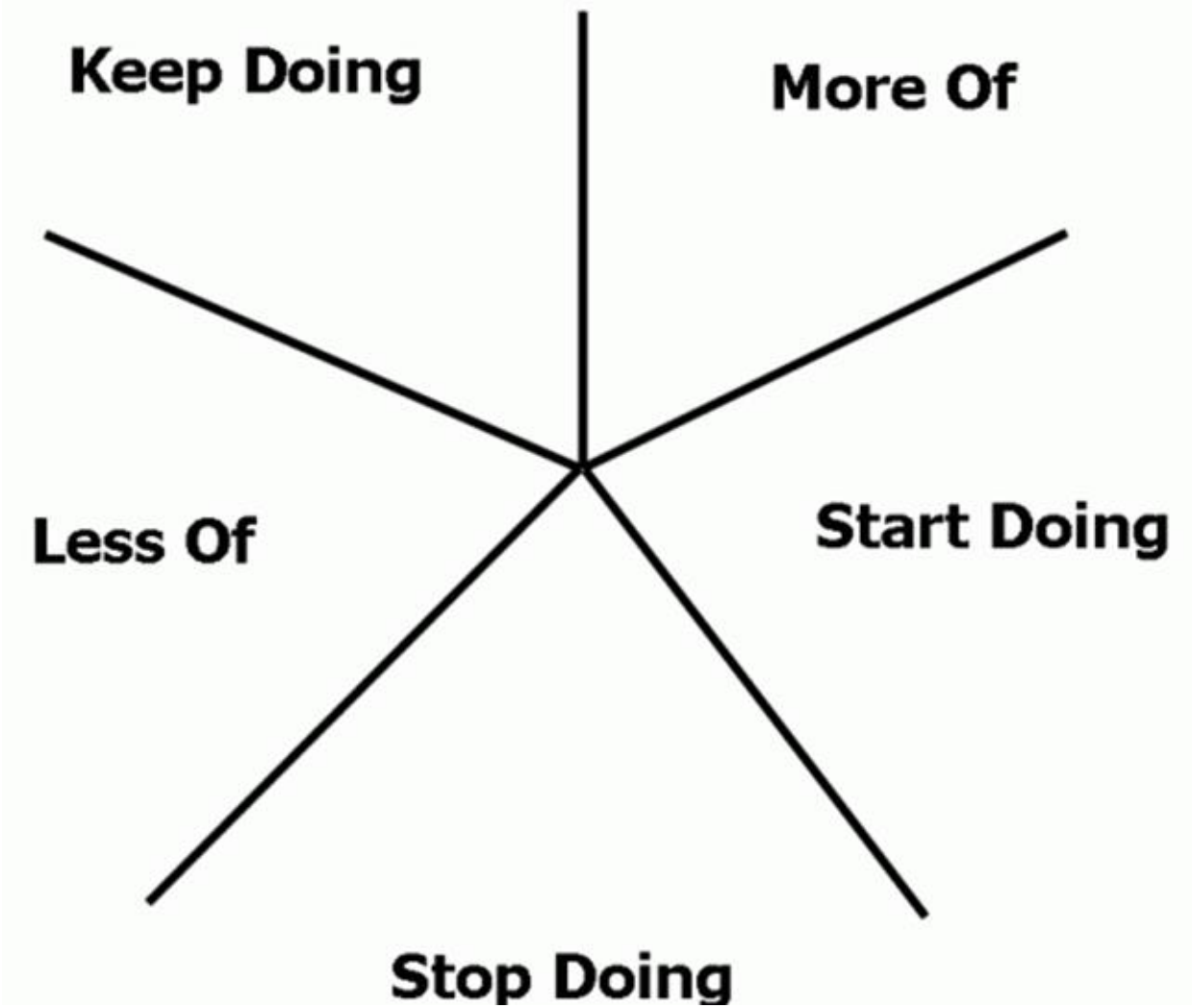

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HIAS English Team

The HIAS English team offer a wide range of high-quality services to support schools in improving outcomes for learners, including courses, bespoke consultancy and inhouse training.

For further details referring to English, please contact the team leader:

- Emma Tarrant: emma.tarrant@hants.gov.uk

For secondary-specific English queries, please contact:

- Joanna Kenyon: joanna.kenyon@hants.gov.uk

For further details on the full range of services available please contact us using the following email:

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- RE
- History
- Leadership
- Computing
- Art
- D&T
- Assessment
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