

## COMPETITION 7: LANGUAGE EVOLUTION

For me personally I have noticed two evolutions in language, in my mother tongue and in texting.

My mother tongue is Gujarati, a language spoken in India. My grandfather spoke it and so did my grandmother, but my grandmother grew up in Africa, and so when she spoke, she would have the whole sentence be in Gujarati, but one word in Swahili ( the language spoken in Kenya). This would be picked up by their children, who used it as a commonplace. This is already a slight evolution in how we speak at home. Furthermore, my dad was born in England, so he would also add some English words into the sentence, making what my granddad once spoke, very different to how we speak now. Also Gujarati isn't such a common language, and despite my efforts to learn it, I always speak in English, meaning that the language use in the house itself has dropped.

The other form of language evolution I have seen is in texting, where we abbreviate words for our convenience. For example, instead of saying 'by the way' we say 'btw'. This help us get our message across short and simple to people like our friends and family. Also instead of saying how we feel, we use emojis to covey our expressions, which saves us having to find the right words to say how we feel, and emojis can be used for other things like adding aesthetic to the text. However this has lead to some people even saying the abbreviated words outside of text, for example in a conversation. This is very rarely done, but if it stared to grow, the English language would change drastically.

Raya  
Yr 10