



Corpus Christi College

Isaac  
Newton  
Trust

# The Pelican



## Podcasts

*Spread your  
intellectual wings*

# Getting Started

- Starting from a completely blank page can feel daunting, but we hope that it feels equally exciting to be given the freedom to explore what you are really interested in.
- As this is a team based competition, you'll need to find some team mates! You don't need to be all interested in the same things/subjects, and in fact having students who bring different ideas could be very productive. However, if you are all interested in the same subject then this isn't a problem either.



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# Getting Started

- After you have found your team, a useful way to begin might be to think about some ‘local objects’ that would be good jumping off points. This could be on your own or in a brain-storming session with your team.
- To gain some inspiration you could:
  - think about what is distinctive about your local area
  - find out if your local area is famous for making a specific thing
  - visit a local museum or landmark
  - using everyday objects, ask yourself ‘what does this tell me about the society that produced it?’



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# Your Proposal

- Once you have decided on your ‘local object’ you can begin thinking about what it says about broader ideas and themes.
- Often the hardest thing about any research project is working out how to narrow down the focus of what you want to discuss. Remember that this is a short podcast of only 15 minutes - you can’t cover everything!
- Draw up a list of possible angles to explore. Spend some time thinking about each one and discuss them with your team. It will become clear to you what to focus on and what works best with the rest of the team’s ideas.



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# Planning and Research

- Initially, you only need to tell us what your object is and give an outline of what you want to explore - we don't expect you to do all the research straight away but you might start your research journey in order to flesh out your proposal.
- Don't worry yet about structure yet - this is a job for later on. At first, just go wherever your thinking takes you.
- Make sure you record your initial thoughts and ideas about each resource you explore and engage with.



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# Planning and Research

- If your proposal is shortlisted by us then the real exploration begins.
- As a team you will need to work out the best way to collaborate; it could be a shared google doc, or regular catch ups, or sending each other drafts of your ideas. There really isn't a right or wrong way to go about this, it's just whatever feels right for the team.
- However you choose to do so, it is important to regularly share your thinking and research with your teammates as the best insights and ideas often come about through this process.



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# Planning and Research

- Everyone in your team should keep a workbook where they track what resources they have used and how they've engaged with them. This will make the process of putting together your bibliography/resource list a lot easier (and is in general good practice when it comes to super-curricular engagement).
- Finally, when it comes to resources don't feel like you have to limit yourself to books or articles. There are so many other types of resource available to you, so be creative with what you use and how you use them.



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