**Reading the Riots**

Watch the following Guardian video report on the riots that took place all over England this summer, in which a number of people involved in rioting give their accounts.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/video/2011/dec/05/reading-riots-video?intcmp=239>

1. Before watching;

* What do you know about the August riots that took place in England this

Summer?

* What opinions do you have on the August riots and related issues?
* Look at the introduction to the video; “Rioters speak for the first time about why they took part in the summer 2011 disturbances, the most serious bout of civil unrest in Britain in a generation. Paul Lewis presents the findings of a Guardian and London School of Economics study.” Why do you think this study was carried out?
* “Do you have any regrets?” “Yeah. But that I didn’t do more damage.”

This is the response of one of the rioters interviewed. Why do you think he feels like this?

B)

* As you watch make a note of the some of the following as you hear accounts from different voices involved in the rioting;
* *Experiences/ feelings*
* *Understanding/explanations*
* *Actions/activities*

What common themes are running through these accounts for you?

* What aspects of this report surprised you?
* What are your thoughts on the content of the report and the way it was presented?

1. Go to the url below and have a look the word cloud of language that was used in the various accounts in the report. Put the language items into three groups – you choose the headings.

<http://www.wordle.net/show/wrdl/4557336/reading_the_riots_1>

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