



A Level Bridging Work

English Literature

Read for pleasure: This subject requires a great deal of reading. If you don't read novel/poetry/plays for pleasure then you will find the amount of reading required a chore rather than a joy (which is how we see reading).

Be willing to be challenged: Some of the texts and topics in this subject are difficult, complex and require a great deal of discussion and thought for you to understand them. We will constantly push you in our work in the class and in our assessment feedback. Be prepared for this.

Discuss/listen/debate: Much of the time spent in lessons will be based around discussion and debate of what we are reading. You will be expected to contribute fully to this, if you don't you will miss out on vital opportunities to express your ideas and have them challenged. Shyness is not an excuse.

Intellectual Curiosity: You must be curious. You must be independent in your reading and research. You must be willing to have your preconceptions challenged and to challenge them yourselves.

Task 1: Independent reading task

Choose a book from the extensive A Level Reading list attached.

Buy it and read it over the summer.

Write a 600 word review of the book you have read. (give or take 50 words).

Over the next 2 years you will study Texts from 1600 to the present day. It is essential that you understand how literature has developed, and the ideas that shaped the texts you will study. Within lessons and as part of your structured study you will continue to work on this.

Task 2: Read and Research task

Read the summary of the major literary periods from 1485 until the present day (attached)

- The Renaissance
- The Neoclassical Period (often called the Enlightenment or Age of Reason)
- The Romantic Period
- The Victorian Period
- The Modern period (Modernism)
- The Post-Modern Period (Post-modernism)

Create a timeline that includes major texts and writers across this timeframe.

Task 3: Prepare a presentation

Research **one** of these areas in more detail and prepare a 5 minute presentation that you will deliver in the first few weeks of year 12. This does not have to be with a PowerPoint, you may simply talk with the class, but it should include:

- a. A definition or explanation of the literary period
- b. More detail on the key factors influencing Literature during this period
- c. Common themes and ideas that writers covered
- d. A brief biography of one major writer from your chosen period