

English Literature (EDUQAS) Transition Work

Congratulations on completing your GCSE studies and welcome to A-Level English Literature. Over the course of two years, you will study some fantastic plays, poetry, and novels. Over the summer, the tasks on this handout will support you in making the transition from GCSE to A Level English, enabling you to engage in independent study and commence the Year 12 course with confidence.

Poetry Tasks:

You will be studying William Blake, Philip Larkin and Carol Ann Duffy. Learn about these poets by visiting the links below. Watch the documentaries and listen to the podcasts to learn about the poets whose work you will study.

Take notes on what you learn about these poets, the time in which they are writing and what you learn about their writing.

- **Blake: In Our Time Podcast:** [BBC Radio 4 - In Our Time, Songs of Innocence and of Experience](#)
- **Larkin: Phillip Larkin – Love and Death in Hull** [Philip Larkin: Love and Death in Hull - YouTube](#)
- **Duffy:** [Carol Ann Duffy - South Bank Show - Bing video](#)

Drama Tasks:

We will be studying the writer Tennessee Williams so it would be useful to watch/listen to the following documentaries.

- [BBC Radio 4 - Great Lives, Series 20, Tennessee Williams](#)
- [BBC iPlayer - Truman and Tennessee: An Intimate Conversation](#)
- [John Lahr and Tony Kushner On Tennessee Williams - Bing video](#)

Additionally, we will be studying Henry IV Part 1. Below is a critical study of the text which will give you some idea of the text as a critical study.

[Performativity and the Role of King in Henry IV, Part 1 \(denison.edu\)](#)

We will be studying other playscripts with this but rather than read/watch our set text (which we'll cover in class), we'd rather you broadened your horizons by watching a play of your choice. Try to see some live theatre over the summer if you can!

When you watch/read, think about how is play is different from a novel or poetry. How did the theatre company interpret the story? How was the stage/lighting used? How did the actors interpret their roles?

Wider reading/suggested reading for your non-assessed exam component:

One exciting component of this course is the non-assessed unit (coursework) which allows you to work more independently and choose a novel of your choice to study. It is likely we will be looking at dystopian novels which cover themes such as power, gender and theology. Here is a list of possible texts for you to get stuck into over the break!

Read about each title and choose one or two that appeal to you!

The Power by Naomi Alderman

The Road by Cormac Mccarthy

Station Eleven by Emily St Mandel

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro

The Circle by Dave Eggers

The Kite Runner by Khalid Hosseini

Purple Hibiscus Chimamanda Ngizi Adichie

We can't wait to welcome you back to discuss all that you have read and watched!