

English Literature – Preparation for sixth form

Brief introduction: Congratulation on picking the best A Level course there is! We hope this gives you some guidance as how best to prepare yourself for picking this subject.

You must complete every section of the *compulsory* work needed to support your transition into English Literature A level; it is also highly recommended that you complete the *suggested* preparation work

			Completed
Compulsory preparation work	GCSE revision	Your Y11 knowledge is essential in supporting your transition to A level. In fact, much of your A Level work will build on GCSE knowledge. Most useful to you was your study of William Blake's 'London', your study of William Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> or <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> and your work on unseen poetry. You should keep hold of all your notes on these units.	
	Online resources	Watch the documentary on the Romantics. Pay particular attention to the section on John Keats: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R6mefXs5h9o You will need to read and make notes on the following poets: William Blake: https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/william-blake John Keats: https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/john-keats	
	Specific subject task	To what extent is Keats' 'La Belle Dame Sans Merci' a tragedy in the Bradleyan sense? Refer to both the poem and the critical essay in your response. You'll need to use the PowerPoint to help you out with this.	
	Bridging work	Read the attached document, 'Making the Leap': Moving from GCSE to A-Level Literature.	
	Compulsory Reading	You will be required to complete a piece of coursework on an independently chosen novel. Having read some novels is therefore essential. See attached document for ideas of where to start. It is compulsory that you to read any one novel on the list.	
Suggested preparation work	Suggested reading	You will be required to complete a piece of coursework on an independently chosen poet. We'll take you through this in lots of depth throughout the course but if you'd like to make a head start on researching poets, the wider reading document will help with this.	
	Ted Talk / documentary	Quick recaps of important literary historical periods: Renaissance: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f11OeMmwYjU Romanticism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OiRWBIOJTYQ Modernism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_pywMFS8G0 Overview of Literature Study: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=crash+course+literature	

	Magazines / articles to read online	https://www.theguardian.com/books https://www.poetryfoundation.org	
	Other suggested activities	<p>Your study will be composed of 6 examination texts that you will need to know. You are very welcome to begin your reading of these texts in advance of the course.</p> <p>Literary Genres: Aspects of Tragedy (Unit 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>King Lear</i> by William Shakespeare • <i>Death of a Salesman</i> by Arthur Miller • Poetry of John Keats <p>Texts and Genres – Elements of Social and Political Protest Writing (Unit 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> by Margaret Atwood • <i>Songs of Innocence and Experience</i> by William Blake • <i>The Kite Runner</i> by Khaled Hosseini • There is also an unseen extract on this exam 	