

Bridging Work for A-level English Literature

Task: Read a novel over the summer break. Pick something you do not usually read (eg. if you like reading contemporary fiction, challenge yourself and choose a Victorian novel). This will help to widen your knowledge and understanding of different types of narratives.

You then need to prepare a 10-minute presentation on the novel, drawing upon issues of narrative style and structure, and of context and criticism, as you will have discussed in the Taster Session. You should cover each area, and add any other details that you feel are relevant to the way your chosen text should be interpreted. You will present to your new class and teacher in September.

(NB - If you missed the Taster session and these sheets have been posted home to you, you DO need to do this homework, it will prepare you for the level and detail of the course. It is also what your teachers will begin with in September, so it is a necessary part of your future learning.)

Some building blocks of narrative to consider/look for:

Location – Setting, scenes and places

Time and sequence/chronology

Characterisation

Voices/use of dialogue

Point of view/narrative perspective

Destination/moral/overall message or meaning/ideology

Multi-modality/form

A-level Literature: Suggested Reading List

If you need help choosing a novel, you *could* select one from the list below...

Martin Amis, *Time's Arrow*

Aharon Appelfeld, *Blooms of Darkness*

Margaret Atwood, *Oryx and Crake*

Jane Austen, *Persuasion*

Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre*

Emily Bronte, *Wuthering Heights*

Anthony Burgess, *A Clockwork Orange*

Italo Calvino, *If on a Winter's Night a Traveller*

Raymond Chandler, *The Big Sleep*

Wilkie Collins, *The Woman In White*

Daniel Defoe, *Moll Flanders*

Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*

David Ebershoff, *The Danish Girl*

Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*

George Eliot, *Silas Marner*

Henry Fielding, *Joseph Andrews*

F Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

Graham Greene, *Our Man In Havana*

Thomas Hardy, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*

Yann Martel, *Life of Pi*

Anne Michaels, *Fugitive Pieces*

David Mitchell, *Cloud Atlas*

Toni Morrison, *Beloved*

Madeline Miller, *Song of Achilles*

Vladimir Nabokov, *Lolita*

David Peace, *GB84*

Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*

J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*

Carol Shields, *The Stone Diaries*

Alan Sillitoe, *Saturday Night, Sunday Morning*

Zadie Smith, *White Teeth*

Muriel Spark, *The Driver's Seat*

Patrick Susskind, *Perfume*

Graham Swift, *Waterland*

Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*

Mark Twain, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

Sarah Waters, *The Paying Guests*

Irvine Welsh, *The Blade Artist*

Oscar Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

Virginia Woolf, *To The Lighthouse*