



Welcome to English Literature A Level

Looking Ahead to Year 12 English Literature

In September you will receive a full course induction and handbook

Here we seek to give you an overview of the course ahead and instructions on our expectations for the summer

What does Year 12 look like?

Side A (5 lessons)	Side B (4 Lessons)
Introduction to the course Hamlet 9ET0/01	A Streetcar Named Desire 9ET0/01
Hamlet 9ET0/01	A Streetcar Named Desire 9ET0/01
Christmas Holidays	
Hamlet 9ET0/01	Forward Poetry 9ET0/03
Prose 9ET0/02	Forward Poetry 9ET0/03
Easter Holidays	
Prose 9ET0/02	Forward Poetry 9ET0/03
Prose 9ET0/02	Coursework 9ET0/04
Summer Holidays	

- You will be taught by two teachers over 9 periods a fortnight.
- We follow Edexcel's English Literature course (9ET0)

What does that leave for Year 13?

- Year 13 will see the completion of your coursework and an exploration of a collection of Romantic verse, and substantial revision.



We are excited for you to join us on the next steps of your journey



Our subject hinges on two main elements:



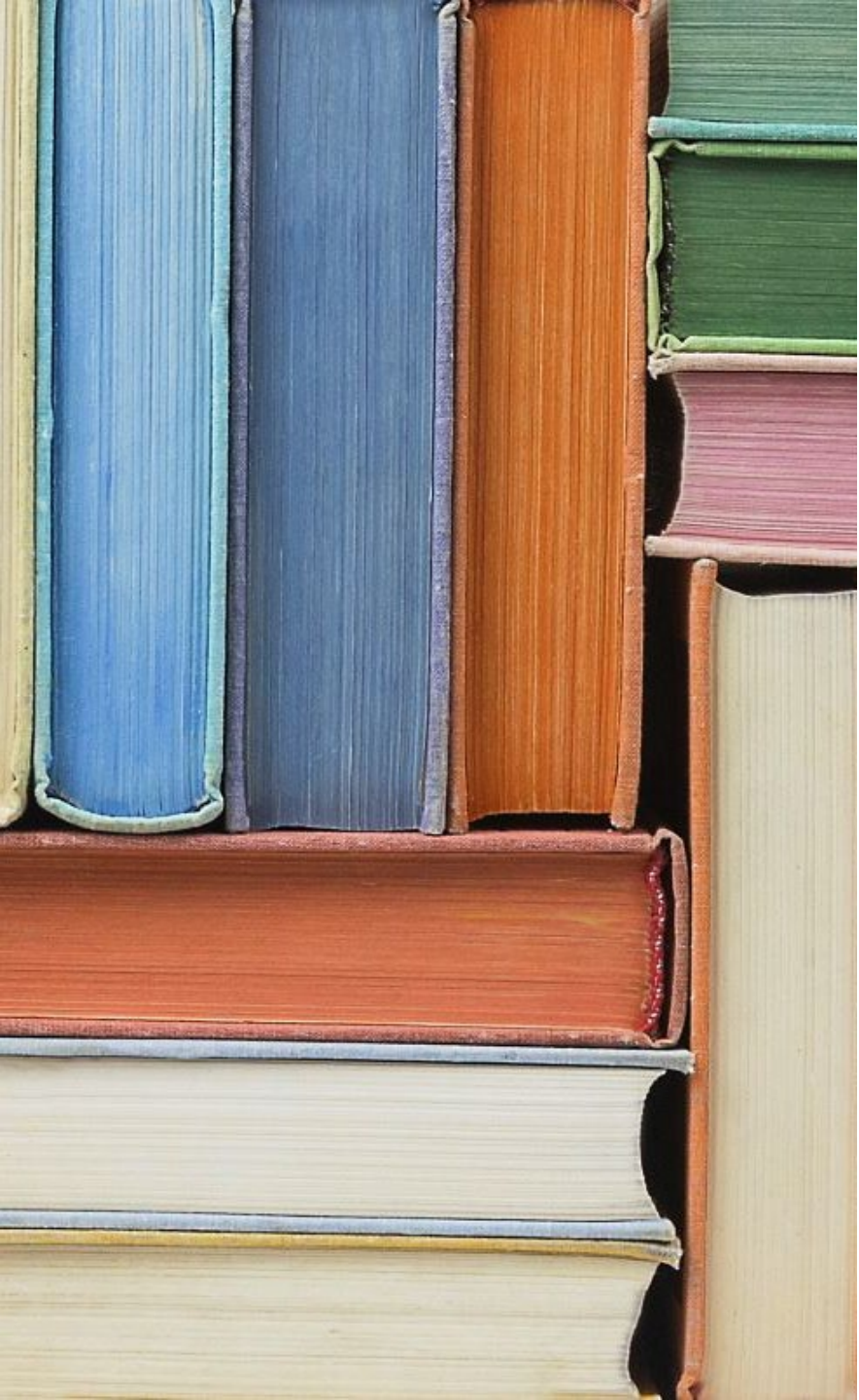
Discussion



Reading



As such our summer work requires you to read (or have read) and discuss a text



Summer work:

Task 1:

To create a poster-presentation on a literary text of your choice. The text **must not be** one of the set texts (*Hamlet*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Frankenstein*, *Never Let Me Go*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*) or a text you studied at GCSE. You might want to use our extended reading list for KS5 as inspiration (see our website).

Task 2: Revise the terms on our 'Expected GCSE terminology' list. There will be a knowledge quiz on this in the first weeks where you will be asked to identify examples of the terms listed, define it in your own terms, or provide the term when the definition is given.

Task 3: Read *A Streetcar Named Desire* in advance (quizzes and discussion will test your knowledge) and have a general understanding of the plot of *Hamlet*. We do not expect you to have read *Hamlet* in advance.

Please see FINAL SLIDE for correct editions to purchase. If you are entitled to bursaries, please keep receipts so we can reimburse you.

What is a poster-presentation?

A poster-presentation has 2 parts

1. A hardcopy poster – typically A3-A1 displaying detailed information on your chosen topic
2. A spoken presentation where you explain your findings



A Note of Reassurance

Our subject is a discursive one, and lessons typically take a seminar format where all are expected to contribute.

We are a friendly bunch, and this should not cause you undue stress. You will not be required to 'stand at the front' or 'perform'.

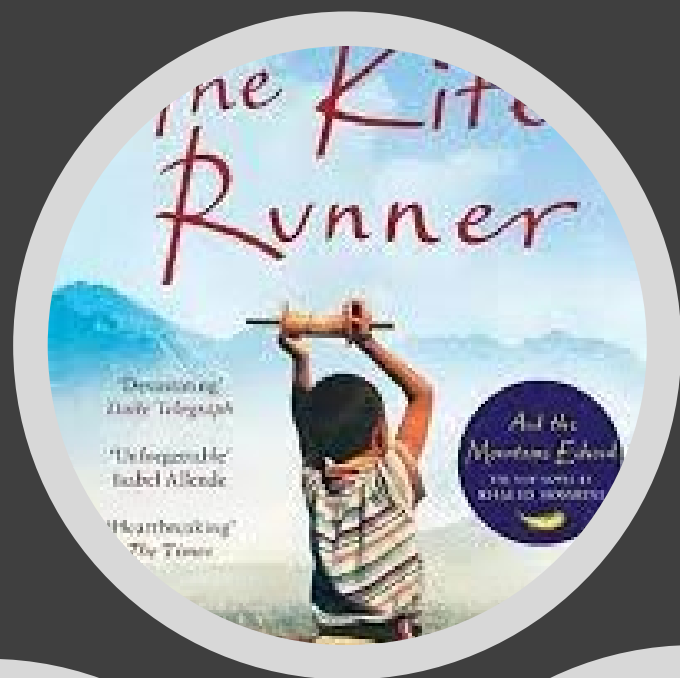
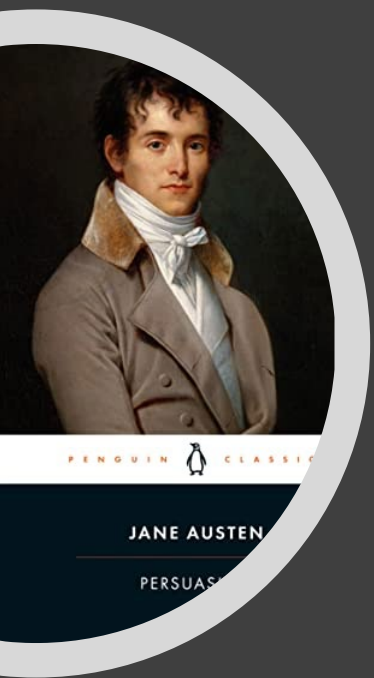
You will be expected to talk through your poster to the class from your seat over 2-3 minutes.

We are looking for engagement with the subject, an attitude of willingness, not the world's best TED talk.



How do I do it?

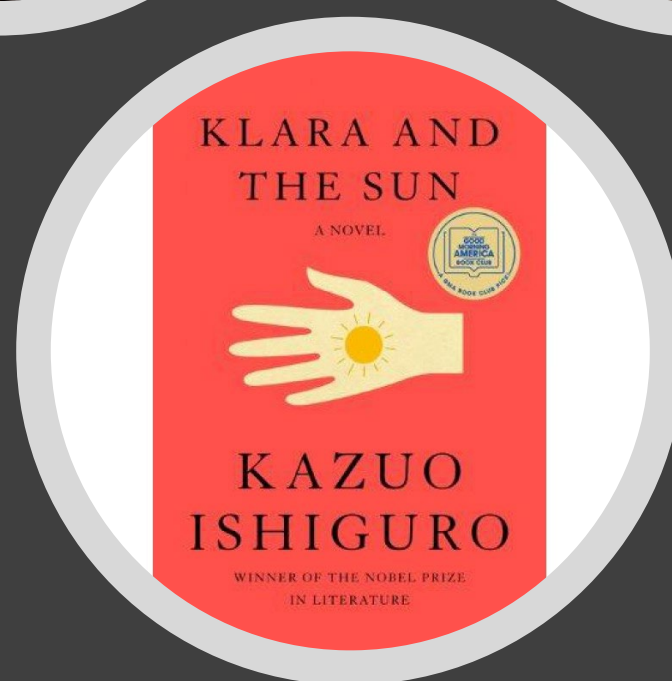




Select a text to read and re/read it

You may want to consider our KS5 Reading List for inspiration.

[SWGS-KS5-English-Literature-Reading-List-2024-25.pdf](#)



Make some notes

- A synopsis (avoid significant spoilers if you can)
- Major themes and ideas
- The contexts in which it was written – cultural, literary, socio-political, historical or other
- About the author
- What others say about it
- Turn these notes into a detailed poster



Frankenstein's Monster

CURIOSITY

Later, after he becomes human, Dr. Lamey turns

IDEALISM

Secretly watching the family, the monster grasps with hope the self-awareness and the meaning of life.

DISILLUSIONMENT

Despite protecting the De Lameys and even saving a young girl, the monster is repeatedly rejected.

LOVE

With no place in society and no companion, the monster seeks to punish Victor and himself.

DEATH

When he awakens to realize his existence, the monster, who was born in a state of ignorance, begins to learn.

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Context

Frankenstein
by the Monsters

- This is up to you but it must be clear, academic and thought should be given to both content and aesthetics.
- Poster size – minimum A3
- Feel free to use the headings on the previous slide.
- Both digital and handwritten are welcome.
- You must submit a hardcopy.

Want to
really
impress us?
Consider
the optional
extension:

Start delving into the world of literary criticism

- Reader-response, modernism, post-colonial, Marxist, feminist and psychoanalytical will become part of your daily discourse
- Can you begin to explore some of these readings and apply them to your chosen text?
- Turn your 'what others say about it' section in a review of relevant literary criticism
- [Google Scholar](#)

Prepare to explain your findings to the class

Our expectations:

- For you to have planned your presentation
- To use an appropriately formal academic register (suitable vocabulary)
- To give us a view of the 'professional academic' you!



Further Preparation for your A Level Study

1. Your teacher will expect you to be able to use all terms on our Expected Knowledge – GCSE Terms List. Please review the list and take steps to consolidate any you are unsure of as the quiz tests understanding and application of these terms.
2. Your teacher **will not** expect you to have read *Hamlet* or *A Streetcar Named Desire* in advance although you are of course welcome to. We do however, expect you to have some working understanding of the **general premise, plot and characters**.
3. Please bring your own copies of these texts to your first lesson. The editions we use are listed on the next slide.

Additionally, if you are able to see a production of either play over the summer (recorded or otherwise), please do.

Text Editions

- *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Tennessee Williams - ISBN-13: 978-0141190273

http://www.amazon.co.uk/Streetcar-Desire-Modern-ClassicsPenguin/dp/0141190272/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1435826434&sr=1-2&keywords=a+streetcar+named+desire

- *Hamlet*, William Shakespeare – ISBN-13: 978-1853260094

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Hamlet-Wordsworth-Classics-William-Shakespeare/dp/1853260096>

- *Never Let Me Go*, Kazuo Ishiguro - ISBN-13: 978-0571335770

[Never Let Me Go: With GCSE and A Level study guide \(Faber Educational Editions\): Amazon.co.uk: Ishiguro, Kazuo, Barton, Geoff: 9780571335770: Books](#)

- *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley - ISBN-13: 978-1853260230

[Frankenstein \(Wordsworth Classics\): Amazon.co.uk: Shelley, Mary, Jansson, Dr Siv, Carabine, Dr Keith: 9781853260230: Books](#)

- *Poems of the Decade* ed William Sieghart - ISBN-13: 978-0571325405

http://www.amazon.co.uk/Poems-Decade-Anthology-Forward-Poetry/dp/0571325408/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1435826525&sr=11&keywords=poems+of+the+decade+an+anthology+of+the+forward+books+of+poetry+2002+2011

- *English Romantic Verse* (Poets) ed David Wright - ISBN-13: 978-0141913049

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/English-Romantic-Verse-Poets-Wright-ebook/dp/B002RI9L2Q>

- We recommend these editions as these are the versions we use in class and that you will use in exams.
- You do not need to purchase these all at once unless you wish to.
- Purchase *Streetcar* and *Hamlet* first.
- [Abe books](#) and [World of Books](#) do affordable second-hand and nearly new copies.
- If you are entitled to a bursary, please maintain any receipts so we can reimburse you.