

Dear Prospective A Level Student,

It is important to be prepared for your A Level studies in English Literature. Therefore, some foundations need to be laid during the summer break. You need to get into the habit of independent reading and research.

On your return to school in September your English teacher will expect the following tasks to be fully completed ready for an after-school discussion forum on...Thursday 14th September.

Task 1 – Attached you will find a prose reading list. Read (and enjoy) as many as you can. Select ONE you particularly enjoyed and choose an aspect (character, setting, narrative voice, theme) of the novel you engaged with and explain why. Be detailed with this and use examples from the text to back up what you say.

Task 2 – Read one of the following Shakespeare plays (NOT one you have read before) ‘Macbeth’ or ‘Hamlet’ or ‘Romeo and Juliet’ - they are all tragedies: Write about one of the tragic heroes.

Task 3- Read either ‘Cat on a Hot Tin Roof’ by Tennessee Williams or ‘All my Sons’ by Arthur Miller.

Task 4 – Research ONE of the following poets: John Keats or Thomas Hardy. Find out about your chosen poet’s life and times and make some useful notes. Then... Either: Print out a copy of Keats’ Ode to Autumn and annotate it Or; Print out a copy of Hardy’s ‘The Going’ and annotate it.

Please contact Mrs Armitstead at the school (jane.armitstead@shaftesburyschool.co.uk) if you have any queries or worries.

Enjoy your reading and we look forward to meeting you in September.