**Summer Tasks for A Level Literature 2023**

Below is a list of tasks to help you prepare for the transition to A Level Literature. You MUST complete ALL the tasks and bring to your first lesson in September 2023.

*“Enjoy stepping up to the plate of literature, splashing about in the warm and soothing waters that lap at the edges of your literary world before a tempest transport you to the outer regions of belief.” MAC*

**Task 1 Reading Reflections**

Read TWO of the following texts from different literary periods and compose a book review for one of no **more than 300 words** commenting on plot, characterization, motifs and symbols, socio-political commentary, biographical information, inter-textual reference, and justification for quotes you found of interest. Look at emagazine for ideas, details below.

Note that this is not an exhaustive list. Sample read a few before selecting two. You may decide to read another book by the same author, or a contemporary of the writer from a similar genre.

**Do NOT copy and paste from sites such as shmoop, sparknotes, yorknotes, enotes etc.**

**C19th**

* Castle of Otranto – Horace Walpole
* Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen
* Frankenstein – Mary Shelley
* Tess of the D’Urbervilles – Thomas Hardy

**Early C20th**

* *Vile Bodies* – Evelyn Waugh
* *As I Lay Dying* – William Faulkner
* *The Age of* *Innocence* – Edith Wharton
* *Mrs Dalloway* – Virginia Woolf

**Post 1945**

* Beloved – Toni Morrison
* Wise Children – Angela Carter
* The Handmaid’s Tale – Margaret Atwood
* Atonement – Ian McEwan
* Regeneration – Pat Barker
* The Road – Cormac McCarthy
* *The Wasp Factory* – Ian Banks
* *Color Purple* – Alice Walker

**Task 2 ENGLISH DEPARTMENT SUMMER PROJECT COMPETITION 2022**

**Due in on first lesson back in September 2023**

**How should I present my work?**

* You should buy a scrapbook or create a scrapbook out of loose paper.
* You should present your work by sticking it into the scrapbook.
* You can type, write, draw, decorate, annotate.
* Include headings for each section/sub section

**What do I need to find out?**

1. **You need to research how women have been/are represented in various texts.**

Look at a selection of

* Prose (19th century novels by Thomas Hardy, Charles Dickens, Charlotte Bronte, Jane Austen, DH Lawrence, Mary Shelley. More modern novels by Virginia Woolf, Sylvia Plath, John Steinbeck, JK Rowling, Cecilia Ahern)
* Poetry (Carol Ann Duffy, Fleur Adcock, Christina Rossetti, Chaucer, Robert Browning)
* Drama (Shakespeare, Tennessee Williams, Henrik Ibsen, Carole Churchill)
* Song lyrics (Beatles, Eminem)

Find **four** examples covering a range of genres from a variety of time periods.

Stick the texts into your scrap book and then write 250- 300 words on each text explaining how women are represented.

Link the representation to the time period (social/historical context).

**Task 3** Explore **Emagazine**

Access emagazine, the magazine study of English Language and English Literature. Read a range of articles and listen to some of the emag clips. Select one article and one clip that particularly interest you. You can use this resource to find out more for your blog posting as well as adding to your wider knowledge.

[**www.englishandmedia.co.uk**](http://www.englishandmedia.co.uk)

Username: **opgs**  
Password: **English**

**Task 4 Your writing**

Write your own novel, play, poetry in the style of the writers you have encountered. **Re-draft 200 words**.

**Task 5**

**Go to see a play.**

**The Globe** Spend £5 at the Globe to be a groundling at one of the many performances this summer.

[**http://ntlive.nationaltheatre.org.uk/**](http://ntlive.nationaltheatre.org.uk/)

<http://www.shakespearesglobe.com/theatre/whats-on>