



A Level English Literature

Summer Preparatory Work



Congratulations on your entry to study A level English Literature. It is a course which requires you not only to be a keen reader, but also to have the necessary skills to work independently on research and wider critical reading. Your knowledge of the historic, cultural, social and literary contexts which surround the texts is an essential part of your understanding at A level.

In preparation for the course in September, the following tasks must be completed:

Prose

1. **Read *Beloved* by Toni Morrison and *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde**
Both of these texts will be studied as part of your preparation for the exam.
2. **Find out about both of the writers and their writing** and discover some of the core themes running through their work. Make notes on these.
3. **Read opinions** on these books to cultivate more insight. Use the internet and your local library to start a collection of critical writing about the 2 books
4. **Keep a reading log over the summer. Success in English Literature requires you to be reading widely at home.** As you read, reflect upon what you are reading and log this. What are your responses to what you are reading and why? You could do this as a diary, a blog or any other suitable format. Try to read a range of good quality fiction but you are also encourage to research what you are reading and read around its themes and ideas. You should log your responses to this also.

Enjoy discovering something new! See you in September.