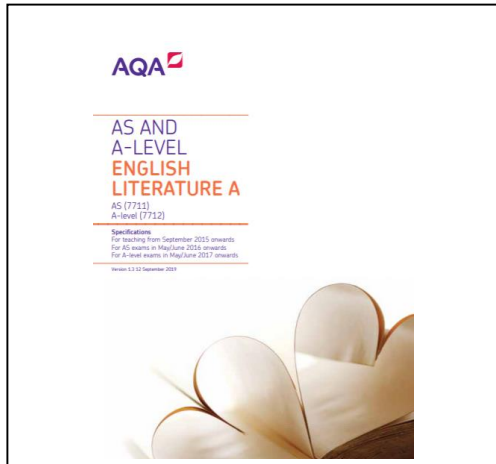




# Sixth Form Preparation for Success

## Welcome to GCE English Literature

AQA English Literature spec A, 7712



### Introduction

English Literature: For those who enjoy reading literature: fiction, poetry and drama? We read the classics as well as modern literature. The work and advice recommended here will allow you to explore your own interests in reading, as well as the opportunity to discuss your ideas about literary texts with others.

## Part I – Y11 into 12 English Literature Specific Bridging Work

### To be completed May – Sept

Remember that prizes will be awarded for 'exceptional' work that demonstrates effort above expected !

#### a) Investigate places of interest

Widen your understanding of the world through literature:



[Discover Shakespeare's Globe](#)

[See incredible performances with the National Theatre.](#)

[Explore the British Library](#)



## b) Wider reading

### Texts studied:

Over the next two years, you will be covering a wide variety of text types and genres:

***Othello*, William Shakespeare**

***The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald**

Pre- 1900 century AQA Poetry Anthology

Feminine Gospels, Carol Ann Duffy

*A Streetcar Named Desire*, Tennessee Williams

*The Handmaid's Tale*, Margaret Atwood

The texts in **bold** are the texts that you will be studying first, in the Autumn term. It is essential that you have a thorough working knowledge of both of these texts before you come back to school in September: we will be having frank and open discussions about the *whole* texts, and don't want to spoil them by giving something away that we assume you already know! So: **READ THEM!!!**

(It is also a good idea for you to buy a copy of each of these texts, before you begin each term, so that you can record your own thoughts and ideas on the paper as you read. Your teacher will tell you what texts you will need in advance.)

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## Looking for more suggestions?

**Suggested Reading List:** Ultimately, the best English Literature students are those who are passionate about reading! Have a read of some of these titles over the summer, suggested by our KS5 teachers.

Book	Author	Date Published
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	Jane Austen	1813
<i>Emma</i>	Jane Austen	1815
<i>Persuasion</i>	Jane Austen	1816
<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Charlotte Brontë	1847
<i>Wuthering Heights</i>	Emily Brontë	1847
<i>David Copperfield</i>	Charles Dickens	1850
<i>Villette</i>	Charlotte Brontë	1853
<i>Great Expectations</i>	Charles Dickens	1861
<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i>	Mark Twain	1884
<i>Tess of the d'Urbervilles</i>	Thomas Hardy	1891
<i>Mrs Warren's Profession</i>	George Bernard Shaw	1893
<i>Sons and Lovers</i>	D. H. Lawrence	1913
<i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i>	James Joyce	1916
<i>This Side of Paradise</i>	F. Scott Fitzgerald	1920
<i>Mrs Dalloway</i>	Virginia Woolf	1925
<i>Brave New World</i>	Aldous Huxley	1931
<i>Gone With The Wind</i>	Margaret Mitchell	1936
<i>Rebecca</i>	Daphne du Maurier	1938
<i>Black Boy</i>	Richard Wright	1945
<i>The Catcher in the Rye</i>	J. D. Salinger	1951
<i>To Kill A Mockingbird</i>	Harper Lee	1960
<i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>	Jean Rhys	1966
<i>The Outsiders</i>	S. E. Hinton	1967
<i>The Comfort of Strangers</i>	Ian McEwan	1981
<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>	Margaret Atwood	1985
<i>Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit</i>	Jeanette Winterson	1985
<i>The Child in Time</i>	Ian McEwan	1987
<i>Sophie's World</i>	Jostein Gaarder	1991
<i>Captain Corelli's Mandolin</i>	Louis de Bernières	1994
<i>Disgrace</i>	J. M. Coetzee	1999
<i>The Perks Of Being A Wallflower</i>	Stephen Chbosky	1999
<i>The Secret Life of Bees</i>	Sue Monk Kidd	2002
<i>The Kite Runner</i>	Khaled Hosseini	2003
<i>Never Let Me Go</i>	Kazuo Ishiguro	2005
<i>The Inheritance of Loss</i>	Kiran Desai	2006
<i>The Cleft</i>	Doris Lessing	2007
<i>Indignation</i>	Philip Roth	2008
<i>Submarine</i>	Joe Dunthorne	2008
<i>The Goldfinch</i>	Donna Tartt	2013

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### **c) Compulsory task**

This task will give you your first taste of what it's like to study English Literature at A Level- and prove to your teacher that you are adequately prepared by reading the texts! For each text, there is a task that accompanies it:

#### ***Othello***

*Othello* is a tragedy play written by William Shakespeare in 1603. The plot revolves around four central characters: Othello, a Moorish general in the Venetian army; Desdemona, his beloved wife; Cassio, Othello's loyal lieutenant; and Othello's trusted but ultimately unfaithful ensign, Iago. In the play, Othello is manipulated into believing that his wife is having an affair with one of his officers, with devastating consequences.

#### **Task:**

**Discuss the role that race plays in Shakespeare's portrayal of Othello. Link it to the historical context in which the play is set.**

### **d) Stretch!**

Complete your own study of the history of English Literature. The study of contexts, literary theory, and literary periods is both fascinating and invaluable. Here are some links to get you started:

[A Brief History of English Literature](#)

[A Brief Overview of British Literary Periods](#)

**Scroll down for Part II - Year 12 Head Start!**

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## Part II - Year 12 Head Start! for completion June – September

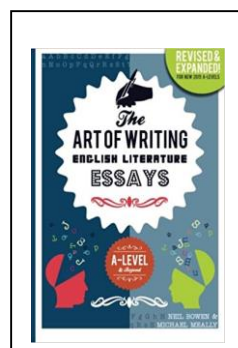
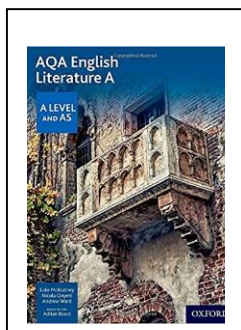
Course Specification: [AQA A Level English Literature A](#)

### Autumn Term Overview

Yr12	Term 1.1	Term 1.2
Dates	9 <sup>th</sup> September – 24 <sup>th</sup> October	4 <sup>th</sup> November – 20 <sup>th</sup> December
Duration	7 weeks	7 weeks
Teacher 1 (6 hours)	Paper 1: Section B Comparing unseen poetry  Covering all eras from the Renaissance onwards.  <b>Compare and contrast the presentation of love in the following poems in the light of this comment.</b>	Paper 1: Section C Prose set text: The Great Gatsby <b>Moving on to...</b> Paper 1: Section C Pre-1900 poetry anthology, linking to The Great Gatsby  <b>Compare how the authors of two texts you have studied present ...</b>
	2017 Paper	
Teacher 2 (4 hours)	An Introduction to A Level Literature: Academic Writing  An Introduction to Literary terminology  <b>Introduction to NEA:</b> Range of texts through the ages, with a focus on pre-1900. Instructions to have picked and read chosen texts by the end of term 1. Clear guidance on statements/titles/plans given.	Paper 1: Section A Shakespeare study: Othello  <b>In the light of this view, discuss how Shakespeare presents...</b>

### Useful Textbooks:

Click on this link, [Making the Leap from GCSE to A Level English Literature](#) to access a really useful resource that 'does what it says on the tin' ! These are also recommended:



[AQA English Literature A: A Level and AS](#)

[The Art of Writing English Literature Essays: for A-level & Beyond](#)

**Department Resources** - Join us on the [Introduction to English Literature Team](#) for more resources.

**We're looking forward to seeing you in September!**