



Stone Lodge Sixth Form Summer task

Subject: English Literature A Level (Edexcel)

Personal Skills:

Skills that you will need to be successful in this course are:

- **Well organised** – having the correct equipment and being on time to lessons.
- **Questioning** - be prepared to ask questions and contribute to class discussions.
- **Critical thinking** – being eager to want to know the *why* and make links across topics.
- **Studious** – to follow the recommended **reading** list to enhance your understanding.
- **Knowledgeable** – applying your knowledge and skills.
- **Resilient** - demanding the best from yourself even when it gets challenging.

Resources you will need to purchase to be ready for September

- **A sturdy A4 Ring binder**
- **Set texts**
 - *Hamlet*, William Shakespeare – New Cambridge Shakespeare (ISBN 1316606732)
 - *Frankenstein (The 1818 text)*, Mary Shelley – Penguin Classics (ISBN 0143131842)
 - *The Handmaid's Tale*, Margaret Atwood – Belin Education (ISBN 979-10358176880)
 - *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Tennessee Williams – Penguin Modern Classics (ISBN 0141190272)

Summer Task Details:

To prepare you for your course, complete the summer reading and tasks listed below. You will be required to email your work to Ms Evans prior to joining in September –

revans@stonelodgeschool.co.uk

You will also be required to bring a hard copy of this on your first day in September.

Task 1:

Read *Hamlet* and watch at least one production of the play. Create a timeline of key events in the play and how these are represented in the production you watched. I would recommend the following productions:

- Royal Shakespeare Company (2008) with David Tennant as Hamlet – available on BBC iPlayer
- 1996 film production with Kenneth Branagh as Hamlet – Amazon
- 1991 film production with Mel Gibson as Hamlet - Amazon

Task 2:

Research (but avoid Wikipedia) the following:

- The 'Romantics'
 - Who were they?
 - What was their focus?
 - What did they write about and why?



- Read and summarise: 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner' and the story of 'Prometheus'.

Task 3:

As an A Level English Literature student, you should read as widely as possible. Please choose and read at least one novel from the SUMMER READING LIST: either classic or contemporary.

Summer Reading List

Contemporary	Classics
Atonement – Ian McEwan	Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte
The Road – Cormac McCarthy	1984 – George Orwell
The Catcher in the Rye – J D Salinger	The Lovely Bones – Alice Sebold
Wuthering Heights – Emily Bronte	Never Let Me Go - Kazuo Ishiguro
Brave New World – Aldous Huxley	A Thousand Splendid Suns - Khaled Hosseini

Course Content:

Over the 2-year course, you will study the following:

In Year 12:

- *Hamlet*, William Shakespeare
- Critical approaches to Shakespearean tragedy
- Contemporary Poetry
- *A Streetcar Named Desire*
- Unseen Poetry
- Preparation for Coursework Component (essay on two texts lined by a theme, movement, author, or period)

In Year 13, you will complete:

- *The Handmaid's Tale*, Margaret Atwood
- *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley
- Romantic poetry
- Revision