

CORE KNOWLEDGE

What I will know and understand by the end of Year 12.



This year in Literature we will be learning:

'A Streetcar Named Desire'

1

- We will learn how to analyse and interpret a modern dramatic tragedy.
- We will explore how writers use form, structure and language to shape meanings.
- We will evaluate the impact of the contexts in which 'A Streetcar Named Desire' was produced and received.

'Hamlet'

2

- We will develop our understanding of Shakespearean tragedy and how this applies to 'Hamlet', with a particular focus on the protagonist.
- We will understand how contextual factors shape meanings in texts.
- We will learn how to structure and write an extended response to the play.

Literary Criticism for 'Hamlet'

3

- We will explore different interpretations of the text.
- We will enhance our understanding of 'Hamlet' through engagement with high quality literary criticism.

'The Handmaid's Tale'

4

- We will explore the dystopian genre and Atwood's intentions in writing the novel, given its late twentieth century context.
- We will evaluate how writer's methods are used to convey meaning.
- We will learn how characterisation and themes are developed within the narrative.

Introduction to Coursework

5

- You will read a range of challenging texts independently, to decide upon two for the NEA component.
- You will begin to research critical viewpoints and contextual information, to support your understanding of your coursework texts..
- You will identify a comparative focus between the two texts, which allows you to open up and explore different readings of the texts.

This links to:

- You will be able to extend your knowledge of the tragic genre by exploring a 20th text. This text explores the damaging effect of patriarchy and links to 'Hamlet' and 'The Handmaid's Tale'.
- You will build upon your knowledge of Shakespeare and the genre of tragedy from GCSE. Key themes such as identity, honour, death and conflict are also examined in 'ASND' and 'THT'.
- At A Level, you will be expected to read around your texts and explore different interpretations. In this component and in your coursework, you must make explicit reference to critical opinions.
- GCSE history and the study of Nazism provide contextual information.
- This dystopian novel is a warning against disrupting nature and links to 'Frankenstein'. It also builds on attitudes to gender explored in KS4.
- You can choose two texts to research for the NEA component.
- You will use the skills you have developed across Year 12 to analyse the texts for narrative and writers' methods, and integrate relevant contextual factors. The comparison element links to the Prose paper and Section A on Paper 3.

Key Vocabulary:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| • Exposition | • Realism |
| • Complication | • Expressionism |
| • Climax | • Societal norms |
| • Falling action | • Episodic |
| • Resolution | • Plastic theatre |
| • Protagonist | • Soliloquy |
| • Antagonist | • Aside |
| • Dramatis personae | • Monologue |
| • Foreshadowing | • Pathetic fallacy |
| • Revenge conventions | • Code of Honour |
| • Catharsis | • Patriarchal |
| • Hamartia | • Alienation |
| • Hubris | • Catharsis |
| • Motif | • Foreground |
| • Transgressive | • Denouement |
| • Postmodernism | • Doubling |
| • Unreliable narrator | • Intertextual |
| • Metafiction | • Dystopia |
| • Paratext | • Ecriture feminine |
| • Epigraph | • Satire |
| • Comparison | • Bibliography |
| • Integrating evidence | • Editing |
| • Plagiarism | • Proofreading |
| • Citations | • Contextual |
| • Critical analysis | |

Target Grade:

AP1:

AP2:

AP3: