

There are three qualities needed to ensure you enjoy learning independently at A-Level:

- A **passion** for reading and close analysis of texts;
- A strategic approach to individual research and preparation;
- An ability to communicate ideas articulately.

Therefore, the Induction Assignment has been divided into three distinct parts.

Task 1: Read!

Choose two books from the list below*.

<u>Surname, Initial, Title</u>
Atwood M: The Handmaid's Tale
Austen, J: Pride and Prejudice
Bernieres de, L: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
Bronte, E: Wuthering Heights
Carter, A: The Magic Toyshop
Chopin, K: The Awakening
Eliot, G: Silas Marner FitzGerald, S: The Great Gatsby Forster, E. M. Room with a View Hardy, T. Far from the Madding Crowd Hawthorne, N. The Scarlet Letter Huxley, A. Brave New World Orwell, G. 1984
Shelley, M. Frankenstein
Stoker, B. Dracula
Walker, A. The Color Purple
Winterson, J. Oranges are Not the Only Fruit
Woolf, V. To The Lighthouse.

**You will need to get your own copy of the texts. As well as traditional bookshops, you may like to try the school/local library, Amazon or charity shops. If you believe you are entitled to a bursary, please visit the school reception to fill out a form.*

Task 2: Essay. Choose one of the books to explore.

Essay Question: Explore the significance of the first and last chapter of the novel.

This task requires you to 'zoom' into the craft of writing. The following questions may help (this list is not exhaustive – select points that work for your novel and add your own ideas).

- From whose perspective is the chapter told? How does this affect readers' interpretation of events?
- How is setting used to tell the story / reflect or juxtapose a character or mood?
- How does the author use each chapter to give an insight into character / place?
- How is time used to tell the story? Does it move quickly or slowly in the selected chapters? Why? For example, the writer may dedicate a whole paragraph to describing a few moments in time. Consider *why* they would manipulate time at this point in the story.
- Without these chapters, what would be missing from the story?
- You may like to include points from elsewhere in the novel if relevant to your point.

Task 3: Presentation (You will present during the first lesson in September.)

How is the story told in the first or last chapter of your novel?

- ✓ Explain how you chose the two novels at first. What made you write the essay on your chosen text, rather than the other novel? We are looking for a personal response here.
- ✓ Begin with an overview of characters and plot.
- ✓ Pull out the best parts of your essay to explain to the class.
- ✗ No PowerPoints – you may use cue cards or create hand-outs with key points.
- ✓ Presentations should last between 5-10 minutes, with an additional 5 minutes for questions at the end.

Notes:

A successful essay will show evidence of:

- A **personal** and informed response (i.e. it will be clear you have read the novel carefully).
- Articulate expression, accurate S,P,G (see Faculty website for support) and a well-structured argument.
- Well-selected quotations to support each of the points that you make.
- Close analysis (imagery, word order, rhythm). Appropriate technical language should be used.
- A consideration of different interpretations of the text and the points you make.
- A concise conclusion that explicitly answers the question.

We do not expect you to have the correct answer! You need to demonstrate your work ethic and the ability to think independently. We will support you in developing these skills as you progress through the course.

It is expected that you use the checklist above to ensure you have addressed the question thoroughly.

Mrs Gilbert