

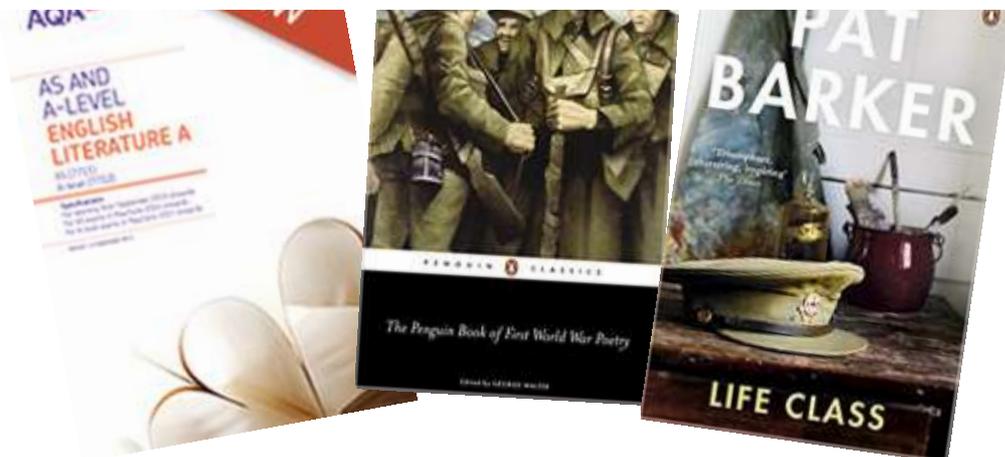
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A Level English Literature

Y12 Transition

Independent Learning



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Over the summer break, you need to complete these tasks, ready for your first A Level Literature lessons! The tasks will form an essential basis of knowledge that you will develop and consolidate as you study your first topics: pre-1900 love poetry and poetry of the First World War.

Your tasks:

Pre-1900 Love Poetry

- Choose a pre-1900 poet (see suggested list for ideas – you are not restricted to this though).
- Find a poem written by this poet on the topic of love.
- Annotate the poem, focusing on how the theme of love is presented. Examine the form, structure and language of the poem.
- To help develop your ideas about the poem further, research and create a fact file about the poet's life, the style of the writing and the period they were writing in – anything interesting about the period's social and political events might provide you with a better insight into the poem.
- Some typical significant time periods might be: the Renaissance, Romanticism, Victorian etc. Having a knowledge of these through the poem you pick will be a great starting point for your Literature studies.

Suggested poets:

- William Shakespeare (sonnets)
- Andrew Marvell
- John Keats
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning
- Thomas Hardy

Poetry of the First World War

- Choose a World War One poet (see suggested list for ideas – you are not restricted to this though).
- Find a poem written by this poet about the war.
- Annotate the poem, focusing on how war is presented. Examine the form, structure and language of the poem.
- To help develop your ideas about the poem further, research the First World War – significant dates and battles, propaganda, life on the Front Line, life on the Home Front etc, attitudes towards war etc.

Suggested poets:

- Rupert Brooke
- Wilfred Owen
- Siegfried Sassoon
- Wilfrid Gibson

Paper 1: Love Through the Ages – Wider Reading

(Texts highlighted in yellow are the set texts)

Novels:

- Jane Austen Persuasion
- Charlotte Brontë Jane Eyre
- Emily Brontë Wuthering Heights
- Kate Chopin The Awakening
- Thomas Hardy Tess of the D'Urbervilles
- F. Scott Fitzgerald The Great Gatsby
- E.M. Forster A Room with a View
- L.P. Hartley The Go-Between
- Daphne Du Maurier Rebecca
- Ian McEwan Atonement

Plays:

- Othello
- The Taming of the Shrew
- Measure for Measure
- The Winter's Tale

All by William Shakespeare

- The Way of the World by William Congreve
- The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde
- An Ideal Husband by Oscar Wilde

Poetry:

- William Shakespeare's sonnets
- The poetry of John Donne
- The poetry of John Keats
- The poetry of Elizabeth Barrett Browning
- The poetry of Thomas Hardy
- The poetry of Philip Larkin
- The poetry of Carol Ann Duffy

Paper 2: WW1 and its aftermath – Wider Reading

(Texts highlighted in yellow are the set texts)

Novels:

- All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque
- Regeneration by Pat Barker
- Birdsong by Sebastian Faulks
- A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway
- Goodbye to All That by Robert Graves
- Memoirs of an Infantry Officer by Siegfried Sassoon
- Storm of Steel by Ernst Junger
- Testament of Youth by Vera Brittain
- Fall of Giants by Ken Follett
- The Return of the Soldier by Rebecca West
- Strange Meeting by Susan Hill
- A Long, Long Way by Sebastian Barry
- The First Casualty by Ben Elton
- Life Class by Pat Barker

Plays:

- Journey's End by R. C. Sherriff
- The Accrington Pals by Peter Whelan
- For Services Rendered by Somerset Maugham

Poetry:

- The Penguin Book of First World War Poetry (ed) Matthew George Walter

Secondary criticism:

- The Great War and Modern Memory by Paul Fussel
- The Cambridge Companion to the Poetry of the First world War (ed) Santanu Das
- The Cambridge Companion to Literature of the First World War (ed) Vincent Sherry