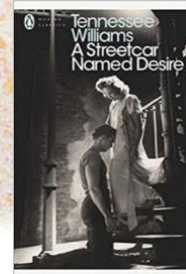
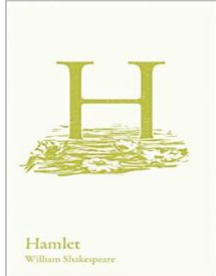


# LITERATURE



## Welcome to A Level English Literature

We will be studying the Dystopian genre and the Renaissance era over two years through a variety of exciting texts.

### What texts will I read?

#### AS (1<sup>st</sup> Year):

*Drama: A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams

*Dystopian Prose: 1984* by George Orwell

*Renaissance Drama: Hamlet* by William Shakespeare

*Renaissance Poetry: Paradise Lost Books IX and X* by John Milton

**Assessment:** There will be two exams for each era at the end of the year and a piece of Coursework (1,000 words) of a close analysis of *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

#### A2 (2<sup>nd</sup> Year):

*Dystopian Prose: The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood

*Renaissance Play: The Duchess of Malfi* by John Webster

**Assessment:** There will be two exams for each era at the end of the year. Your coursework will be a comparative essay of 2,000 words between a prose piece and collection of poems (either post 1900 or post 2000).

### How can I prepare for September?

It goes without saying that reading is a crucial part of studying English Literature, so reading these prior to starting your course will put you in a very advantageous position (I would start with *Hamlet* and *1984*).

Link to OCR Specification: <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/englishliterature-h072-h472-from-2015/#as-level>

Here is a link to a selection of TED Talks on The Power of Fiction:  
[https://www.ted.com/playlists/346/the\\_power\\_of\\_fiction\\_1](https://www.ted.com/playlists/346/the_power_of_fiction_1)

It may be worth getting hold of a copy of a screening of Hamlet to aid your understanding of the play. Recommended versions include:

The RSC – Hamlet (Paapa Essiedu)

The RSC – Hamlet (David Tennant)

### **What Topics and Skills will we start with first?**

Below are some of the topics and skills that we will cover in September and October:

<b>Introduction to Renaissance Literature</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Understanding of genre conventions and literary tradition/movements.</li><li>- Establishing key terms and ideas/concepts.</li></ul>
<b>Why do we Study Literature?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Critical and abstract thinking.</li><li>- Debate and communication.</li><li>- Logical and theoretical reasoning.</li></ul>
<b>Genre Conventions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Understanding differing literary styles and their significance.</li><li>- Close analysis.</li><li>- Comparative understanding of texts and genres.</li></ul>

One of the first topics we will be discussing 'why we study literature', but what might be useful for you to consider before you start the year is the question 'why do you read?'. Bring in your favourite books or reasons why reading is important to you, ready to discuss.

### **Optional Additional Reading you can choose to do:**

#### For Dystopia

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

*Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler

*We* by Yevgeny Zamyatin

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell

*Year of the Flood* by Margaret Atwood

#### For Renaissance

*Othello* by William Shakespeare

*King Lear* by William Shakespeare

### **Contact information**

If you have questions regarding this or any other A Level course at Burnley College, please contact [alevels@burnley.ac.uk](mailto:alevels@burnley.ac.uk) or call 01282733373.

*We look forward to seeing you in September!*