

Summer Work Year 11 into 12

Name of Subject: English Literature

Summary of the course:

Exam Board: AQA
Course Title: English Literature A

Subject/unit lead teachers and their contact:

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What should I get in preparation for September?

Your own copy of **'The Handmaid's Tale'** by **Margaret Atwood** to read and annotate.
Your own copy of **'The Great Gatsby'** by **F. Scott Fitzgerald** to read and annotate.

We will give you an exercise books for all of your notes and a cardboard folder to store all of your assessments. It is a good idea to also **buy a set of highlighters and some post it notes** to use while reading and annotating along with your usual equipment (pen, ruler etc).

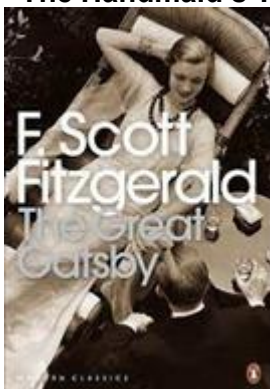
How will this be assessed in September?

We will collect in all of the tasks from the 'Do It' section and ensure that you have: created effective flashcards for each key term; written a clear summary for the chapters within your key texts showing that you understand the key themes and characters; focused on taking clear and detailed notes during the online lecture videos. Above all, your levels of communication must be clear.

Within the first 3-4 weeks of September, you will then be given an **essay title linked to 'The Handmaid's Tale'** to complete based on the opening five chapters. This will also include a **Knowledge Test (ten questions) about the key language terms** that you have studied so far from the glossary and your flashcards.

Read it:

'The Handmaid's Tale' by Margaret Atwood



'The Great Gatsby' by F. Scott Fitzgerald



Both books can be found in Waterstones or WH Smith, online at Amazon.com or you may also be able to find a second hand copy in charity shops.

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Watch it: The following lectures can be found for **free on YouTube** and offer an invaluable introduction to one of your key texts linked to fantasy genres and Imagined Worlds, alongside an introduction to language terminology and theory that will underpin every text you study.

[The Handmaid's Tale Lecture 1](#)

[The Handmaid's Tale Lecture 2](#)

[The Great Gatsby: Context](#)

[The Great Gatsby: The American Dream](#)



Do it:

1. Write a **brief summary of each chapter** within 'The Handmaid's Tale.'
2. Write a **brief summary of each chapter** within 'The Great Gatsby.'
3. As you watch **each of the four lectures above**, **take a page of notes** that summarise the key ideas. Use this way of capturing your notes; it's called [The Cornell Method](#). You can divide your page into the same sections as an effective way of capturing your notes.



(Optional) Stretch it:

Essay question:

How are women presented within the opening five chapters of 'The Handmaid's Tale'? Answer making reference to the language terms used by Atwood and the ways in which she creates this view of women.