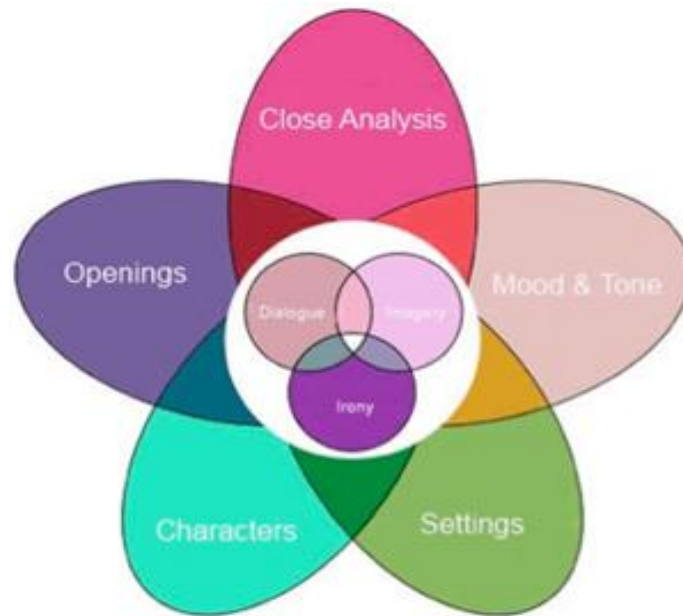


'A' LEVEL ENGLISH TRANSITION PACK

2026-2027



GUIDED AND SUPPORTED BY:

MISS KITT, MRS TOONE AND MRS ASH.

WE ALL WELCOME YOU TO THE WONDERS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE. WE COMMEND YOUR PAST SUCCESSES AND EXCELLENT DECISION MAKING SKILLS IN CHOOSING THIS COURSE – WHAT AN ADVENTURE YOU WILL HAVE.

“That is part of the beauty of all literature. You discover that your longings are universal longings, that you're not lonely and isolated from anyone. You belong.”

— F. Scott Fitzgerald



You have chosen an academic path which is going to build on your analytical, evaluative and creative skills already mastered in your GCSEs and you will be expected to read widely and write regularly. This is not the correct course for every student. It is however for the brave and enthusiastic – the true book lover – the thinker – the visionary – the expert craftsman...well, not straight away, we will give you a chance to settle in. 😊

Students can progress from this qualification to:

- Higher education courses such as: degrees in English, English literature, creative writing or in related subjects such as journalism, teaching, drama and history.
- A wide range of careers either directly related to English language or literature, such as: teacher, editor, writer, or in areas such as publishing, journalism, the media, advertising, public relations, arts administration, record offices, libraries, national and local government and the civil service.



Examiners do not 'give away' grades in Advanced level English! We expect you to work hard and to talk in class about your studies, to share with each other your thoughts about the texts presented and to work hard for all three teachers equally both in and out of the classroom. You need all three of your teachers to gain excellent skills on this course and we all talk to each other about your commitment and progress so please be aware of this from the outset. All of us want you to be successful on this course; all of us have high expectations of your work ethos. Don't worry though, we also expect you to make lots of mistakes and to learn from them, we do not expect you to be perfect, but we do expect you to try your hardest and to communicate any concerns with us immediately so we can help you. We all really enjoy teaching this course.

This subject requires open minds, critical thinkers, good organisation skills, and independent study. We are after all preparing you for university and the wider world and our anticipation is that you are well on the way to this already.

Organisational Requirements for this A level:

(You will need to have these items for September)

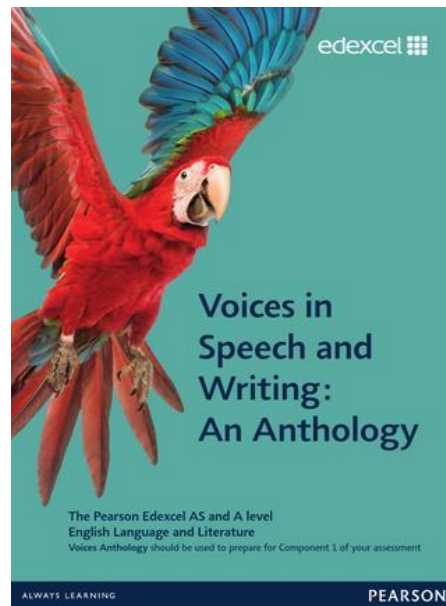
The expectation then is that you will bring the following to every English lesson:

- Lever arch folder
- Dividers for each teacher's session
- Academic stationery: pens, pencils, ruler, highlighters, post-its etc.
- Lined paper – you must provide this
- Plastic wallets – essential for hand outs
- Revision requirements appropriate to your learning style
- The relevant textbooks – you are expected to purchase your own as you will need to annotate it in class.

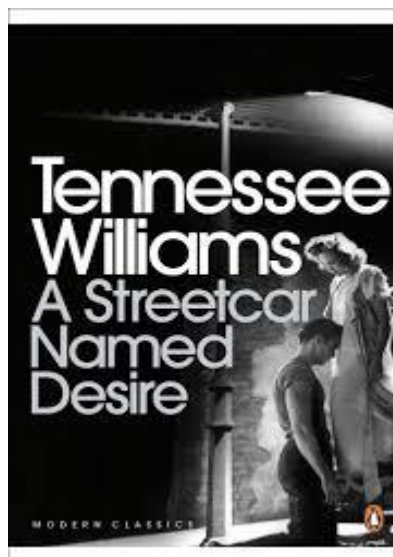


The examination board will provide you with an anthology of texts and Mrs Toone will be guiding your learning with this component over the two years. This is heavy on analysis, terminology and

essentially comparison. As the title suggests you will be exploring the importance of the voices in the wide variety of texts explored.



The iconic drama, *A Street Car Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams is studied in year 13 where the constructed voices of characters will be contextualised.

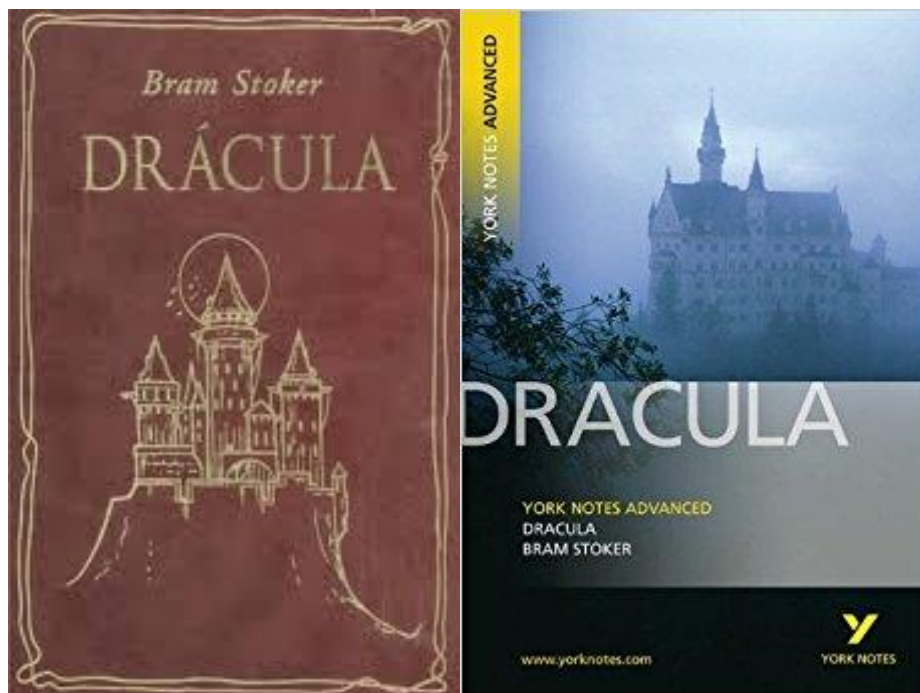


Voice:

The authorial presence in a piece of literature whether in the first, second, or third person.

Miss Kitt will be guiding you with the way literature is society's tool for 'crossing boundaries' and is a key component of your contextual awareness - and you will be reading Bram Stoker's Dracula.

YOU WILL NEED TO PURCHASE ANY COPY OF THIS – make sure you also have a bookmark or two or three!

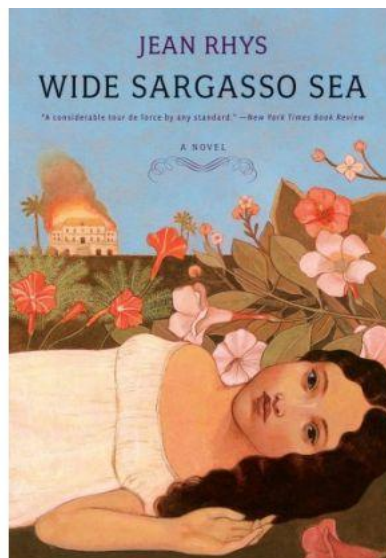


Miss Kitt expects you to familiarise yourself with this novel over the summer holidays.

You may wish to purchase some study guides for this novel to support wider thinking.

In year 13 you will be expected to explore unseen non-fiction prose texts whereby you will analyse, contextualise and appreciate the writer's voice. This will all be underpinned by the theme of 'crossing boundaries' and will require the accurate application of mature and sophisticated terminology.

Mrs Ash will be guiding you through the reading and contextual analysis under the same overview of the 'Crossing Boundaries' component by exploring Jean Rhys's, *The Wide Sargasso Sea* novel in year 12.



You will need to purchase these two texts to enable you to annotate whilst discussing it in class.

Also in year 2 Miss Kitt will be guiding you with your coursework folder which consists of creative writing and analysis. All teachers will be regularly reading this portfolio with you to support its completion but it is up to you to ensure that the very strict time guidelines are adhered to and you master all of the assessment objectives required for success.

You may wish to purchase Study guides to encourage your wider thinking on these texts.

It is recommended that you are familiar with the respective texts at the beginning of year 12 and year 13 retrospectively.

“A classic is a book that has never finished saying what it has to say.”

Italo Calvino, *The Uses of Literature*



In order to prepare you for this course we are asking you to read Charlotte Bronte’s novel, *Jane Eyre*. Also, we would like you to be very in tune with your own personal learning style by organising your own personal glossary. Please include in this all words you have already learnt throughout your school life, especially the basics and those absorbed for GCSE. This is a really firm foundation for your analytical exploration as you begin to fully understand the writer’s techniques and its impact. In addition you will find the following words – together with the ones emailed to you last week – useful.

So let's see your organisation and commitment skills when we meet again in September.

We study the Edexcel A level in English and Literature and there are two examinations in year 12 (internally assessed) and 2 examinations plus coursework in year 13. It is /however a 2 year course.

Edexcel Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in English Language and Literature (8ELO)

(This information may be useful when you are looking online for revision papers, student forums and examiner reports to support your learning.)

Qualification aims and objectives:

The aims and objectives of the Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in English Language and Literature are to enable students to:

- Develop and apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation.
- Develop and apply their understanding of the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis and study of language.

- Use linguistic and literary approaches in their reading and interpretation of texts, showing how the two disciplines can relate to each other.
- Engage creatively and critically with a wide range of texts.
- Explore the ways in which texts relate to each other and the contexts in which are produced and received.
- Develop their skills as producers and interpreters of language.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES AND WEIGHTINGS

		% in GCE
A01	Apply concepts and methods from integrated linguistic and literary study as appropriate, using associated terminology and coherent written expression	21.5
A02	Analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in texts	21.5
A03	Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which texts are produced and received	30
A04	Explore connections across texts, informed by linguistic and literary concepts and methods	15
A05	Demonstrate expertise and creativity in the use of English to communicate in different ways <i>Note: this Assessment Objective must be targeted with at least one of A02, A03, or A04, either in the same task or in two or more linked tasks.</i>	12
Total		100%

Paper	A01	A02	A03	A04	A05	
Paper 1: Voices in Speech and Writing	5%	5%	13%	15%	12%	50%

Paper 2: Varieties in Language and Literature	16.5%	16.5%	16.5%	0%	0%	50%
Total for this qualification	21.5%	21.5%	30%	15%	12%	100%