

# Year 11 going into Y12 A Level Literature



Hello future A Level Lit students, we hope you are keeping well during these uncertain times.

If you would like to get a jump start on your A Level Lit course, here's some information.

We are doing :

## **AQA A Level Literature Spec B**

**Note: there are different options that schools/colleges can choose from.**

**Paper 1 (our option is 1A) : Aspects of TRAGEDY**

**Paper 2 (our option is 2B) : Elements of POLITICAL & SOCIAL PROTEST**

If you want to look at what an A Level exam paper looks like, here's a link to a sample Paper 1 (Aspects of Tragedy):

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/sample-papers-and-mark-schemes/2017/june/AQA-77171A-QP-JUN17.PDF>

And a sample Paper 2 (Political & Social Protest):

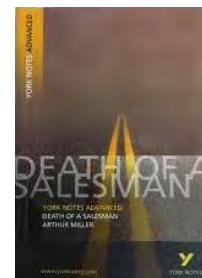
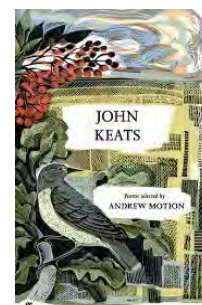
<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/sample-papers-and-mark-schemes/2017/june/AQA-77172B-QP-JUN17.PDF>

## Year 12 Course:

- Othello by William Shakespeare (focus on tragedy) – 2 essay questions
- The poetry of John Keats (pre-1900 text) and Death of a Salesman (compulsory drama text) – 1 comparison essay.

## Essential Y12 Reading List:

- **Othello**: Arden Edition
- **Death of a Salesman**: Penguin edition
- **Poetry of John Keats**: any anthology / poems can be found free online. You will also be provided with an anthology by AQA.
- **York A Level Study Guides**
- **No Fear Shakespeare** (free online – modern translations alongside original text)



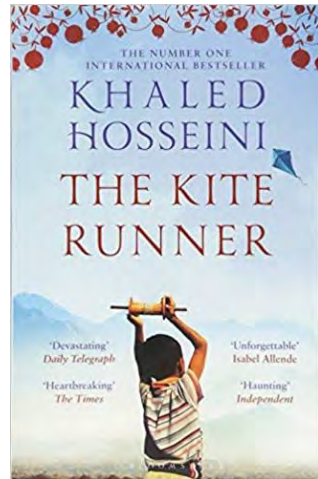
## Film Versions:

**Othello**: 1995, starring Lawrence Fishburn and Kenneth Branagh; directed by Oliver Parker.

**Othello**: RSC (lots of clips online, including explorations of the scenes)

**Death of A Salesman**: starring Dustin Hoffman (free on YouTube)

**In Year 13 we prepare the texts for Political and Social Protest Paper 2 and read:**

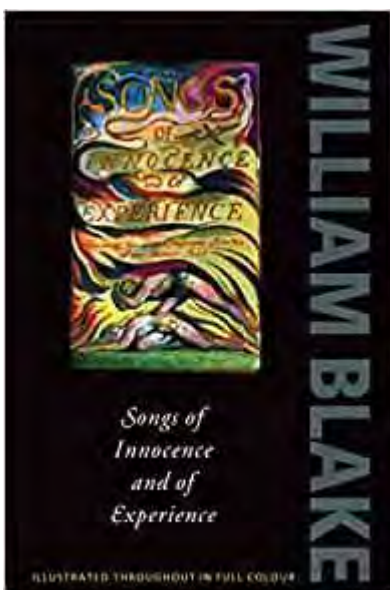


*The Kite Runner* by Khalid Hosseini (novel)



*A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen (play)

*Songs of Innocence and Experience* by William Blake (poetry)



Continued.....

## Year 11 going into Y12 A Level Literature



As a Literature student, you are also expected to do a significant amount of independent WIDER reading to give you a broader perspective for your course.

Here's a list to get you started, and that also might prove useful for your future coursework:

### **Novels you might want to read that could potentially be used for A Level coursework:**

#### **Dystopian Societies:**

*A Clockwork Orange* by Anthony Burgess

*Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

*Nineteen-Eighty Four* by George Orwell

#### **Disturbed Minds:**

*A Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde

*American Psycho* by Bret Easton Ellis

*Engleby* by Sebastian Faulks

*Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* by Hunter S Thompson

*Fight Club* by Chuck Palahniuk

*L'Etranger* [The Outsider] by A Camus

*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey

*The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath

*The Catcher in the Rye* by J D Salinger

#### **Gothic Terror:**

*Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by R L Stevenson

*Dracula* by Bram Stoker

*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte

*The Double* by Dostoevsky

*Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte

## **Equality/Race**

*Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad

*I know why the caged bird sings* by Maya Angelou

*The Color Purple* by Alice Walker

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

## **Societal Convention and Expectations**

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

*Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens

*Oranges are not the Only Fruit* – Jeanette Winterson

## **Suggested Poetry Texts**

*The Whitsun Weddings* by Philip Larkin [excluding Sunny Prestatyn]

*The World's Wife* by Carol Ann Duffy [excluding **Mrs Sisyphus**]

John Cooper Clarke (*Snap, Crackle and Bob, Ten Years in an Open Necked Shirt*)

Benjamin Zephaniah – any poetry

Sylvia Plath *Ariel*

## **Online Study Guides**

- No Fear, Shakespeare
- York Notes (paid content)
- Spark Notes
- Lit Charts
- Massolit (great mini lectures on Lit texts)
- MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses – loads of subjects / texts)
- Shmoop (a bit Americanised, but can be useful)
- Quizlet

As far as I'm aware, most of these are free, but may require you to sign-up.

Look for further resources on the VLE regarding TRAGEDY, our focus for Year 12.