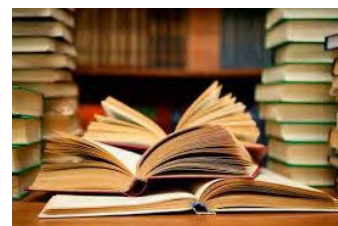


Year 11 going into Y12 A Level Literature

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):

[June 2017 QP - Paper 1A AQA \(B\) English Literature A-level.pdf](#)

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

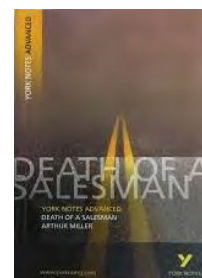
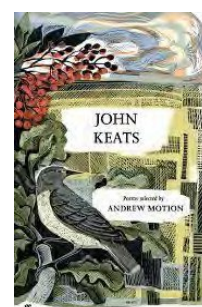
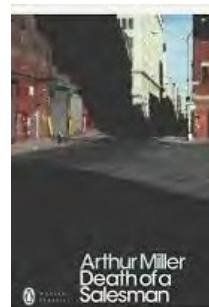
[June 2017 QP - Paper 2B AQA \(B\) English Literature A-level.pdf](#)

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:

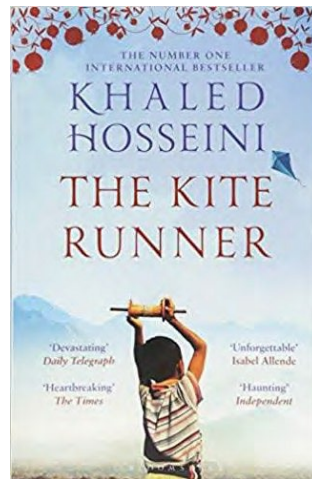
Othello: 1995, starring Lawrence Fishburn and Kenneth Branagh; directed by Oliver Parker.

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

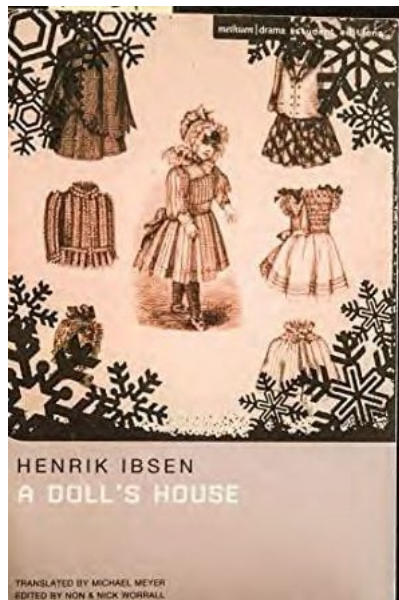
Death of A Salesman: starring Dustin Hoffman (free on YouTube)

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

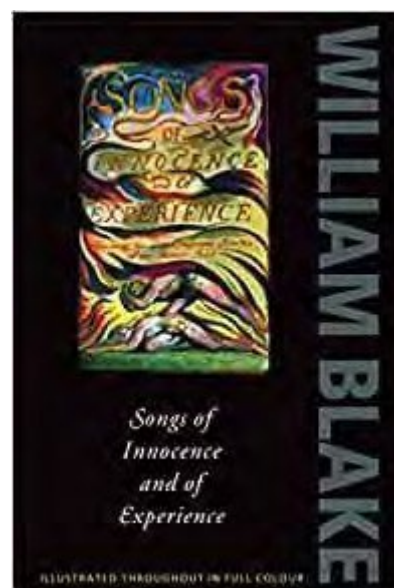
The Kite Runner by Khalid Hosseini (novel)

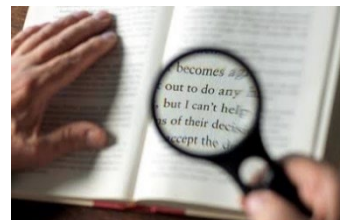


A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen (play)



Songs of Innocence and Experience by William Blake (poetry)





A LEVEL LITERATURE

SPEC B

NEA READING LIST

THE CRITICAL LENSES (1 critical theory for prose; a different critical theory for poetry)

2 x essays of 1500 words each (3000 total across the two pieces – NOT including quotes)

1. **Feminist lens:** the treatment of/attitudes towards women within literary texts; patriarchy; equality; waves of the feminist movement
2. **Marxist lens:** how one's social and economic background can impact the lived experience; social hierarchy; power; inequality; exploitation; aspiration
3. **Post-colonial lens:** race and power; the aftermath and experience of those who lived under colonial rule; empire; attitudes towards race
4. **Eco-critical lens:** the impact of our natural environment on us and our impact upon our natural surroundings; nature; environment; conflict between humanity & nature

SUGGESTIONS: FEMINIST LENS

PROSE	POETRY
Jane Eyre: Charlotte Bronte	I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings: Angelou
Lessons in Chemistry: Bonnie Garmus	Feminine Gospels – Carol Ann Duffy
The Awakening: Kate Chopin	World's Wife: Duffy (except Mrs. Sisyphus)
The Bell Jar: Sylvia Plath	Ariel – Sylvia Plath
Little Women: Louisa M Alcott	And Still I Rise: Maya Angelou
The Wild Sargasso Sea: Jean Rhys	Goblin Market: Christina Rossetti
Pride and Prejudice: Jane Austen	Aurora Lee: Barrett-Browning
Frankenstein: Mary Shelley	A Litany For Survival: Audrey Lorde?
Dracula: Bram Stoker	Pepper Seed: Malika Booker
Norwegian Wood: Murakami	
Sense and Sensibility: Jane Austen	
The Color Purple: Alice Walker	
The Help: Katherine Stockton	
The Scarlet Letter: Nathaniel Hawthorne	
Mill on the Floss: George Eliot	
Far From The Madding Crowd: Thomas Hardy	
The Bluest Eye: Toni Morrison	
A Thousand Splendid Suns: Khaled Hosseini	



SUGGESTIONS: MARXIST LENS

PROSE	POETRY
American Psycho: Brett Easton-Ellis	Half-Caste: John Agard
Never Let Me Go: Kazuo Ishiguro	And Still I Rise: Maya Angelou
Remains of the Day: Kazuo Ishiguro	Ten Years in an Open Necked Shirt: John Cooper-Clarke
Grapes of Wrath: John Steinbeck	Philip Larkin Poetry (except Sunny Prestatyn)
The Talented Mr. Ripley: Patricia Highsmith	
The Help: Katherine Stockton	
Selected Stories: D.H. Lawrence	
Atonement: Ian McEwan	
A House for Mr. Biswas: VS Naipaul	
Wuthering Heights: Emily Bronte	
Great Expectations: Charles Dickens	
Fahrenheit 451: Ray Bradbury	

SUGGESTIONS: POST-COLONIAL LENS

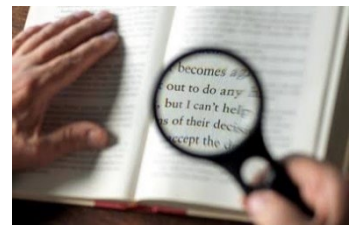
PROSE	POETRY
Things Fall Apart: Chinua Achebe	Half-Caste: John Agard
The Wild Sargasso Sea: Jean Rhys	And Still I Rise: Maya Angelou
The Help: Katherine Stockton	Pepper Seed: Malika Booker
The Color Purple: Alice Walker	
Heart of Darkness: Joseph Conrad	
The Bluest Eye: Toni Morrison	
The God of Small Things: Arundhati Roy	
A Thousand Splendid Suns: Khaled Hosseini	
Half of a yellow Sun: Chimamanda Adichie	

SUGGESTIONS: ECO-CRITICAL LENS

PROSE	POETRY
The War of the Worlds	War Poetry of Wilfred Owen
The Dharma Bums: Jack Kerouac	Poetry of Ted Hughes
The Road: Cormac McCarthy	
Wuthering Heights: Emily Bronte	
The Grapes of Wrath: John Steinbeck	
The Drowned World: JG Ballard	
Oryx and Crake: Margaret Atwood	

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 we're 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.