

# Independent Study

In English Literature you should...



## 1. After each lesson

Review your lesson notes and make a note of anything you don't understand or missed so that you can ask about this in the next lesson. Re-read any text or part of a text that we may have missed out in the lesson. Add any extra ideas or resources in to your notes in your physical or desktop folders, for example contextual resources which link well to the lesson topic, and make sure you have completed any questions, reading or analysis not finished in the lesson.

## 2. Weekly

Complete the reading, planning and contextual research you need to and write up your weekly literature essay. These need to be at least (on average) four pages of handwritten work so your preparation is crucial. Use the feedback from your last essay to improve your work each time.

## 3. Fortnightly

Complete a news search on the classic texts we are studying to consider how they are constantly being re-interpreted. Visit authors' socials/websites to note how they are adapting and updating their work to maintain relevance.

Seek out and read other texts by the authors we study during A-level, in the same genres we study and which explore the same themes as the texts we study. For example, it is recommended that you read at least one other novel by Margaret Atwood during this term. The novels written before *The Handmaid's Tale* are particularly useful for you as they give our key text literary backdrop. Try to read as much twentieth- and twenty-first century poetry as you can – some suggestions about this can be found on our website in the subject curriculum overview under 'recommended reading', along with ideas about what drama texts you could seek out.

The KS5 English Literature collection in the library contains many of the titles on the recommended reading list. In many cases there are two copies of each text so that, if you wanted to, you could read the text at the same time as someone else on the course, and then compare notes.

In addition, there are some excellent resources online to broaden and deepen your understanding of the context and reception of each text we study.

## 4. Termly

Improve your knowledge of classic texts by using resources such as this one and reading at least ten of the texts mentioned:

[https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/122137.Classic\\_Literature\\_Every\\_Book\\_Nerd\\_Should\\_Be\\_Acquainted\\_With](https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/122137.Classic_Literature_Every_Book_Nerd_Should_Be_Acquainted_With)

Follow a Mooc course on Literature such as the one below to deepen your understanding of the place and function of literature in our world:

[https://www.edx.org/course/modern-masterpieces-of-world-literature?hs\\_analytics\\_source=referrals&utm\\_source=mooc.org&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=mooc.org-course-list](https://www.edx.org/course/modern-masterpieces-of-world-literature?hs_analytics_source=referrals&utm_source=mooc.org&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=mooc.org-course-list)

## 5. Throughout the year

Sign up for notifications about author visits, Ledbury Poetry Festival, local theatres and other ways of seeing or experiencing literature 'live'.

Keep reading!