

April 2020

Year 11 Preparing for the Next Phase



Preparation for Continued Study of English

This booklet gives some advice on how students in Year 11 can prepare for the next phase in their education or employment during the school closures as a result of the Corona Virus.

English

Preparing for...

| | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| P2 | Functional Skills or GCSE |
| P3 -4 | A Level English Language |
| P5-6 | A Level Media Studies |
| P7-15 | A Level English Literature |

Preparation for Continued Study of English

Preparing for Functional Skills or GCSE English Language

How to prepare for college/Sixth Form:

1. Continue to complete any work set for you by your school or the college you will be going to in September.
2. Set aside between **30 mins and an hour daily** to improve your reading, writing and oracy by completing tasks found on these sites:
 - [BBC Skillswise](#) – A useful site that helps you improve specific English skills.
 - [FUNCTIONAL SKILLS](#) A great BBC Bitesize site that caters specifically for the development of English skills that are particularly relevant for future careers.
 - [BBC Teach Punctuation](#) - This series of short films are aimed at a younger age group but are still interesting. They take punctuation out of the classroom and into professional work environments to demonstrate its relevance.
 - [BBC Careers](#) This website is well worth scrutinising in detail – lots of useful information about general skills that are important for future careers as well as some useful advice about how to write a strong CV and application form.
 - [Freerice](#) - Improve your word power whilst also donating rice to the World Food Programme for every correct answer. Change the difficulty level through the menu bar.
 - [Seneca Spelling Course FREE](#): KS3 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar
 - [Seneca Vocabulary Course FREE](#): KS3 Decoding Words - Focused on developing knowledge about word roots, and common prefixes and suffixes.

READING

No matter what your future pathway holds, if you read regularly (preferably daily) it will have a beneficial impact on the qualifications you will go on to take, and will help develop this invaluable life skill.

Ensure you read a range of extended non-fiction and fiction as much as possible, preferably daily e.g. reliable news websites/newspapers, auto/biography, historical non-fiction, fiction etc.

If you enjoy fiction, you may want to access eBooks via these means:

- [LANCASHIRE LIBRARIES](#) (if you have a library card) Also, audio books are available.
- [LANCASHIRE LIBRARIES](#) Free articles to read.
- [Audible](#) - Currently free audio books for young people.
- [Gutenberg Free eBooks](#) (for copies of classic texts)
- [Kindle app](#) — many free books available.

Preparation for Continued Study of English

PREPARING FOR A LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A Level English Language is a really interesting and rewarding subject to study. It will give you the opportunity to study the components of the English Language in more detail and develop your own writing skills, especially your creative writing.

There will be an expectation at A Level that you are able to take ownership over your learning by studying independently and managing your time well. Therefore, it would be useful to establish good independent habits before you start your course, and prepare yourself a little for what you will be studying.

Colleges and schools will provide you with material or ideas about what you should be doing to prepare for your study of A Level English Language. You should focus on preparing for your course as advised by them; however, if you need a little more guidance or want to challenge yourself further, you might find the ideas below useful.

EVERYDAY

Allocate a block of study time to the following:

- **Improve your general knowledge of the origins, spoken elements, and grammar and punctuation of the English Language.**

Look at the following websites, and think about the areas you would like to know more about. Watch/read the information. Make some flashcards about what you have learnt.

- [Lexico](#) Look at the contents under the 'GRAMMAR' and 'EXPLORE' tabs at the top of the screen.
 - [Miss Hannah Does Grammar](#) Look at [Word Hacks](#), and parts of speech starting with [1. Nouns](#) working your way through to [21. Hyphens](#).
 - [BBC Skillswise](#) Look through each of the sections: reading, writing, sentences etc.
 - [University of Bristol](#) Improving Your Writing (grammar and punctuation exercises).
 - [Seneca Spelling Course FREE](#): KS3 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar
 - [Word origins](#)
 - [Accents and dialects](#)
 - [Language and Literature Timeline](#) & [Eduqas: Language in the Twenty-first Century](#)
- **Regularly read a quality newspaper such as *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, *The Telegraph*, *The Times* etc. The 'Comment Is Free' section of the Guardian can provide food for thought. Also, watch the news daily. Maybe *Newsnight* and *Question Time* too.**

Particularly read articles about the English Language on sites such as these (make notes about anything of interest):

<https://www.theguardian.com/media/mind-your-language>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/topic/EnglishLanguage>

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- **Listen to relevant podcasts/talks** such as:
 - [Radio 4's 'Word of Mouth'](#) programme on the BBC iPlayer. In this half hourly programme, Michael Rosen discusses various sorts of language from broad areas, such as the use of slang and language linked to gender identity, to more niche areas such as the naming of diseases and clichés in football commentary.
 - [TED TALKS – ENGLISH LANGUAGE](#)
Including:
 - How did English evolve?
 - Where did English come from?
 - What makes a word real?
 - Go ahead, make up new words!
 - A brief history of plural word..s
 - **TED TALKS - [HOW LANGUAGE CHANGES OVER TIME](#)**
Including:
 - Txting is killing language
 - How language transformed humanity
 - What our language habits reveal
 - What's a snollygoster? A short lesson in political speak.
 - **David Crystal lectures on YouTube**
- **Write 500 word articles on the following topics :**
 1. **Accent and dialect:** *'Is having a strong accent a disadvantage in today's society?'*
The [BRITISH LIBRARY](#) has a wealth of interesting articles about this topic - have a look at what is under the 'themes', 'articles' and 'sound recordings' tabs.
 2. **Social Media:** *'Is social media having a detrimental effect on the quality of everyday language?'*
- **Write. Write. Write.** Use this time to experiment as a creative writer. Build up a writing notebook. Why not have a go at writing your own scripts, short stories and poems?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/writersroom/>
[Future Learn - Writing courses](#)
- **Fancy a challenge?** Maybe have a go at one of the free Language courses here: [Future Learn - Linguistics courses](#) or listen to this podcast: [Language and the Mind](#). This series of language investigations on the [Cambridge University site](#) also offer a real challenge for enthusiasts.

Preparation for Continued Study of English

PREPARING FOR MEDIA/FILM STUDIES AT COLLEGE/ SIXTH FORM

Studying the media at a more advanced level will give you the opportunity to develop a specialist knowledge of the subject as well as developing creative skills.

There will be an expectation at college and sixth form that you are able to take ownership over your learning by studying independently and managing your time well. Therefore, it would be useful to establish good independent habits before you start your course, and also prepare yourself a little for what you will be studying.

Colleges and schools will provide you with material or ideas about what you should be doing to prepare for further study of Media Studies. You should focus on preparing for your course as advised by them; however, if you need a little more guidance or want to challenge yourself further, you might find the ideas below useful.

GENERAL TASKS

- **Improve your knowledge of specific aspects of the media** (e.g. film industry, music industry, advertising, television etc). Pick an area of the media you want to know more about and research it (see '**Film Research**' below). Make notes on what you learn and how groups of people and individuals are represented.
- **Investigate how the same news story is reported in three different news sources.** Make notes about similarities and differences in representation. Pick another story to investigate in the same news sources every two weeks.
- **Listen to podcasts/talks** about the arts and the media such as the following:
 - [Front Row](#) *Daily arts show that reviews topical plays, novels, films etc. and interviews novelists, playwrights, directors etc.*
 - [The Media Show](#) Radio show/podcasts about various aspects of the media.
 - TED talks e.g. '[Media With Meaning](#)' playlist, [Talks for Television Lovers](#) playlist, [Why We should Invest In A Free Press](#) talk, [How to Choose Your News](#) talk.
- **Regularly read the media section of a reliable news source** e.g. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/media>. Scroll down to read about the different sectors: *television, radio, digital media, press and publishing, media business.*
- **Produce your own blog/vlog or podcast**
- **Create your own media products** – Use this time to develop your technical skills. Why not have a go at writing your own scripts, making your own short films or animations? Maybe inspired by the media you have been consuming recently?
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/writersroom/>
- <https://www.filmmakingstuff.com/filmmaking/>
- [Future Learn - Writing courses](#)

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FILM – FURTHER RESEARCH

1. Regularly read articles/listen to podcasts about film:
 - [Film Programme](#) on Radio 4.
 - [Mayo and Kermode's film review](#) show/podcast
 - <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/film>
 - [Beyond Bollywood](#)
2. Watch as many key age- appropriate American, British and World Cinema films as possible. You might want to familiarise yourself with a specific genre you are unfamiliar with: Bollywood, musicals, westerns, sci-fi, war etc. Make notes about anything interesting about the way the film is shot.
 - *Previous Oscar winners and nominees:*
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Picture
 - *Critics' opinions about quality films:*
 - <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2019/sep/13/100-best-films-movies-of-the-21st-century>
 - <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2019/dec/29/mark-kermode-best-films-of-2019>
 - <https://www.filmsite.org/greatfilmssummary.html>
3. Maybe research key films that you have enjoyed: the director, budget, etc.
4. Maybe research major film companies/conglomerates (e.g. *Sony, Walt Disney Company*).
5. Watch relevant **TED talks** e.g. '[The Power of Film](#)'
6. Maybe create your own b/vlog to comment on what you have watched.

SPECIFIC UNITS OF WORK

You might want to use the following GCSE units of work from WJEC to find out more about various aspects of the media in a more structured way.

ADVERTISING

[GCSE WJEC Advertising Unit](#)

FILM

[WJEC Exploring the Us and UK Film Industry](#)

[WJEC Film Trailers and Posters](#)

TELEVISION

[WJEC GCSE Media Studies: Crime Drama Booklet](#)

[WJEC Media Industries: Radio and Video Games](#)

NEWS

[WJEC News](#)

[WJEC Television News and News Websites](#)

MUSIC

[WJEC Music Industry and Social Media](#)

GENERAL [WJEC Factsheets about Media products](#): magazine brands, newspaper brands etc.

Preparation for Continued Study of English

PREPARING FOR A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

A Level English Literature is a really interesting and rewarding subject to study. It will give you the opportunity to study a variety of literary works from different periods in history, developing your own thoughts and opinions about your reading through discussion and academic writing.

There will be an expectation at A Level that you are able to take ownership over your learning by studying independently and managing your time well. Therefore, it would be useful to establish good independent habits before you start your course, and also prepare yourself a little for what you will be studying.

Colleges and schools will provide you with material or ideas about what you should be doing to prepare for your study of A Level English Literature. You should focus on preparing for your course as advised by them; however, if you need a little more guidance or want to challenge yourself further, you might find the ideas below useful.

Some recommended reading lists are attached. These lists are lengthy but there is not an expectation that all texts from the list should be read, rather they provide you with some ideas of what you could try - above all choose texts/tasks that interest you and that you enjoy.

EVERYDAY

Allocate at least an hour a day to these tasks:

1. **Broaden your knowledge of literary texts.** Read as many of 'the classics' as possible (maybe slot in some audio books for variety). Ask for a reading list from your teacher or college/school, or use the attached lists to sample some of the suggested texts – **you do not need to read them all!** Try to read **one substantial text a week** (some will take longer!) and a selection of poetry (**a couple of poems a week**) as well as novels and plays. Remember most classics can be downloaded for free online, and one of the benefits of an eBook is that you can look up words you are unfamiliar with. Remember, if you do not want to carry on reading a particular book, try a new one. You do not have to persevere with a book you are not enjoying.

Look on book recommendation websites such as <https://www.goodreads.com/> to help you decide what to read first/next based on what you have enjoyed in the past.

If your college or school has given you a list of texts you will be studying at A Level, prioritise those texts, and maybe try a read a few more books/poems/plays by the authors/poets/playwrights you will be studying rather than use the attached reading lists.

2. **Watch free online theatrical performances**

National Theatre at Home

Available from **7pm on YouTube on Thursdays for one week.**

- *Treasure Island* 16th April
- *Twelfth Night* 23rd April

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Globe productions

YouTube Premieres every two weeks (**Monday at 7.00pm**) on the following dates:

- *Romeo and Juliet* - April 20th
- *A Midsummer Night's Dream* - May 4th
- *Two Noble Kinsman* - May 18th
- *The Winter's Tale* - June 1st
- *The Merry Wives of Windsor* - June 15th

Films are available for two weeks following their premiere.

RSC

In partnership with the BBC, the following RSC productions will be made available for free viewing over the next few weeks:

- *Macbeth* (2018), directed by Polly Findlay with Christopher Eccleston and Niamh Cusack
- *Hamlet* (2016), directed by Simon Godwin with Paapa Essiedu
- *Romeo and Juliet* (2018), directed by our Deputy Artistic Director Erica Whyman
- *Much Ado About Nothing* (2014), directed by Christopher Luscombe
- *Othello* (2015), directed by Iqbal Khan with Hugh Quarshie and Lucian Msamati
- *The Merchant of Venice* (2015), directed by Polly Findlay

In addition, other RSC shows can be accessed through Marquee TV with their 30 days free trial.

3. Regularly read a quality newspaper such as *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, *The Telegraph*, *The Times* etc. The 'Comment Is Free' section of the Guardian can provide food for thought. Also, watch the news daily. Maybe *Newsnight* and *Question Time* too.

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OPTIONAL EXTRAS

1. **Listen to radio programmes that will broaden your knowledge of texts** - Regularly listen to a literary radio programme on Radio 4 (through BBC Sounds). Find one you like from the list below. You do not have to listen to them all. Remember to click on the tabs at the top of the page, and listen to archived podcasts as well as live programmes.

These programmes might give you some ideas about what to read next.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <i>A Good Read</i> | Famous people talk about their favourite books. | http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/boo6v8jn |
| <i>Bookclub</i> | James Naughtie talks to acclaimed authors about their best-known novels. | http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/bo6f54rs |
| <i>World Book Club</i> | Monthly programme that focuses on great world authors past and present. | http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0338wllh http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02vzyc4 |
| <i>Poetry Please</i> | Famous Liverpudlian poet Roger McGough reads and discuss modern greats and classic poems and poets. | http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/bo6f54rv |
| <i>Open Book</i> | Programme looking at new fiction and non-fiction with Mariella Frostrup | https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/boo6qp6p |
| <i>With Great Pleasure</i> | Famous people read favourite texts aloud, particularly poems. | https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/boo6qr7 |
| <i>Book of the Week/ Book at bedtime</i> | Daily/ nightly reading of a chosen book | https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/boo6qftk |
| Listen to afternoon radio plays – on every day. | | https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/bo4xxpog |

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2. Read some of the books on the shortlist for international and national book prizes such as:
 - [National Short Story Award](#)
 - [Man Booker Prize](#)
 - [Women's Prize for Literature](#)
 - [The Costa Book Awards](#)

See if you can get hold of anything that sounds interesting, and have a read!
These books will be very current and might be future classics.

Use the internet to help perfect your writing skills

Consider what areas you would like to work on and see which of these websites might help:

- [Bristol University – Basic grammar and punctuation exercises](#)
 - [Sussex University – Punctuation Basics](#)
 - [Lexico](#)
3. **Blog/ tweet about your reading or set up a virtual reading group online with friends/ family.**

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Poetry – READING LIST

This reading list might help to introduce you to some of the most famous poets and poems in English Literature.

It is recommended that you dip in and out of the poems here before you begin your course and also during your course – you certainly do not need to read every single poem on this list in chronological order!

Aim to read a couple of poems a week at least.

Copies of these poems can be found easily online.

| |
|--|
| Shakespeare (1564 - 1616) Sonnet 18, 29, 116, 130 |
| Ben Jonson (1572- 1637) On My First Son Song: to Celia ["Drink to me only with thine eyes"] |
| Andrew Marvell (1621 - 1678) To His Coy Mistress |
| William Blake (1757 - 1827) A Poison Tree The Sick Rose The Tyger |
| William Wordsworth (1770 – 1850) Poet Laureate 1843-50 I Wandered Lonely As a Cloud (Daffodils) Upon Westminster Bridge |
| John Keats (1795 – 1821) La Belle Dame Sans Merci To Autumn |
| Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806 – 1861) Sonnet 43: How do I love thee? Sonnet 14: If thou must love me... |
| Alfred Tennyson (1809 – 1892) Poet Laureate 1850-1892 The Charge of the Light Brigade The Lady of Shalott The Eagle |
| Robert Browning (1812 – 1889) My Last Duchess Porphyria's Lover |
| Emily Dickinson (1830 – 1886) Hope is the Thing with Feathers Nature the Gentlest Mother |
| Christina Rossetti (1830 – 1894) A Birthday Remember When I Am Dead My Dearest |
| Thomas Hardy (1840 – 1928) Neutral Tones The Darkling Thrush |
| Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844 – 1889) The Caged Skylark The Windhover |
| Rudyard Kipling (1865 – 1936) If The Way Through the Woods |
| W B Yeats (1865 – 1939) The Cloths of Heaven When You Are Old |

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| <p>Robert Frost (1874 – 1963) Nothing Gold Can Stay The Road Not Taken</p> |
| <p>Stevie Smith (1902 – 1971) Not Waving But Drowning</p> |
| <p>John Betjeman (1906 -1984) Poet Laureate 1972-1984 On A Portrait of a Deaf Man Slough (1937)</p> |
| <p>W H Auden (1907 – 1946) Funeral Blues Night Mail Refugee Blues</p> |
| <p>Dylan Thomas (1914 – 1953) Do not go gentle into that good night Fern Hill</p> |
| <p>Vernon Scannell (1922 – 2007) A Case of Murder Nettles</p> |
| <p>Thom Gunn (1929-2004) Considering the Snail Still Life</p> |
| <p>Ted Hughes (1930 – 1998) Poet Laureate 1984-1998 Hawk Roosting The Thought-Fox Wind</p> |
| <p>Chinua Achebe (1930 – 2013) Vultures A Mother in a Refugee Camp</p> |
| <p>Derek Walcott (1930 – 2017) After the Storm Love After Love The Fist</p> |
| <p>Sylvia Plath (1932 – 1963) Daddy Mushrooms</p> |
| <p>Gillian Clarke (1937 -) Catrin Cold Knapp Lake</p> |
| <p>Seamus Heaney (1939 – 2013) Blackberry Picking Digging Mid-term Break</p> |
| <p>John Agard (1949 -) Half-Caste In Times of Peace Listen Mr Oxford Don</p> |
| <p>Grace Nichols (1950 -) Forest Island Man Hurricane Hits England</p> |
| <p>Maya Angelou (1951 – 2014) Life Doesn't Frighten Me At All Phenomenal Woman Still I Rise</p> |

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Imtiaz Dharker (1954 -)

Blessing

This Room

Moniza Alvi (1954 -)

Presents From My Aunts in Pakistan

An Unknown Girl

Carol Ann Duffy (1955 -)

(Poet Laureate 2009-2019)

Ann Hathaway

Stealing

We Remember Your Childhood Well

Benjamin Zephaniah (1958 -)

No Problem

The British

We Refugees

Simon Armitage (1963 -)

(Poet Laureate May 2019+)

About His Person

Father..

Give

November

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NOVELS – READING LIST

Here are some recommended reads – a mix of modern novels (might be harder to get for free unless you can use Borrowbox through Lancashire libraries) and what might be considered more classic literature (lots of free copies online). You do not need to read every book here! Just give some of these texts a try if you can get your hands on them, or any other texts by the same authors. **Aim to read about a book a week (though some will take longer), and, if you really do not like a book you have started, try another one!**

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Achebe, Chinua | Things Fall Apart |
| Adiche, Chimamanda Ngozi | Half of A Yellow Sun Purple Hibiscus |
| Ali, Monica | Brick Lane |
| Atwood, Margaret | Oryx and Crake The Handmaid's Tale The Blind Assassin |
| Austen, Jane | Emma Pride and Prejudice Sense and Sensibility |
| Banks, Iain | The Crow Road |
| Barker, Pat | Regeneration |
| Bronte, Charlotte | Jane Eyre |
| Bronte, Emily | Wuthering Heights |
| Conrad, Joseph | Heart of Darkness |
| Dickens, Charles | David Copperfield Great Expectations |
| Doyle, Roddy | Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha |
| Du Maurier, Daphne | Rebecca |
| Eliot, George | The Mill on The Floss Middlemarch |
| Faukes, Sebastian | Birdsong |
| Fitzgerald, F. Scott | The Great Gatsby |
| Golding, William | Lord of the Flies |
| Forrester, E.M | Howards End |
| Hardy, Thomas | Far from the Madding Crowd |
| Hosseini, Khalid | A Thousand Splendid Suns |
| Ishiguro, Kazuo | The Remains of the Day Never Let Me Go |
| Kesey, Ken | One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest |
| Lee, Harper | To Kill a Mockingbird |
| Martel, Yann | The Life of Pi |
| McEwan, Ian | Atonement Enduring Love |
| Mitchell, David | Cloud Atlas, Black Swan Green |
| Morrison, Toni | Beloved |
| Orwell, George | Animal Farm Nineteen Eighty-Four |
| Plath, Sylvia | The Bell Jar |
| Roy, Arundhati | The God of Small Things |
| Salinger, J.D. | The Catcher in the Rye |

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| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Shelley, Mary | Frankenstein |
| Stoker, Bram | Dracula |
| Tartt, Donna | The Goldfinch |
| Twain, Mark | Huckleberry Finn |
| Walker, Alice | The Colour Purple |
| Winterson, Jeanette | Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit |
| Smith, Zadie | White Teeth |

PLAYS

To challenge yourself, you might want to have a go at reading some Shakespeare independently. Use online study guides and translations to help you.

If you can watch quality performances of Shakespeare plays, even better. After all, Shakespeare wrote his plays to be watched! The [RSC](#) and [Globe Theatre](#) are making some of their past performances available for free online – a wonderful introduction to the Bard's work!

Furthermore, you might enjoy watching plays by other playwrights through the [National Theatre](#) website where you will find some free productions online this summer (every Thursday night).

Other playwrights' work to enjoy:

Alan Bennet

Arthur Miller

George Bernard Shaw

Henrik Ibsen

Oscar Wilde

Sean O'Casey

Shelagh Delaney

Tennessee Williams

Tom Stoppard