

Independent Learning in A Level English Literature



After each lesson, in addition to completing any set work, a pro-active, independent learner

- Ensure that notes are completed and filed/stored suitably in a folder or book.
- Read the relevant class notes and annotate with additional, relevant content; go back over difficult terminology; re-read the texts if required; and complete online revision to check understanding and knowledge.
- Make a list of things not fully understood to discuss with a peer or a teacher *before* the next lesson AND carry out the discussion (or pose the questions to your teacher via e-mail).
- Try to summarise the content of each lesson in note or diagrammatic format to diagnose what you have and haven't understood.
- Try to commit factual information (e.g. contextual factors) to memory immediately, rather than leaving it
 until revision try flashcards, make a terminology poster, online quiz, test your friend, etc.
- Match the content of the specification (do you know what the AOs are?) against lesson notes/content to
 ensure that all points are covered. Do you know which AOs have the largest weighting?
- Maintain a list of learning points (www/ebi targets) from reviewed/marked work and regularly review this list. Make SMART targets to work on these. Have you made progress?
- Seek out additional sources of questions on areas of weakness where mistakes were made in classwork, homework or a test. For important pieces of work, diagnose mistakes as active mistakes, slip-ups and blackouts.
- Read the AQA Cambridge Student Book chapter on the next topic before the next lesson and make a note of any questions that arise.
- Read other texts by the same author as set texts and/or read other texts from the same genre/historical
 period as set texts.
- Plan essays from exemplar question list.

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Resources to help you study

Most key resources, such as the specification for your course, student book from Cambridge, AP data sheet, past papers, etc. can be found in Handouts\English\A Level Lit. Some additional resources are as follows:

Resource	Description
Resources for individuals topics and parts of the exam in <i>Handouts</i>	Looking for something and it is not there? Let us know. Please email your query to your teacher or the KS5 DTL: rfawbertmills@lvybridge.devon.sch.uk
AQA Cambridge English Literature textbook	You can find a copy of this textbook with your teacher or with FBM in R0.07.
A Level York notes on set texts	You can find a copy of these with your teacher or with FBM in R0.07.
AQA website http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/ as-and-a-level/english-literature-a-7711- 7712	Contains links to questions, answer exemplars and support. The answers are brilliant, since they contain a commentary from a chief examiner. Also see http://www.aqa.org.uk/student-support/for-students .
The Student Room https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/sho wthread.php?t=1874783	A forum where past students post questions and comments. A useful resource to use for support, but with caution.
English Literature podcasts	Explore the wealth of podcasts available about English Literature – 'A Good Read' and 'Open Book' (Radio 4); 'A Way with Words'. Literary Themes/Idea: 'The Guilty Feminist'; 'Unbuttoned History: 177 – Feminism 101); 'The History of English' podcast; 'The Hay Literary Festival' podcasts.

Stretch yourself

Create your own revision guide for each area of the exam. Want to meet up with other A level English Lit students to discuss the exams and share ideas? Why not set up a weekly Literature sharing session?