



# ENGLISH AND MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES



## A Level English Language

Here are some really useful books for getting ahead in English Language

- [AQA English Language: A Level and AS \(AQA A Level English Language\)](#) by Dan Clayton, Angela Goddard et al.
- The Language of Literature (Cambridge Topics in English Language) by Marcello Giovanelli

## A Level English Literature

### What texts do we cover?

Across the 2 years you will cover:

- Othello - William Shakespeare
- Never Let Me Go - Kazuo Ishiguro
- Frankenstein - Mary Shelley
- A Streetcar Named Desire - Tennessee Williams
- The Duchess of Malfi - John Webster
- A selection of post-2000 poetry
- Selected Poems - John Donne

### What should I start reading?

We start with Othello so it's always useful to have an idea of the plot and the main themes before we start to analyse how Shakespeare uses language and stagecraft to explore the ideas of the play.

### Activity

We've included 3 of the most famous lines from Shakespeare's famous tragedy for you to look up and research. Find out which character says them, to whom and what idea the line is exploring. When you've done all 3 you should have a pretty good idea of the plot of Othello!

- 'Reputation, reputation, reputation! O, I have lost my reputation! I have lost the immortal part of myself, and what remains is bestial.' (Act 2, Scene 3)
- 'O, beware, my lord, of jealousy: It is the green-eyed monster which doth mock the meat it feeds on.' (Act 3, Scene 3)
- 'O, now, forever, farewell the tranquil mind; farewell content.' (Act 3, Scene 3)

**What's next?!** Othello is what we might call a classical tragedy. Have a look at some of the conventions of this genre and think about how Othello might adhere to these.



## **A Level English Language and Literature Combined**

### **Texts Studied**

- *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams
- *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry

### **Where to start**

To prepare for the course you should read 'A Streetcar Named Desire' and consider the significance of the following quotes. What do they reveal about class and gender in the US in the 1940s?

- 'He acts like an animal, has an animal's habits! Eats like one, moves like one, talks like one!'
- 'What do you two think you are? A pair of queens? Remember what Huey Long said - 'Every Man is a King!' And I'm the king around here, so don't forget it!'
- 'I have always depended on the kindness of strangers!'

### **Next steps**

Read *The Great Gatsby* and think about how the American dream is presented in the text.



# ENGLISH AND MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES



## A Level Spanish

### Lower Sixth

In your first year we study the film *'El Laberinto del fauno'*. Now would be a great time to watch this film!

Alongside this you could read the Hodder 'A Level MFL film study guide- Laberinto del Fauno'- Jose Sánchez, that will help you analyse in Spanish key themes and techniques used by the director. The director Guillermo del Toro with Cornelia Funke have also written a novel based on the film 'Pan's Labyrinth'.

To understand the context behind the film and gain a deeper understanding of the Spanish Civil War and Franco's dictatorship you could read:

- Ghosts of Spain- Giles Tremlett
- The Spanish Holocaust- Paul Preston
- The Spanish Civil War- Paul Preston

Many students find listening challenging when transferring to A level Spanish. A great way to prepare yourself for this is to get acquainted with podcasts: a great daily routine to start before A level and an activity you can do 'on the go' or whilst chilling at home. Here are some suggestions to get you started:

- Hoy hablamos gramática
- News in slow Spanish
- Andalusian Spanish with Antonio
- Notes in Spanish conversations
- Simple stories in Spanish

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### Upper Sixth

In second year we will study *'Como Agua para el Chocolate'* by Laura Esquivel. This can be read in your native language first (free PDF copies online). This is usually set during the summer holidays at the end of the first year. We will also use the Hodder 'A level MFL literature study guide- Como Agua para chocolate'-Sebastián Bianchi. You will also need a Spanish copy of the novel.

To understand the context behind the novel and gain a deeper understanding of the Mexican Revolution you could read:

- The Mexican Revolution- a short history 1910-1920- Stuart Easterling
- Zapata of Mexico- Peter E. Newell



## A Level French

### Préparation française pour septembre

Bonjour, je m'appelle Caroline votre professeur de français!

### Ways to keep your French going over the Summer:

- France 24 en direct has 24 hour news in French.
- Lupin and L'Agence are 2 series on Netflix which are great for your spoken French.
- YouTube or Spotify are good for French playlists.
- Get weather updates on your phone in French.
- Lawless French - to practise your verbs: Avoir, être, aller, jouer, finir, vendre see if you know these verbs in the present, imperfect, perfect and future tenses.
- An excellent short Youtube video about 'La Haine' the film we will be studying in Year 12 is: [BFI at Home La Haine Q&A with director Mathieu Kassovitz](#)
- We will be studying Albert Camus 'L'étranger' in Year 13 and here is a short Youtube film about his short life: [Albert Camus: A Short Life](#)

Bonnes Vacances et à bientôt, Caroline!



## A Level German

### Ways to keep your German going over the Summer:

- Listen to German playlists on Youtube/Spotify/etc.
- Get weather updates on your phone in German
- Watch shows/films with German subtitles on.

### **Lower Sixth:**

In your first year we study the film 'Good Bye, Lenin!'. Now would be a great time to watch this film! Alongside this you could read the Hodder 'Film Study Guide For AS/A-Level German - Good Bye, Lenin!' - Wolfgang Becker, that will help you analyse in German key themes and techniques used by the director.

To understand the context behind the film and gain a deeper understanding of the impact of the Berlin Wall, you could read:

- The Berlin Wall: 13 August 1961 - 9 November 1989 - Frederick Taylor
- Stasiland - Anna Funder

### **Upper Sixth:**

In your second year we will study 'Ich fühl mich so fifty-fifty' by Karin König. This is usually set during the summer holidays at the end of the first year. We will also use the ZigZag 'A level MFL literature study guide- 'Ich fühl mich so fifty-fifty' - E Stovell-Milligan. You will also need a German copy of the novel.

To understand the context behind the novel and gain a deeper understanding of the impact of the Berlin Wall, you could read:

- The Berlin Wall: 13 August 1961 - 9 November 1989 - Frederick Taylor
- Stasiland - Anna Funder