

## Year 11 into 12 Bridging the Gap

### Summer Work for 2020 Entry



**St Philip Howard**  
SIXTH FORM  
*Learn, Grow, Achieve*

We want you to be really successful and what it takes to be successful at GCSEs is different from being successful at A-Levels. Although you have fewer subjects there are different skills at A-Level and the volume of work is greater because the depth and detail is more demanding.

Bridging the Gap Work will reassure you that the subject you have selected is for you, or allow you time to change your choice of subject at enrolment, as long as there is space and you meet the entry criteria. We want you to study a course that interests you and you are sufficiently qualified to study.

#### **Subject:**

English Literature

#### **Head of Subject:**

Mrs Y Neame  
yneame@sphcs.co.uk

#### **Aim of Bridging Work:**

- To broaden your reading experiences and become discerning and enthusiastic readers.
- To improve your critical reading skills, becoming adept at using professional criticism and articles to support your own ideas and offer alternative interpretations.
- To expand your vocabulary and become more sophisticated, fluent writers.
- To gain confidence and independence in communicating ideas through writing and discussion.
- To learn key terminology and concepts appropriate to the genre of tragedy, which will be our starting topic in September.
- To begin reading set texts and research historical, literary and cultural background to these texts to enhance understanding and depth of analysis.

#### **Equipment List :**

A4 lined and plain paper  
Two large A4 ring binder folders  
Small folder for day to day work

#### **Textbook(s) for September:**

**Course book (optional but very useful):**  
*AQA English Literature B – AS level and A level*

Authors: Adrian Beard (Series Editor), Pete Bunten, Graham Elsdon, Alan Kent  
Publisher: Oxford University Press  
ISBN- 978-0-19-833748-5

**Set texts: the genre of tragedy**

***Othello* by William Shakespeare**

***Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller**

## **Tasks – week 5**

1. Keep reading! As widely as possible. Aim to learn new vocabulary and notice techniques that professional writers use to engage their readers. Please let me know what you are reading and whether you have finished the book you started in Week 1.
  
2. Modern domestic tragedy research.

So far you have researched the origins of tragedy and the conventions of Shakespearian tragedy. We are now moving on to modern (20<sup>th</sup> century at least!) tragedy. In the middle of the twentieth century, following the pursuit of the “American Dream” literature, a group of playwrights turned their attention to contemporary failings in the American system and looked inward to domestic situations to find inspiration for their dramatic works. One of these was Arthur Miller.

Please can you research the following and add to your folder of notes:

The life of Arthur Miller, key events in America when he was writing, his plays and the genre of domestic tragedy and its features.

**You will see that your first two set texts are included on the first page. You will be studying the genre of tragedy in the autumn with these two plays.**

**You will also be studying critical theory alongside a novel – I will give you details of the novel as part of your summer bridging assignment!**