

Get Ready For: A-Level English Literature



On BBC iPlayer:

- *The Beauty of Books.*
- *Novels That Shaped Our World.*
- Culture in Quarantine: *Hamlet.*

REVISE

You could:

- Re-read your GCSE Shakespeare text.
- Revisit your close reading skills, reminding yourself of how you approached the annotation of a short poem and a prose passage.



READ

Some poetry: If you don't have any anthologies at home you can read online. Try a poem a day, across period and genre:

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/>

One novel: It can be anything, preferably one with some literary merit.

One play: Preferably another tragedy by Shakespeare as you can read any of them online.

RESEARCH

You could do some basic introductory research on the following broad areas:

- The history of the novel.
- Renaissance tragedy.
- Geoffrey Chaucer.
- British poetry of the 20th C.



LISTEN

BBC *In Our Time* Podcasts on *Hamlet* and Chaucer:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09jqfs>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p003hycq>

TOPICS

Four components over two years:

Component 1: Poetry (Philip Larkin + Carol Ann Duffy/Other text to be decided).

Component 2: Drama (*The Duchess of Malfi* + *A Streetcar Named Desire*/Shakespeare text to be decided).

Component 3: Unseen Texts (Prose 1880-1910/Prose 1918-1939/Poetry).

Component 4: Prose Study (One comparative coursework essay of 2500-3500 words, a post-2000 novel + a pre-2000 novel).