

English Literature A Level Transition Tasks

2017

Task:

Choose a twentieth or twenty first century poet. This poet may be a poet you have enjoyed at GCSE, or a poet you have never read before (be brave!). Create a folder of work about this poem. The folder should have the following tasks (responses/notes for each task should be recorded on at least one side of A4):

1. Complete a close analysis commenting on its language, structure and form. This should be your OWN analysis from your first impressions and ideas.
2. Research the poet's background and select any relevant information and explain how this has can be seen to have influenced the poem/deepened your reading.
3. Research what the poet has said about their poem or their work in general. Does this help your understanding? Why?
4. Research the context of the poem. How has this enriched your understanding of the poem?
5. Read a literary critics' opinion of the poem. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

In addition please see the activities below which are designed to prepare you for the course. Please complete the research tasks and at least one other.

Visits to make	The Globe Theatre	The National Theatre	The British Museum
Films/Programme to watch	'Hamlet' RSC latest production or any other production	'Richard the Third' Benedict Cumberbatch	'A Streetcar Named Desire' Marlon Brando
Articles to read	Reviews of theatre in the broadsheets	The English Media Centre magazine	The Literary Review, published by the Dickensian University quarterly
Research	Elizabethan and Jacobean theatre	Greek theatre	Religious thinking in the Renaissance.
Reading - Current literature	<i>The Making of a Poem: A Norton Anthology of Poetic Forms</i> by Eavan Boland and Mark Strand *very useful and extremely enjoyable to read	<i>A Little Life</i> by Hanya Yanagihara	<i>Cockfosters</i> by Helen Simpson
	<i>We Need to Talk About Kevin:</i> by Lionel Shriver	<i>The Namesake:</i> Jhumpa Lahiri	<i>Brick Lane</i> by Monica Ali

