











## A Level English Literature

To help you to make the best start in your new subject, and to help you explore different and enriching aspects of the subject, your teachers have prepared a Reading, Watching and Listening list. Please access all of these resources over the summer.

	Title	Description	Hyperlink
 Read	<b>Margaret Atwood, the Prophet of Dystopia</b>	Her fiction has imagined societies riddled with misogyny, oppression, and environmental havoc. These visions now feel all too real.	<a href="https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/04/17/margaret-atwood-the-prophet-of-dystopia">https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/04/17/margaret-atwood-the-prophet-of-dystopia</a>
 Read	<b>Carol Ann Duffy: Biography and interview</b>	Speaking to English File in 1989, Carol Ann Duffy reveals what inspired her to write and talks about her role as a feminist poet.	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/poetry/season/poets/carol_ann_duffy.shtml">https://www.bbc.co.uk/poetry/season/poets/carol_ann_duffy.shtml</a>
 Read	<b>Royal Shakespeare: a playwright and his king</b>	Shortly after James I took the throne, he announced that he would be the new sponsor of Shakespeare's theatre company, which renamed itself the King's Men. Andrew Dickson explains how the royal sponsorship affected the company, and the ways in which the playwright's later works engage with his transition from an Elizabethan to a Jacobean subject.	<a href="https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/royal-shakespeare-a-playwright-and-his-king">https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/royal-shakespeare-a-playwright-and-his-king</a>
 Read	<b>Exploring the 'Literary Canon'</b>	Read the webpages and articles on the 'Literary Canon' and the different debates around these ideas. Summarise what you read and then consider your own opinion. <i>Does the Literary Canon celebrate the best of literature?</i>	<a href="https://www.openculture.com/2014/01/harold-bloom-creates-a-massive-list-of-works-in-the-western-canon.html">https://www.openculture.com/2014/01/harold-bloom-creates-a-massive-list-of-works-in-the-western-canon.html</a>  <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/oct/20/harold-bloom-defence-of-western-greats-blinded-him-to-other-cultures">https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/oct/20/harold-bloom-defence-of-western-greats-blinded-him-to-other-cultures</a>
 Watch	<b>National Theatre production of Othello.</b>	Use the link to watch a production of your Shakespeare set text. Log on using our institution access: Username: 7Ak22Eb/t- Password: 6Fj%7Na)v/	<a href="https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350935181&amp;tocid=do-9781350935181_6083692843001">https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/video?docid=do-9781350935181&amp;tocid=do-9781350935181_6083692843001</a>
 Watch	<b>Online course – How to read a novel.</b>	Use the link to sign up for this free course from the University of Edinburgh. Get underneath the skin of a novel by understanding some of the main building blocks of modern fiction.	<a href="https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/how-to-read-a-novel">https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/how-to-read-a-novel</a>

 Watch	<b>TED: Why people need poetry.</b>	What happens when we read poetry? - In an ode to the art of odes, poetry critic Stephen Burt demonstrates through lyrical explication that the practice of poetry is tied to being human.	<a href="https://ideas.ted.com/what-happens-when-we-read-poetry/">https://ideas.ted.com/what-happens-when-we-read-poetry/</a>
 Listen	<b>Margaret Atwood: How I Found My Voice</b>	Samira Ahmed speaks to the acclaimed author of The Handmaid's Tale and The Testaments Margaret Atwood. They speak about her life and career, from her experiences as a young schoolgirl in Canada and her prolific writing career of novels and poetry to the impact of the Handmaid becoming a symbol of resistance against the disempowerment of women and her playful love for puppeteering.	<a href="https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/margaret-atwood/id1455089930?i=1000513344585">https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/margaret-atwood/id1455089930?i=1000513344585</a>
 Listen	<b>Shakespeare: The art of storytelling</b>	Prof. Emma Smith takes a closer look at Shakespeare's skills as a storyteller and how his plots, where the outcome is often signposted from the beginning, still hold audiences enthralled.	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0695nvj">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0695nvj</a>
 Listen	<b>Dystopia Today</b>	Gregory Claeys considers what dystopia means to us, how the literary tradition helps us to engage with it, and what to do about it.	<a href="https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/dystopia-today">https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/dystopia-today</a>