

Year 12 A Level English Literature Bridging Work 2024



[AQA | English | AS and A-level | English Literature A](#)

A Level English Literature - Course Outline

Paper 1: Love through the ages ~ 3 hours ~ 75 marks ~ 40% of A-level		
Section A: Shakespeare <i>(Othello)</i>	One passage-based question with linked essay. Closed book.	25 marks
Section B: Unseen Poetry	Essay question on two unseen poems	25 marks
Section C: Comparing texts (<i>The Great Gatsby</i> and <i>Pre-1900 poetry anthology</i>)	Comparing texts: one essay question linking two texts. Open book.	25 marks
Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts: Open book ~ 2 hr 30 mins ~ 75 marks ~ 40% of A-level		
Section A: Set Texts. <i>(Streetcar named Desire)</i>	One essay question on set text.	25 marks
Section B: Contextual linking <i>(The Handmaid's Tale and Feminine Gospels)</i>	• One compulsory question on an unseen extract	25 marks
	• One essay question linking two texts	25 marks
Coursework (NEA) ~ 50 marks ~ 20% of A-Level		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre-1900 One extended essay (2500 words) and a bibliography 		

Bridging Task A: Prose Analysis

1. How does Stuart use literary methods to engage the reader in the opening of his book 'Shuggie Bain'?
2. Find another engaging opening from a book of your choice and answer the same question for your chosen text.

Modern Prose Extract Analysis: *Shuggie Bain* by Douglas Stuart
This is the opening of the novel *Shuggie Bain*, which won the Booker prize in 2020. Read the extract carefully and complete the following tasks:

1. What is the prevalent mood or atmosphere Stuart creates? Highlight and annotate at least 2 pieces of evidence to support your view.
2. What do we learn about the character Shuggie? Label your evidence and inferences.
3. Choose 2 quotations that you think demonstrate a powerful use of language. Annotate – what is Stuart doing here? How does he use language to do this?

The day was flat. That morning his mind had abandoned him and left his body wandering down below. The empty body went listlessly through its routine, pale and vacant-eyed under the fluorescent strip lights, as his soul floated above the aisles and thought only of tomorrow. Tomorrow was something to look forward to.

Shuggie was methodical in setting up for his shift. All the pots of oily dips and spreads were decanted into clean trays. The edges were wiped free of any splashes that would go brown quickly and ruin the illusion of freshness. The sliced ham was artfully arranged with fake parsley sprigs, and the olives were turned so that the viscous juice did not like macas over their green skins. Ann McFee had the beans rock to call in sick again that morning, leaving him with the thankless task of running his deli counter and her rotisserie stand all alone. No day ever started well with six dozen raw chickens, and today of all days, it was stealing the sweetness out of his daydreams.

He pushed industrial skewers through each cold, dead bird and lined them up neatly in a row. They sat there, with their stubby wings crossed over their fat little chests like so many headless babies. There was a time he would have taken pride in this orderliness. In reality, pushing the metal through the bumpy pink flesh was the easy part; the difficult part was resisting the urge to look at the customers. They would pore over the hot glass and study each of the carcasses in detail.

Bridging Task 1: Prose analysis

1. How does Stuart use literary methods to engage the reader in the opening of his book *Shuggie Bain*? Write your response as a mini essay including direct references to the text to exemplify your ideas.
2. Find another engaging opening from a book of your choice and answer the same question for your chosen text.

Bridging Task B: Reading Autobiography

Discuss and make notes about the following...

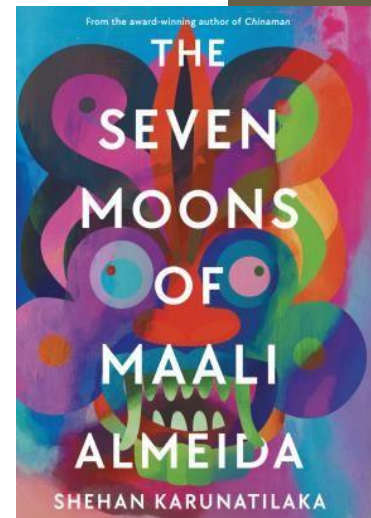
1. The first picture book you can remember from your childhood
2. A book you remember being read to you
3. A book you remember reading independently
4. A character from a book that you have really connected with
5. A book that has taught you something or challenged your thinking
6. The first 'adult' book you have read
7. A book you think you ought to read
8. The book you would like to read next

Bridging Task B: Reading Autobiography

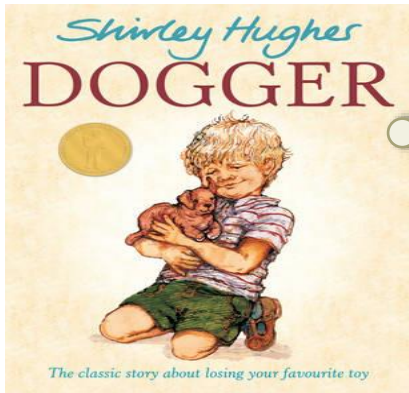
Ms Lilley's Reading Autobiography

1. The first picture book you can remember from your childhood - *Dogger*, Shirley Hughes
2. A book you remember being read to you – *The Turbulent term of Tyke Tyler*, Gene Kemp
3. A book you remember reading independently – *The Worst Witch*, Jill Murphy
4. A character from a book that you have really connected with – Margaret from *Are you there God it's me Margaret?* Judy Blume
5. A book that has taught you something or challenged your thinking - *Brave New World*, Aldous Huxley
6. The first 'adult' book you have read - *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, Thomas Hardy
7. A book you think you ought to read – *Wolf Hall*, Hilary Mantel
8. The book you would like to read next – *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*, Shehan Karunatilaka
9. A book you would recommend – *Tomorrow, Tomorrow and Tomorrow*, Gabrielle Zevin

Choose at least 6 of these books to create a mind-map-style 'Reading Autobiography'

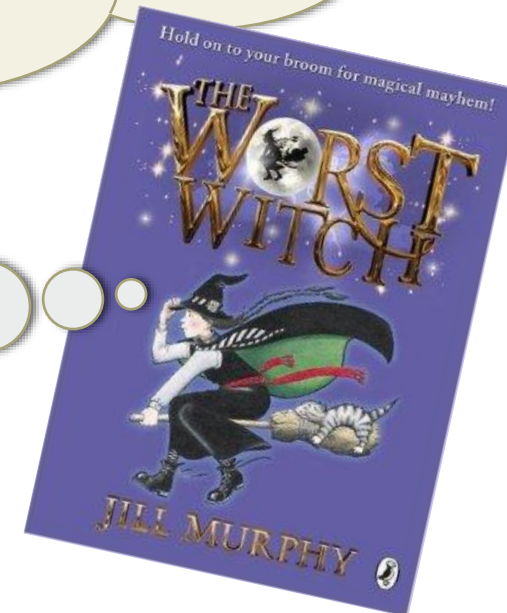


Task B: Choose at least 6 books you have read to create a mind-map-style 'Reading Autobiography'



I remember my Dad reading this to my brother and I and always crying at the end when 'Bella did a very kind thing' When I read it to my children, I too cried at the end!!!

I remember finding all the trouble Mildred gets into a bit scary and funny, in equal measure. I love the illustrations. When I look at them it takes me back to age 7ish, when I was so proud of being able to read independently.



Bridging Task C: Holiday Reading!

- Persuasion, Jane Austen
- The Handmaid's Tale, Margaret Atwood
- Never Let me Go, Kazuo Ishiguru
- Jane Eyre, Charlotte Bronte
- The Paying Guests, Sarah Waters
- Wuthering Heights, Emily Bronte
- The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini
- Frankissstein, Jeanette Winterson
- Frankenstein, Mary Shelley
- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya Angelou
- Tess of the D'Urbervilles, Thomas Hardy
- The French Lieutenant's Woman, John Fowles
- The Black Prince, Iris Murdoch
- Mrs Dalloway, Virginia Woolf
- Stonemouth, Iain Banks
- Brave New World, Aldus Huxley
- Rebecca, Daphne Du Maurier
- The God of Small Things. Arundhati Roy
- The Miniaturist, Jessie Burton
- Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad



Choose at least one of these books to read over the summer holiday.

Be prepared to present a short review of one of the books in September to share with the group. Include:

- Brief summary of story
- Favourite character
- A passage you love and why

Optional Extension Challenges:

1. Watch a play (live or recorded/streamed)
2. Read some poetry by the following poets: Sophie Hannah, Jacob Sam-La Rose, Kate Tempest, Maya Angelou, Percy Shelley, Emily Dickenson, Carol Ann Duffy