

Gaps in Knowledge

The usual challenges students face in A-Level English Literature courses are:

- How to analyse a text critically and express coherent ideas
- Literary terminology
- Contextual knowledge

What Have We Done For You?

We have found that these weaknesses have been exacerbated by the lockdowns. To assist you the English department has put together a PowerPoint series which will provide you with instructional videos explaining:

- How to form a good essay
- How to analyse a text
- literary and linguistic terminology
- A detailed analysis of two commonly taught English texts: The Great Gatsby and Othello.

Which Resource Do I Use For Each Course?

The resources we have provided, with a couple of exceptions which I discuss throughout the PowerPoint, are generic. This means it is applicable for A-Level English literature students, A-Level English Language and Literature Students and IB English students.

How to Write Well

- A good piece of writing is the product of a well honed skill. A good piece of writing is not an end result but rather a long drawn out process consisting of research, thinking, planning and writing plus rewriting.
- Attached are some videos about how to write well:
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okvgq1_h3jc
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgESP_lTgWA&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt_&index=14
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zrf2ij2hZiU&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt_&index=15
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjsNH1FrGhA&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt_&index=16
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KT0_Q1p1ozE&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt_&index=17
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3U0ql1YDr8&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt_&index=18

Terminology

- A-level literature, language and literature and IB literature students will need to make specific reference to literary terminology and have reference to literary concepts. Some of these terms are explore below:
 - Literary terms: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QtwNxxGLWO4&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt &index=4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QtwNxxGLWO4&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=4)
 - Mood, tone, voice, narrator: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38wEfzkbOl8&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt &index=6](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38wEfzkbOl8&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=6)
 - Form and genre: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGw4_7KL6HM&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt &index=28](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGw4_7KL6HM&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=28) and [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jcLaEnNTiM&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt &index=9](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jcLaEnNTiM&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=9)
- Students studying Language and Literature will also need to show knowledge of linguistic terminology along with literary terminology. A good video exploring these is located here:
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLcvX_sddV0&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cBJyO6jD2a6e9UKuq2FA1iS&index=1 and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zp9jT0E2hT8&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cBJyO6jD2a6e9UKuq2FA1iS&index=2>

How to Analyse

- What does a teacher mean when they say “Analyse the text. How does the author use language to create meaning?” Analysis of a text is a crucial skill for English Literature. Attached are some introductory videos exploring how to think and analysis:
 - Structure:
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HzVntM96WnU&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=9
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yajnf4bJtEI&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=10
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gUnvoh4sVU&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=11
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1v3y8J6Dk&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=12
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=chWOS8zwGcY&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=13
 - How writers create meaning:
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XH0SVC5ZweQ&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=19

Material Specific to English Literature

- Students often struggle with understanding the contextual background of English poets and writers. Contextual knowledge is important in English Literature because it is much needed in Paper 1, unseen poetry. Below is a list of links taking you on a journey of different British literary movements:
 - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gzFYQ3jw5s&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt &index=23](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gzFYQ3jw5s&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=23)
 - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_O5UCEDpYs&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt &index=24](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_O5UCEDpYs&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=24)
 - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=My1Yt26ubly&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt &index=25](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=My1Yt26ubly&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=25)
 - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVMNVEqfC70&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt &index=26](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVMNVEqfC70&list=PLqGFsWf-P-cB1f_tlTHsue8wXQU8goGt&index=26)

Generic Material

- Lastly, given the lockdown, it is really useful for you to practice the skills taught throughout the PowerPoint.
- Two of the most commonly taught texts in sixth form English are: The Great Gatsby and Othello. If you are keen to study English at sixth form you could read either text and practice the techniques you were taught. Even if the above texts are not taught to you, you will still be prepared for the start of lower sixth. There are two very good videos about both texts:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqGFsWf-P-cA90NWs9gpAvDNRZSzQ-RH1>
 - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqGFsWf-P-cDpVIYPcLNahgDA02_7Ndpg
- Alternatively, you could use texts located on the Anglo European sixth form bridging resources website: <https://aessex.co.uk/sixth-form/key-events-documentation/year-11-to-lower-sixth-bridging-work/>