English Literature – Summer Independent Learning Y11 – Y12

Compulsory Content:

Part 1: Poetry

Read the poem 'Ash' (Source A) and complete the following tasks:

- Annotate the poem to identify the key choices the poet has made in terms of language, structure, and form.
- Write an analytical response, roughly around 300 words that explores how the poet presents ideas around love within the poem.

Part 2: Purchasing the relevant texts

You need to purchase the following texts for the first term:

- A Streetcar Named Desire (ISBN: 9780141190273)
- Poems of the Decade (ISBN: 9780571325405)
- Frankenstein (ISBN: 139781853260230)
- The Handmaid's Tale (ISBN: 0099740915)
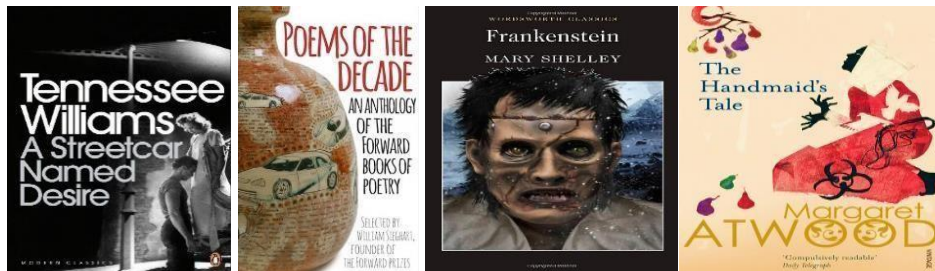
Part 3: Drama - A Streetcar Named Desire

Read the whole of the play.

Use the 'Streetcar Named Desire Initial Reading Notes' resource (Source B) to complete the following:

- Summarise the key events of each scene in brief, bullet-point form.
- Select two pieces of textual evidence from each scene and describe in detail the effect(s) created by Williams with these choices.
- Your evidence can be dialogue or stage directions such as use of sound, staging, props, costume or proxemics.
- You might want to consider tone, lexis, connotations, symbolism and imagery, depending on the quotation selected.

Strongly Recommended Content:

Part 1: Analytical Writing – A Streetcar Named Desire

After reading the play (you might also watch a production on YouTube if you would like to see it in performance, but this should be done in addition to, not instead of, the reading task), produce an essay of at least 600 words in answer to **one** of the following questions:

- Explore Williams' presentation of Blanche in the first three scenes of *A Streetcar Named Desire.*
- Explore Williams' presentation of Stanley in the first three scenes of *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

Part 2: Poetic Terminology

Understanding literary terminology is essential for the study of English Literature.

Complete the Poetic Terminology worksheet in full (Source C)

- Firstly, fill in the sheet with the definitions of all the terms you know from your existing knowledge.
- Next, for any terms you dop not know, research their meaning and fill in the sheet using a different colour pen so it is easy for you to see your existing knowledge and your new knowledge.

Source A:

Ash by Kieran Cottrell

I had a heart like an upturned ashtray.

I spoke smoke. People held their breath.
When I found you, ash was all
I had to pile at your feet.

I did not know what you would do
with my dire, dirtying heart
crumbled there, burning.

Would you brush it off, blow it out,
heap it, beating, in your palm
offend the wind with it?

No, you found soil, seeded it.
You poured my heart in, stirred
what I had wasted. And we waited.

Now here's a sapling. Soon, an ash tree

Source B:

A Streetcar Named Desire **Initial Reading Notes**

For your 'exploration of effects', you might want to consider:

· the impression your chosen quotation gives of emerging or developing themes, and how it does this

· the impression your chosen quotation gives of character, and how this may relate to developing or emerging themes, and how it does this

· the impression your chosen quotation gives of setting, and how this may relate to developing or emerging themes, and how it does this

· the impression your chosen quotation gives of relationships, and how this may relate to developing or emerging themes, and how it does this

Of course, many quotations may show a combination of these.

Scene	Bullet point summary	2 pieces of textual evidence and exploration of effects
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		

Create and complete your own version of the above table.

Source C:

Poetry Terminology

Literary Term	Definition
Metaphor	
Personification	
Caesura	
Lineation	
Couplet	
Tercet	
Quatrain	
Anaphora	
Chremamorphism	
Diacope	
Epizeuxis	

Assonance	
Zoomorphism	
Auditory imagery	
Enargia	
Hyperbole	
Alliteration	
Gustatory imagery	
Allegory	