

Dear A Level Language and Literature student,

**A personal anthology of short texts**

We are very pleased that you have signed up to study A Level English Language and Literature next year.

While you are enjoying the summer, we would like you to do some preparatory work for this exciting course. As part of the course, you will be looking at a wide variety of texts from all sorts of different contexts. Please collect twelve different texts of your own, then cut them out and stick them onto A4 paper. Here are some types of text you could choose:

advert,  
health leaflet,  
a photo of a notice in the street,  
the back of a cereal packet,  
poem,  
song,  
photocopy of a first page of a children's story,  
dictionary entry,  
a receipt,  
a transcript of a speech,  
email,  
text message,  
instant message – and so on!  
An extract from any fictional texts you have read  
An example of travel writing (I recommend Bill Bryson, Paul Theroux)

Collate all fifteen *in an ordinary A4 ring binder*. When you arrive in September we will use these texts in our first lessons. For each text decide on its genre (type of text), audience (who it is aimed at – age, gender, level of education) and purpose (inform, entertain, advise, instruct, persuade). Write this *on the back* of the A4 sheet.

These are the texts you will be studying:

The Handmaid's Tale – Margaret Atwood  
The Great Gatsby – F Scott Fitzgerald  
A Streetcar Named Desire – Tennessee Williams  
The poetry of Robert Browning.

While we will be reading these texts during the course, it would be a good idea to read them in advance.

Looking forward to meeting you in the Autumn!

Yours sincerely,



Mr Steve Collins  
Head of English Faculty