ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE A LEVEL

Y12 Holiday Task

This holiday task is designed as an important introduction to your A level Language and Literature course. Help with it will be given in your induction lesson, so if for any reason you can’t attend you should contact Miss Sones. Any issues, please contact: [s.sones@hautlieu.sch.je](mailto:s.sones@hautlieu.sch.je)

Please remember that this is a summer holiday, and that staff may not be fast to respond if they are away. It is best not to leave this until the night before you begin in September.

**Task 1 – linked to the topic of Remembered Places:**

We will start the course by studying the Paris Anthology, a collection of non-fiction texts about the city. Your first task is to print out and read the extract ‘Neither Here Nor There: Travels in Europe’. Using the Glossary of Language Levels to help you, annotate the extract. Identify the genre, audience and purpose of the text. Look for interesting word choices, phrases and techniques such as simile, metaphor and personification. Consider why the writer has made these language choices and what the effect on the audience might be. Bring these annotations with you to your first lesson in September.

**Task 2 – linked to the topic of Imagined Worlds:**

We will be studying *The Handmaid’s Tale* focusing on Atwood’s view of speculative fiction. Your second task is to research Margret Atwood and the Historical parallels that she has used for the basis of *The Handmaid's Tale*. Record these clearly to be handed in during your first lesson in September. Then you need to identify the characters, themes, symbols and motifs Atwood uses in her writing and also record these clearly in a reading journal or as annotations in your text.

* Purchase and then read Margaret Atwood’s *The Handmaid’s Tale* all of the way through.

Please remember that you can purchase from school for £6.50 or buy your own copy. You can borrow a copy from the school, as long as it’s returned at the end of the course and no notes are written in it. You will find it useful to annotate directly onto the text.

Whist reading the text, make notes and annotations where you are able to identify Atwood’s view of speculative fiction and her voice clearly referencing the functions of the characters, themes, symbols and motifs during the novel.

As this is a course for those who enjoy reading, you will also be asked about other books you have read and enjoyed.

Have a good summer!

The English Department.