



Summer Preparation Work

Welcome to English Literature! Below you will find your preparation work for this A-Level which needs to be completed over the summer holiday. We expect you to spend around 3-5 hours on it.

This task will help develop your skills in research, analysis of language and evaluation of issues in society – these skills are not only crucial to success on A-Level English Literature, but are necessary for university and careers in Law, Teaching, Marketing, Publishing and more.

Please be aware that prep work is an important aspect of your induction onto all courses at Wilberforce Sixth Form College. Please have this ready to hand in during enrolment or to your course teacher in the first week of lessons.

Kind regards

Catherine Johnson

Faculty Head for Arts & Humanities

Task 1 - Research

Use the following links to research one of your set post-2000 poems: 'The Lammas Hireling' by Ian Duhig. The first link is to Duhig's own reading of the poem; he also explains what inspired him to write it. There's also a copy of the poem for you to download and annotate for Task 3.

The second link is to Paul Casey's short film of 'The Lammas Hireling'; this will help you with the creative task and with interpreting the poem.

<https://www.poetryarchive.org/poem/lammas-hireling>

<https://vimeo.com/45341598>

Task 2 - Create

Create a storyboard of 'The Lammas Hireling', captioning each frame with a relevant quotation from the text. It's up to you to decide on the number of frames you'll need to use. Paul Casey's film should help you to identify the stages of the narrative.

Don't worry if you can't draw – the point is to develop your understanding of the poem. On the other hand, if you are good at graphics your contribution to displays will be very welcome.

Task 3 - Question

If you didn't know that 'The Lammas Hireling' was written after 2000, you might well assume that it was a much earlier poem. Write at least one side of A4 in response to the following question:

How does Ian Duhig use human emotions to make a folk tale relevant to present day readers?

You should comment on Duhig's use of literary devices in your answer.